

English 2325F
2021-2022 Dr. G. Donaldson
Course Title: *Victorian Literature (survey)*

Office: A 302

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Office Hours: see OWL

Class times: Wednesday 1:30-2:30 pm and Friday 1:30-3:30 pm

Location: HUC- V207

Prerequisite(s): At least 60% in 1.0 of 1000-level English course or permission of the department.

Description of Class Method:

There will be a mix of formal lecture and class discussion. Participation marks are awarded according to the regularity with which you attend class, the frequency of your contributions to class discussion and the quality of those contributions. If your attendance is poor and you make few contributions to class discussion, you are awarding yourself a failing grade for participation. If you attend regularly and regularly have informed, perceptive observations about the text in question, you are awarding yourself a good participation mark. Huron University College has an attendance policy which says, in part, "Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor, is absent too frequently from class. . . will be reported to the dean (after due warning has been given). On the recommendation of the department. . . and with permission of the dean the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course." Your attendance and participation are essential.

Any students unable to attend synchronous class sessions due to international travel restrictions must identify themselves to Academic Advising and the instructor. An alternative assessment rubric may be developed.

Course Description

A reading of works of poetry, fiction, and prose by representative men and women writers. The course examines continuities with the previous age as well as innovations in literary forms and subjects.

Course Learning Objectives:

The nineteenth century was a period of rapid change. The industrial revolution began in England in the eighteenth century and then spread around the world, but it was in the nineteenth century that its effects were most potent, affecting the lives of a large number of people. Migration from the country to the city altered, or destroyed, patterns of living that often dated back to the Norman conquest. Change governs the century. A few people, generally the middle class bourgeoisie who became the owners of the means of production in this new industrial world, became very rich. Many people, whose ancestors had lived in the same village for many, many generations, left for the city and the opportunities that mechanization seemed to offer. Once there, they often found themselves living in squalor which had no parallel in country life. As you might expect, these vast and fundamental

changes to social life occupied Victorian writers such as Elizabeth Gaskell and Charles Dickens.

Change shapes religious thinking, too. The publication of *The Origin of Species* in 1859 led many to lose their Christian faith. Matthew Arnold and Thomas Hardy are two writers who engage with the emotional consequences of a loss of faith. Loss of faith had formal consequences as well. The elegy in the Victorian period no longer contained the concluding section which offered consolation to the bereaved: the elegy became, instead, a lyric form expressing the grief of loss.

The Victorians were readers. The novel became the dominant literary form in the nineteenth century. The leisured class had the time to read 1,000 page novels, usually published in serial form. Frequently, novels dealt with ordinary life and ordinary people giving such people central roles in the narrative. By way of comparison, think of the central figures in Shakespeare: kings such as Lear, Macbeth, the Henrys, princes such as Hamlet, rulers of the globe such as Antony, and Dukes such as Orsino. Social eminence was required for literary eminence. Think of the leading figures in Victorian writing by way of contrast: *Oliver Twist*, Little Nell, Heathcliff, Elizabeth Bennett and Becky Sharpe. Ordinary people were of sufficient interest in themselves to deserve serious literary attention.

It's likely that it was in the nineteenth century that the idea took hold that one needed to know the writers of the period to understand the culture of the times. The world and its doings are central to much Victorian writing. Writers were often figures whose works were part of the larger debate about the world in which one lived, its shortcomings and what might be done about such ills and evils.

Having taken this course, students will have developed an understanding of these, and other, issues of the time.

Texts:

George Eliot, *Silas Marner* (Oxford)

The Norton Anthology of English Literature: The Victorian Age ed. Stephen Greenblatt

Syllabus:

September

Wednesday, 8th.

Friday, 10th.

Course Introduction

The Victorians (pp. 1045-1068)

Wednesday, 15th.

Friday, 17th.

George Eliot, *Silas Marner*

George Eliot, *Silas Marner*

Wednesday, 22nd.

Friday, 24th.

George Eliot, *Silas Marner*

John Stuart Mill, *What Is Poetry? On Liberty*

Wednesday, 29th.

E.B. Browning, *Sonnets from the Portuguese*

October

Friday, 1st.

E.B. Browning, *Sonnets from the Portuguese*

Wednesday, 6 th .	Tennyson, The Lotus-Eaters, Ulysses, Tithonus, Break, Break, Break, Tears, Idle Tears, In Memoriam A.H.H. (selections)
Friday, 8 th .	Tennyson, The Lotus-Eaters, Ulysses, Tithonus, Break, Break, Break, Tears, Idle Tears, <i>In Memoriam A.H.H.</i> (selections)
Wednesday, 13 th .	Tennyson, The Lotus-Eaters, Ulysses, Tithonus, Break, Break, Break, Tears, Idle Tears, In Memoriam A.H.H. (selections)
Friday, 15 th .	Dickens, <i>A Christmas Carol</i>
Wednesday, 20 th .	Dickens, <i>A Christmas Carol</i>
Friday, 22 nd .	Browning, Soliloquy of the Spanish Cloister, My Last Duchess, The Bishop Orders His Tomb at St. Praxed's Church, Love Among the Ruins, Fra Lippo Lippi, Andrea del Sarto, Rabbi Ben Ezra
Wednesday, 27 th .	Browning, Soliloquy of the Spanish Cloister, My Last Duchess, The Bishop Orders His Tomb at St. Praxed's Church, Love Among the Ruins, Fra Lippo Lippi, Andrea del Sarto, Rabbi Ben Ezra
Friday, 29 th .	Browning, Soliloquy of the Spanish Cloister, My Last Duchess, The Bishop Orders His Tomb at St. Praxed's Church, Love Among the Ruins, Fra Lippo Lippi, Andrea del Sarto, Rabbi Ben Ezra
November	
Wednesday, 3 rd .	FALL READING WEEK
Friday, 5 th .	FALL READING WEEK
Wednesday, 10 th .	Browning, Soliloquy of the Spanish Cloister, My Last Duchess, The Bishop Orders His Tomb at St. Praxed's Church, Love Among the Ruins, Fra Lippo Lippi, Andrea del Sarto, Rabbi Ben Ezra
Friday, 12 th .	Browning, Soliloquy of the Spanish Cloister, My Last Duchess, The Bishop Orders His Tomb at St. Praxed's Church, Love Among the Ruins, Fra Lippo Lippi, Andrea del Sarto, Rabbi Ben Ezra
Wednesday, 17 th .	Arnold, Isolation. To Marguerite, To Marguerite – Continued, The Buried Life, Dover Beach
Friday, 19 th .	Arnold, Isolation. To Marguerite, To Marguerite – Continued, The Buried Life, Dover Beach
Wednesday, 24 th .	Arnold, Isolation. To Marguerite, To Marguerite – Continued, The Buried Life, Dover Beach
Friday, 26 th .	Hopkins, God's Grandeur, The Windhover. Pied Beauty, I wake and feel the fell of dark, not day, Thou Art Indeed Just Lord

December

Wednesday, 1 st .	Hopkins, God's Grandeur, The Windhover. Pied Beauty, I wake and feel the fell of dark, not day, Thou Art Indeed Just Lord
Friday, 3 rd .	Hopkins, God's Grandeur, The Windhover. Pied Beauty, I wake and feel the fell of dark, not day, Thou Art Indeed Just Lord
Wednesday, 8 th .	REVIEW

Assignments:

In-Class Presentation #1:	10%
In-Class Presentation #2	15%
Short Essay (1,000 words)	20% (Due Date: Friday, October 29 th .)
Participation:	20%
Research Essay (2,500-3,00 words):	35% (Due Date: Friday, December 3 rd .)

Late Submissions

Essays are due on the date specified above. Late essays will be penalized 3% *per diem* (including weekends). Essays submitted more than seven (7) days after the deadline will not be accepted and will receive a grade of zero. To be considered for relief from these penalties students require a letter from a physician stating that you were ill on the day in question.



Appendix to Course Outlines: Academic Policies & Regulations 2021 - 2022

Prerequisite and Antirequisite Information

Students are responsible for ensuring that they have successfully completed all course prerequisites and that they have not completed any course antirequisites. Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

Pandemic Contingency

In the event of a COVID-19 resurgence during the course that necessitates the course delivery moving away from face-to-face interaction, all remaining course content will be delivered entirely online, typically using a combination of synchronous instruction (i.e., at the times indicated in the timetable) and asynchronous material (e.g., posted on OWL for students to view at their convenience). Any remaining assessments will also be conducted online at the discretion of the course instructor. In the unlikely event that changes to the grading scheme are necessary, these changes will be clearly communicated as soon as possible.

Student Code of Conduct

Membership in the community of Huron University College and Western University implies acceptance by every student of the principle of respect for the rights, responsibilities, dignity and well-being of others and a readiness to support an environment conducive to the intellectual and personal growth of all who study, work and live within it. Upon registration, students assume the responsibilities that such registration entails. While in the physical or online classroom, students are expected to behave in a manner that supports the learning environment of others. Please review the Student Code of Conduct at:

<https://huronatwestern.ca/sites/default/files/Res%20Life/Student%20Code%20of%20Conduct%20-%20Revised%20September%202019.pdf>.

Attendance Regulations for Examinations

A student is entitled to be examined in courses in which registration is maintained, subject to the following limitations:

- 1) A student may be debarred from writing the final examination for failure to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year.
- 2) Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor, is absent too frequently from class or laboratory periods in any course will be reported to the Dean of the Faculty offering the course (after due warning has been given). On the recommendation of the Department concerned, and with the permission of the Dean of that Faculty, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course. The Dean of the Faculty offering the course will communicate that decision to the Dean of the Faculty of registration.

Review the policy on Attendance Regulations for Examinations here:

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/exam/attendance.pdf.

Statement on Academic Offences

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following website:

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf. The appeals process is also outlined in this policy as well as more generally at the following website: https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/appealsundergrad.pdf.

Turnitin.com

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

Statement on Use of Electronic Devices

It is not appropriate to use electronic devices (such as, but not limited to, laptops, cell phones) in the classroom for non-classroom activities. Such activity is disruptive and distracting to other students and to the instructor, and can inhibit learning. Students are expected to respect the classroom environment and to refrain from inappropriate use of technology and other electronic devices in class.

Statement on Use of Personal Response Systems (“Clickers”)

Personal Response Systems (“clickers”) may be used in some classes. If clickers are to be used in a class, it is the responsibility of the student to ensure that the device is activated and functional. Students must see their instructor if they have any concerns about whether the clicker is malfunctioning. Students must use only their own clicker. If clicker records are used to compute a portion of the course grade:

- the use of somebody else’s clicker in class constitutes a scholastic offence

- the possession of a clicker belonging to another student will be interpreted as an attempt to commit a scholastic offence.

Academic Consideration for Missed Work

Students who are seeking academic consideration for missed work during the semester may submit a self-reported absence form online provided that the absence is **48 hours or less** and the other conditions specified in the Senate policy at

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_illness.pdf are met.

Students whose absences are expected to last **longer than 48 hours**, or where the other conditions detailed in the policy are not met (e.g., work is worth more than 30% of the final grade, the student has already used 2 self-reported absences, the absence is during the final exam period), may receive academic consideration by submitting a Student Medical Certificate (for illness) or other appropriate documentation (for compassionate grounds). The Student Medical Certificate is available online at https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf.

All students pursuing academic consideration, regardless of type, must contact their instructors no less than 24 hours following the end of the period of absence to clarify how they will be expected to fulfill the academic responsibilities missed during their absence. **Students are reminded that they should consider carefully the implications of postponing tests or midterm exams or delaying submission of work, and are encouraged to make appropriate decisions based on their specific circumstances.**

Students who have conditions for which academic accommodation is appropriate, such as disabilities or ongoing or chronic health conditions, should work with Accessible Education Services to determine appropriate forms of accommodation. Further details concerning policies and procedures may be found at: <http://academicssupport.uwo.ca/>.

Policy on Academic Consideration for a Medical/ Non-Medical Absence

(a) Consideration on Medical Grounds for assignments worth *less than 10%* of final grade: Consult Instructor Directly and Contact Academic Advising

When seeking consideration on **medical grounds** for assignments worth *less than 10%* of the final course grade, and if the student has exceeded the maximum number of permissible Self-Reported absences, the student should contact the instructor directly. The student need only share broad outlines of the medical situation. The instructor **may** require the student to submit documentation to the academic advisors, in which case she or he will advise the student and inform the academic advisors to expect documentation. If documentation is requested, the student will need to complete and submit the **Student Medical Certificate**. The instructor may **not** collect medical documentation. The advisors will contact the instructor when the medical documentation is received, and will outline the severity and duration of the medical challenge as expressed on the Student Medical Certificate and in any other supporting documentation. The student will be informed that the instructor has been notified of the presence of medical documentation, and will be instructed to work as quickly as possible with the instructor on an agreement for accommodation.

(b) Consideration on Non-Medical Grounds: Consult Huron Support Services/Academic Advising, or email huronsss@uwo.ca.

Students seeking academic consideration for a **non-medical** absence (e.g. varsity sports, religious, compassionate, or bereavement) will be required to provide appropriate documentation where the conditions for a Self-Reported Absence have not been met, including where the student has exceeded the maximum number of permissible Self-Reported. All consideration requests must include a completed **Consideration Request Form**. Late penalties may apply at the discretion of the instructor.

Please review the full policy on Academic Consideration for medical and non-medical absence at: https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_illness.pdf. Consult [Huron Academic Advising](#) at huronsss@uwo.ca for any further questions or information.

Support Services

For advice on course selections, degree requirements, and for assistance with requests for medical accommodation, students should email an Academic Advisor in Huron's Student Support Services at huronsss@uwo.ca. An outline of the range of services offered is found on the Huron website at: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/>.

Department Chairs, Program Directors and Coordinators are also able to answer questions about individual programs. Contact information can be found on the Huron website at: <https://huronatwestern.ca/contact/faculty-staff-directory/>.

If you think that you are too far behind to catch up or that your workload is not manageable, you should consult your Academic Advisor. If you are considering reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses, this must be done by the appropriate deadlines. Please refer to the Advising website, <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/academic-advising/> or review the list of official Sessional Dates on the Academic Calendar, available here: <http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/SessionalDates.cfm>.

You should consult with the course instructor and the Academic Advisor who can help you consider alternatives to dropping one or more courses. Note that dropping a course may affect OSAP and/or Scholarship/Bursary eligibility.

Huron Student Support Services: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/>

Office of the Registrar: <https://registrar.uwo.ca/>

Student Quick Reference Guide: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/#1>

Academic Support & Engagement: <http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/>

Huron University College Student Council: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/beyond-classroom/hucsc/>

Western USC: <http://westernusc.ca/your-services/#studentservices>

Mental Health & Wellness Support at Huron and Western

University students may encounter setbacks from time to time that can impact academic performance. Huron offers a variety of services that are here to support your success and wellbeing. Please visit <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life-campus/student-services/wellness-safety> for more information or contact staff directly:

Wellness Services: huronwellness@huron.uwo.ca

Community Safety Office: safety@huron.uwo.ca

Chaplaincy: gthorne@huron.uwo.ca

Additional supports for Health and Wellness may be found and accessed at Western through, <https://www.uwo.ca/health/>.