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English 212: Survey of British Literature 1750-present (online)

Catalog course description:

Basic survey of British Literature from 1750 to the present. Study of the major works and authors in British history. Emphasis on developing themes, style and structures. Highly recommended for future English majors. Recommended for students of history and the arts. Prerequisite: ENGL 101.

Objectives:

Students will exhibit their understanding of a variety of genre—poetry, short and long fiction, drama, and essays—through analytical long and short responses to literature.

Expectations:

Although this is an online course, freeing students from commuting and sitting in a classroom at a designated time, students are expected to participate effectively by punctually submitting assignments, participating in online discussions, and communicating regularly with the instructor. This is not a self-paced learning experience.

Three long papers (1000-1500 words)—addressing set questions, analyzing features of the literature, utilizing current standards for academic documentation, incorporating specific reference to a variety of literature. Papers will exhibit conventions of standard written English, organized in a cohesive and focused manner. 60% of final grade

Weekly responses to assigned reading (300-500 words)—less formal reader response. Questions will be posed, but students may respond in a manner appropriate to the texts they are reading. 30% of final grade

Regular participation in forum discussions—two or more responses/exchanges with other students in the class. 10% of final grade

Texts:

Links to the shorter pieces of literature and some essays are provided in the reading list/schedule and in each of the sessions.

Recommended: Diana Hacker, *Rules for Writers*. 5th ed. Boston: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2004.

Required:

Jane Austen, *Northanger Abbey* (any unabridged edition)

George Eliot, *Silas Marner and Two Short Stories*. New York: Barnes & Noble, 2005.

V. S. Pritchett, *The Oxford Book of Short Stories*. New York: Oxford UP, 1981, rpt. 2001.

Reading and Assignment Schedule

For each session, you will respond to the poetry through the assignment section and to the fiction through the forum. Both responses are included in the course grade.

session 1: Introduction, Blake; Austen (chap 1-8)

session 2: late 18th century essays; Austen (chap 9-16)

session 3: Wordsworth & Coleridge; Austen (chap 17-25)

session 4: Shelley, Keats, and Byron; Austen (chap 26-end)

session 5: Paper 1

session 6: The Brownings; Eliot I-VI

session 7: Arnold, Rossetti, Hopkins; Eliot VII-XV

session 8: Kipling and Tennyson; Eliot XVI-conclusion

session 9: Hardy, Doyle, Stevenson

session 10: Paper 2

session 11: Yeats, T.S. Eliot; Conrad, "The Secret Sharer," Munro, "Sredni Vashtar"

session 12: World War I poets; O'Connor "Guests of the Nation"

session 13: Auden, Heaney, Williams; Maugham, Joyce, Lawrence, Bowen short stories

session 14: contemporary poets; Lavin, Trevor, Lessing short stories

session 15: Paper 3