

ENGLISH 102 British Literature Fall 2011
Tuesday and Thursday 8:55-10:05 Comenius Hall 114

Instructor: Dr. Nicole Tabor, ntabor@moravian.edu
Office Hours: Tue 1:30-3:30 and Thu 1:30-3:30, and by appointment
Office Location and Phone: 302 Zinzendorf Hall, (610) 625-7842

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

In this class we closely read British literary texts with significant attention to historical time periods. Each text will illuminate a new way of seeing unique to its period in time. It will be useful to historicize these texts' formal innovation(s) in order to consider how literature helps us understand British identity. Some of the course's more recent texts reflect the enormous contributions of female and multicultural authors to British literary history.

The course addresses basic questions about the scope of British literature and the interrelated activities of reading, writing, and interpretation. What is a literary text, and what role do stories and poems play in our cultural lives? Narrative technique, poetic form, genre, and character development are some of the terms and concepts examined in the course. Coursework emphasizes analytical and communication skills through written and oral projects. Weekly readings of poems, plays, and fiction are substantial in scope and difficulty, and students will be asked to recite literature out loud and compose critical essays.

COURSE GOALS:

- Students develop analytical skills that will allow them to think, write, and communicate intelligently about British literature
- Students apply investigative methodologies in order to historicize British literary texts
- Students work collaboratively to identify and explicate key literary terms
- Students demonstrate the ability to apply standard literary terminology and analytical methods in a written analysis of a text
- Students use textual evidence to substantiate their own original arguments
- Students develop critical thinking skills in order to decide what role British literature plays in their own educational and cultural lives

REQUIRED TEXTS:

- *The Longman Anthology of British Literature, Second Compact Edition, Volume A, General Editor: Damrosch*
- *The Longman Anthology of British Literature, Second Compact Edition, Volume B, General Editor: Damrosch*

ASSIGNMENTS

PERCENT OF FINAL GRADE:

First Essay	15
Second Essay	15
Third Essay	15
Reading Journal	15
Quizzes and Final Exam	20
Class Participation	10
Group Presentation	10

ESSAYS: You are required to compose three argumentative essays. The first essay will be 3-4 pages and the second and third essays will be 5-6 pages in length. These will be thesis-driven and follow MLA guidelines. Essays will be evaluated primarily on the quality of your ideas and the thoroughness of your critical argument (including appropriate citations of the text). Organizational, grammatical, and other writing matters will, however, also affect your grade. We will discuss these essays in further detail throughout the term.

READING JOURNAL: You will write a one-page journal entry for each class period's readings. This entry will consist of two parts. In part one you will briefly summarize the day's literary text(s). For poems: please write a one (or two) sentence paraphrase of each poem and for fiction and drama texts provide a paragraph-long summary. Part two will consist of a discussion question. Please refer to the handout "Discussion Questions as Post-Reading" for more detailed expectations. You may be asked to read from

your response in class. These journals will be checked each class period and collected twice during the term.

PARTICIPATION: Our classroom comprises a *discourse community*, in which we gain knowledge and insight through mutual inquiry as a result of both verbal and written interaction with others in the class. This interaction will take the form of co-operation as well as respectful disagreement. As a member of this discourse community, you will be expected to contribute intelligently and frequently to the discussion. Along with speaking, effective participation requires active and open-minded listening to others. Respond to and interact with your peers, not just with me. The more you participate, the more interesting, exciting, and rewarding this class will be. Always bring your textbook and notes to class. Expect to read passages aloud and closely investigate details of the texts we are studying. There will be unannounced quizzes and in-class writings throughout the term. I highly encourage you to visit me during office hours (or make an appointment) to discuss your paper ideas or any other questions or concerns related to the course. There will be extra-credit options related to the Multicultural Reading Group and the Classics Panel.

GROUP PRESENTATIONS: You will be required to give one group presentation on a historical time period. Each group will summarize, ask the class significant discussion questions related to the time period, and create/photocopy/distribute a handout. The presentation will also provide in-depth analysis of the day's assigned reading(s) from our syllabus. A sign-up sheet will be circulated in class.

POLICIES:

Grades. It is within the instructor's purview to apply qualitative judgment in determining grades for any assignments and for the final course grade.

Format. All written work should include your name, the course number and instructor (Tabor), the date, and the assignment in the upper right-hand corner. Any pages after the first should be numbered and stapled. All work must be typed using a reasonable 12-point font, double-spaced, and conventional margins (one inch). No electronic assignments accepted without special arrangement.

Deadlines. Reading responses, quizzes, and other daily assignments will not be accepted late including assignments due to absence. Assignments are due during the class period of the due date. Extensions may be given on essays, provided that a student asks for the extension at least one week in advance. Unless an extension is given, late essays will be reduced by one letter grade for each day that passes after the due date, e.g. an A becomes a B if one day late.

Access for Students with Disabilities. Students who wish to request accommodations in this class for a disability should contact Mr. Joe Kempfer, Assistant Director of Learning Services for Disability Support, 1307 Main Street (extension 1510). Accommodations cannot be provided until authorization is received from the office of Learning Services.

Plagiarism. All work submitted in this course must be your own and be written exclusively for this course. The use of sources (ideas, quotations, paraphrases) must be properly documented. Please see the Student Handbook if you have any questions about your use of sources.

Attendance. It is your responsibility to sign the attendance sheet at each class. Your final course grade will be dropped by 10% for each unexcused absence after the third. A note from a doctor's office is required for an excused absence. Arriving to class more than 10 minutes late will count as 1/3 of an absence.

Tentative Reading Schedule. Readings are to be completed on the day assigned. Page numbers refer to *The Longman Anthology of British Literature, Second Compact Edition, Volumes A and B*. When page numbers are listed, you will have read and we will then discuss those pages that day. The schedule is subject to change.

Week One

Tue Aug 30 Introduction to British Literature

Thu Sep 1 Primary Reading: *The Dream of the Rood* (106-110)
Secondary Reading: The Middle Ages (2-26)

Week Two

Tue Sep 6 Primary Reading: *Beowulf* (32-73)
Secondary Reading: Intro to *Beowulf* (27-31)

Thu Sep 8 Primary Reading: *Beowulf* (73-91)

Week Three

Tue Sep 13 Primary Reading: *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight* (171-225)
Secondary Reading: Intro to *Sir Gawain* (169-171)

Essay One Due

- Thu Sep 15 Primary Reading: Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales: The General Prologue* (251-271)
Secondary Reading: Geoffrey Chaucer (246-252)
- Week Four**
- Tue Sep 20 Primary Reading: Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales: The Wife of Bath's Prologue and Tale* (287-314)
- Thu Sep 22 Primary Reading: Sonnets by: Wyatt "Whoso List to Hunt"(420), Sidney #39 (593), and Shakespeare #18 (737), #116 (740), #130 (741), Petrarch's Sonnet (421)
Secondary Reading: The Early Modern Period (390-412), Thomas Wyatt (419-420), Philip Sidney (590-592), William Shakespeare (733-736)
- Week Five**
- Tue Sep 27 Primary Reading: Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night* (742-796)
- Thu Sep 29 Rosh Hashanah: No Class
- Week Six**
- Tue Oct 4 Primary Reading: Herrick's *To the Virgins, to Make Much of Time* (848), *Upon Julia's Clothes* (848), Marvell's *To His Coy Mistress* (855), Donne's *Sonnet #10* (815),
- Thu Oct 6 Primary Reading: Milton's *Paradise Lost* Books 1-4 (920-986)
Secondary Reading: John Milton (894-897)
Essay Two Due
- Week Seven**
- Tue Oct 11 Fall Recess: No Class
- Thu Oct 13 Primary Reading: *Paradise Lost* Books 10-12 (1013-1039)
- Week Eight**
- Tue Oct 18 Primary Reading: Behn's *Oroonoko* (1134-1176)
Secondary Reading: Aphra Behn and Her Time (1122-1123)
- Tue Oct 18 Classics Panel 4p, Extra Credit Option*
- Thu Oct 20 Primary Reading: Swift's *Gulliver's Travels* (1187-1197), *Modest Proposal* (1231-1238)
Secondary Reading: The Restoration and the Eighteenth Century (1040-1064), Jonathan Swift (1176-1178)
Reading Journal Due
- Week Nine**
- Tue Oct 25 Primary Reading: Equiano's *Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano* (110-118), Wollstonecraft's *Vindication of the Rights of Woman* (151-163)
Secondary Reading: The Abolition of Slavery and the Slave Trade (108-109), Olaudah Equiano (109-110), Mary Wollstonecraft (149-151)
- Thu Oct 27 Primary Reading: Blake's *Ah! SUN-FLOWER* (90), *LONDON* (91), W. Wordsworth's *Lyrical Ballads' Preface* (206 and 212), *She dwelt among th' untrodden ways* (214), *I wandered lonely as a cloud* (282-283), D. Wordsworth's *A Field of Daffodils* (296-297)
Secondary Reading: The Sublime, the Beautiful, the Picturesque (299-301), William Blake (74-75), William Wordsworth (194-196), Dorothy Wordsworth (290-291)
- Week Ten**
- Tue Nov 1 Primary Reading: Coleridge's *Kubla Khan* (341-343), Keats' *On First looking into Chapman's Homer* (423-424), *This living hand* (444), Shelly's *Ozymandias* (399)
Secondary Reading: Samuel Taylor Coleridge (323-324), Homer's *Illiad* (424), Percy Bysshe Shelly (391-393), John Keats (421-423)

Thu Nov 3 Primary Reading: E. Browning's *Sonnets from the Portuguese* #38, #43 (532), R. Browning's *My Last Duchess* (663-665), Hopkins' *God's Grandeur* (774-775), *Pied Beauty* (775-776)
Secondary Reading: The Victorian Age (450-474), Elizabeth Browning (528-529), Robert Browning (659-661), Gerard Manly Hopkins (773-774)

Week Eleven

Tue Nov 8 Primary Reading: Wilde's *Importance of Being Earnest* (847-886)
Secondary Reading: Secondary Reading: Oscar Wilde (828-830)

Wed Nov 9 *Multicultural Reading Group, 4P, Extra Credit Option*

Thu Nov 10 Primary Reading: Conrad's *Heart of Darkness* (948-1001)
Secondary Reading: The Twentieth Century (920-942), Joseph Conrad (943-945)
Thesis Workshop: **Thesis Statement Due**

Week Twelve

Tue Nov 15 Primary Reading: Owen's *Anthem for a Doomed Youth* (1100), *Strange Meeting* (1101-1102), *Dulce Et Decorum Est* (1102), Rosenberg's *Break Day in the Trenches* (1103-1104), *Dead Man's Dump* (1104-1106)
Secondary Reading: The Great War: Confronting the Modern (1080), *To Lucasta* (handout), Wilfred Owen (1100), Isaac Rosenberg (1103)

Thu Nov 17 Primary Reading: Yeats' *The Second Coming* (1122-1123), Eliot's *The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock* (1194-1197), Woolf's *A Room of One's Own* (1228-1253)
Secondary Reading: William Butler Yeats 1113-1117, T.S. Eliot (1191-1194), Virginia Woolf (1222-1224)

Week Thirteen

Tue Nov 22 Draft Workshop
Two Hard Copies/Printouts of Rough Draft Due

Thu Nov 24 Thanksgiving Recess: no class

Week Fourteen

Tue Nov 29 Primary Reading: Beckett's *Krapp's Last Tape* (1375-1380)
Secondary Reading: Samuel Beckett (1374-1375)
Reading Journal Due

Thu Dec 1 Primary Reading: Beckett's *Krapp's Last Tape* (1375-1380)

Week Fifteen

Tue Dec 6 Primary Reading: Thiong'o's *Decolonizing the Mind* (1405-1409), Walcott's *A Far Cry from Africa* (1421-1422), *Midsummer* (1422-1424)
Secondary Reading: Whose Language? (1383), Ngugi Wa Thiong'o (1405-1406), Derek Walcott (1420-1421)

Thu Dec 8 Conclusions and Evaluations
Essay Three Due

Final Exam

Wed Dec 14 8:30A