

ENGLISH 4500: BRITISH ROMANTICISM**Instructor:** Monica Smith**Office:** 38 Park Hall**Office Hours:** MTW 10:30-11:30 or right after class**Email:** msmith@english.uga.edu**Course URL:** Webpage available via WebCT

COURSE DESCRIPTION: An introduction to the poetry, novel, and non-fiction prose of the English Romantics, roughly 1780-1830. Given the shorter length of a summer course, we will concentrate our efforts on the major works of the “Big Six” Romantic poets (Wordsworth, Coleridge, Blake, Byron, Shelley, Keats) as well as one novel, *Frankenstein*; one novella, *Mathilda*; one drama, *The Cenci*; and an assortment of non-fiction works, particularly those centering on the controversy surrounding the French Revolution and the development of poetic theory across the period. Supplementary readings may be assigned periodically throughout the semester; please note that these readings are as much a part of the course as are the poems and novels.

CLASSROOM PERFORMANCE: This is an active, discussion-oriented class with considerable daily reading assignments. Each day, students should come to class prepared to articulate and defend their own readings, both on paper and in person. Although not specified by page number on the syllabus, students are expected to read and should anticipate quizzes over the introductory sections on each author we study.

REQUIRED TEXTS: Please purchase the editions specified below. I’d certainly check online for price deals, but be careful to check shipping costs and delivery times (sometimes up to two-three weeks if shipped via media mail).

- *British Literature 1780-1830*. Eds. Anne Mellor and Richard Matlak. Harcourt Brace & Co.
- Shelley, Mary. *Frankenstein: The Original 1818 Text*. Eds. D. L. Macdonald and Kathleen Scherf. 2nd edition. Broadview, 2000.
- Abrams, M. H. *A Glossary of Literary Terms*. 7th edition. (I really recommend you buy this used from amazon.com or abebooks.com; the used price online runs about \$16; the bookstore price for a new copy looks to be about \$45. Double-check the bookstore price first, but certainly check online as well to see what deals you can find.)
- I have also ordered various optional texts, which you may want to purchase. In addition, all should be on reserve at the Main Library.

ASSIGNMENTS AND REQUIREMENTS:

Daily Readings are substantial and demanding. All readings should be completed before coming to class.

Quizzes and In-class Writings will vary from a quick, four or five line response to a question or prompt to a detailed analysis of a particular passage. These writings will be assessed according to the degree of engagement the student demonstrates with the question or assignment. Quizzes and in-class writings cannot be made-up.

Response Papers will be due four times during the semester: June 16, June 28, July 12, July 26.

- Papers should be typed, one full page, single spaced. Responses may cover one work in detail, or the response may address compelling connections between several texts.
- Response papers are to be submitted in person at the beginning of the class period they are due. Email attachments are unacceptable, and under no circumstances should students slide them under my office door.
- Responses will earn points for demonstrating the following: the student’s significant and close engagement with the reading(s); detailed, notable textual analysis; original thought and critical reaction grounded in the text; observations that build on and go beyond class discussion.
- Responses will be penalized for the following: weak, sloppy, or insubstantial analysis; repetition of class discussion; lack of engagement with work; analysis based on vague assertions rather than close reading; remarks off-topic or not grounded in text.

Memorization Projects: Twice during the semester students will select 14-20 consecutive lines from (different) poems of their choice on the syllabus and recite them to me. Due during the weeks of July 6 and July 19.

Examinations:

- Exams will consist primarily of identifications; short answers and objective questions may also appear. Exam dates: July 2 and July 30.
- The final exam (Wednesday, August 4 from 12:00-3:00 p.m.) will be a comprehensive essay examination.
- Alternate testing dates are not available, and make-ups will only be allowed under the most extreme circumstances—circumstances which have been verified by Student Affairs. (See “Make-up Policy” for more information.)

ATTENDANCE:

- Regular class attendance is essential. For each absence, regardless of the reason, you will lose 10 points from your attendance grade; if you miss 3 classes, for instance, your attendance grade will be a 70. Students who miss no classes will receive 10 bonus points; therefore if you miss 0 classes, your attendance grade will be 110. Attendance counts 5% of the final course grade.
- On the fifth absence, regardless of the reason, you will be dropped from the course. If the fifth absence occurs before the midpoint, you will be dropped with a W; if the fifth absence occurs after the midpoint, you will be dropped with a WF.
- Students may not exceed the allowed number of absences for any reason, and all absences will be treated the same, i.e. no differentiation between “excused” or “unexcused” absences.
- Attendance points lost due to absence cannot be made-up, and no extra credit projects will be assigned so that points can be recovered.
- Habitual or excessive tardiness may be counted as an absence.

MAKE-UP POLICY:

- No late assignments will be accepted.
- Each student is held responsible for all assignments, regardless of her/his class attendance on the day the assignment is made.
- If a previously scheduled event coincides with an exam or due date, a written request for an extension or make-up date will be considered. All such requests must be submitted prior to the date in question.
- Any requests for extensions based on illness or family emergency must be accompanied by written documentation from Student Affairs or a physician. Please note that the exit slip from the UGA Health Center will not suffice. All make-ups and extensions are at the instructor’s discretion.

COMPUTER ACCESS:

- Students are expected to check email daily and the course webpage several times a week or as indicated on the daily schedule.
- Students are responsible for securing working computer equipment; numerous labs are available on campus. Please note that since “The printer wouldn’t work,” “Something’s wrong with my disk,” and “I don’t know what happened—I saved it but now it’s not there” have become the 21st century versions of “The dog ate my homework,” computer, software, or printer malfunction/failure of any kind will not constitute a valid excuse for missed, late, or incomplete work. Remember: save early, save often; print early, print often.

CONFERENCES:

- Office hours are Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday from 10:30-11:30. I’m also available for a few minutes right after class on most days.
- While you are always welcome to stop by during office hours, it is generally best to schedule an appointment, or at least let me know you’ll be stopping by, so that you won’t be kept waiting if I’m with someone else. If this time is not convenient, please schedule an appointment.

ACADEMIC HONESTY:

- All students are expected to demonstrate the highest standards of honesty and integrity in every phase of their academic careers.
- Any instance of suspected academic dishonesty will be reported to the Office of the Vice President of Instruction.

ACCESS STATEMENT: If you need adaptations or accommodations because of a disability (i.e., physical, mental, psychological, learning), have emergency medical information to share with me, or need special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible. Students with the option of testing at either of the disability services centers will be required to do so.

GRADING:

Memorization Projects	10%
Response Papers	20%
Quizzes and In-Class Writings	10%
Attendance	5%
Exams (2 exams at 15% each)	30%
Final Exam	25%

DAILY SCHEDULE: The most up-to-date version will be available online. See course URL above.

Please note that I will be away June 21-25; classes will be taught by UGA English Department Head Nelson Hilton.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
			6/10 Introduction to course	6/11 Defining "Romanticism"; read "Periods of English Literature" and "Neoclassic and Romantic" in Abrams; start reading <i>Lyrical Ballads</i> (see Monday 6/14)
6/14 (drop/add ends) <i>Lyrical Ballads</i> : read all twenty-three poems in 1798 edition.	6/15 <i>Lyrical Ballads</i> con't, particularly "Tintern Abbey" and Wordsworth's Preface to <i>Lyrical Ballads</i> (573); "Poetic Diction" in Abrams	6/16 Wordsworth's Sonnets: " England! the time is come when thou shouldst wean "; "The world is too much with us" (596); "Composed Upon Westminster Bridge"; also read "Sonnet" in Abrams Response paper due today (Topic: Controlling trends/images/devices in 1798 Lyrical Ballads)	6/17 Wordsworth: <i>The Two-Part Prelude</i> of 1799 (624) Recommended: excerpts from <i>The Prelude</i> , Book Fifth through Book Thirteenth, 1805 (635)	6/18 Wordsworth: "Resolution and Independence" (593); "I wandered lonely as a cloud"; Coleridge, "Dejection: An Ode"; Dorothy Wordsworth's journal entry, April 1802; "Figurative Language" in Abrams just for fun . . .

6/21 Blake, "Shewing the Two Contrary States of the Human Soul." Read: from <i>Songs of Innocence</i> : "Introduction"; "The Chimney Sweeper"; "Infant Joy"; "The Blossom"; from <i>Songs of Experience</i> : "Introduction"; "The Chimney Sweeper"; "Infant Sorrow"; "The Sick Rose"; <i>Songs of Innocence</i> title page and frontispiece (just after 296); <i>Songs of Innocence and of Experience</i> colorplates	6/22 Blake: rest of <i>Songs of Innocence</i> ; visit and explore the Blake Digital Text Project	6/23 Blake: rest of <i>Songs of Experience</i> ; visit and explore the Blake Archive Recommended: <i>Book of Thel</i> (paying particular attention to colorplate in Mellor and Matlak)	6/24 Blake: <i>Songs of Innocence and of Experience</i> Recommended: <i>Book of Urizen</i>	6/25 Blake: anthology text as well as online colorplates of The Marriage of Heaven and Hell (287) Here are some of my text notes on <i>The Marriage</i> . Note that I've made no attempt to rewrite them into pretty prose, so they may be cryptic and are certainly idiosyncratic. But I hope that you might find them useful as an addition to your text's notes when working through the various passages.
6/28 Coleridge's Conversation Poem: "Fears in Solitude" (694); "Frost at Midnight" (697); "The Eolian Harp" (760); excerpts from <i>Biographia Literaria</i> Chapters 1, 4, 13 (745) Response paper due today	6/29 Coleridge's Mystery Poems: "Kubla Khan"; "Christabel"; excerpt from <i>Biographia Literaria</i> Chapter 14 (750); "Fancy and Imagination" in Abrams a hundred years later . . .	6/30 Coleridge: 1798 "Rime of the Ancient Mariner" in <i>Lyrical Ballads</i> (698); 1817 "Rime of the Ancient Mariner" in <i>Sibylline Leaves</i> (734) in 1855 . . . and in 1982 (ROCK ON MAN) . . .	7/1 Coleridge: "Pains of Sleep" (730); DeQuincey: excerpts from <i>Confessions of an Opium Eater</i> (848); "Essay" in Abrams	7/2 Exam (over Wordsworth, Blake, Coleridge, and DeQuincey)
7/5 Holiday	7/6 "The French Revolution and Rights of Man": read excerpts from Burke, Wollstonecraft, Paine, and Macaulay (9); La Marseillais: History ; La Marseillais: audio files Memorization due this week	7/7 Smith: <i>The Emigrants</i> Book One (231)	7/8 Smith: <i>The Emigrants</i> Book Two (231)	7/9 Wollstonecraft, excerpt from <i>Vindication of the Rights of Woman</i> (371) Recommended: Blake, Visions of the Daughters of Albion
7/12 Byron: <i>Manfred</i> (927) Recommended: "Darkness" Response paper due today	7/13 Byron: <i>Manfred</i> (927)	7/14 Byron: <i>Childe Harold's Pilgrimage</i> Canto 1-2, especially stanzas	7/15 Byron: <i>Childe Harold's Pilgrimage</i> Canto 3-4, especially stanzas Recommended: <i>Don Juan</i> excerpts	7/16: Percy Bysshe Shelley: "To Wordsworth"; "Song to Men of England"; "Ode to the West Wind"
7/19 P. B. Shelley: "Hymn to Intellectual Beauty"; excerpt from "Defence of Poetry" Memorization due this week	7/20 P.B. Shelley: <i>The Cenci</i>	7/21 Mary Shelley: <i>Frankenstein</i> (vol. 1); "Novel" and "Gothic" in Abrams	7/22 M. Shelley: <i>Frankenstein</i> (vol. 2)	7/23 M. Shelley: <i>Frankenstein</i> (vol. 3)

<p>7/26 M. Shelley: <i>Mathilda</i> (1339) Response paper due today</p>	<p>7/27 Keats: Letter to Richard Woodhouse 27 October 1818 (1266); Letter to George and Tom Keats 21, 27 (?) December 1817 (1262); "Ode on Indolence" (1312); "Ode on Melancholy" (1298)</p> <p>Recommended: Andrew Motion, <i>Keats: A Biography</i> (esp. Chapter 34)</p>	<p>7/28 Keats: "Ode to Nightingale" (1296); "Ode to Psyche" (1295); "Ode on a Grecian Urn" (1297);</p>	<p>7/29 Keats: "Lamia"; "Eve of St. Agnes" and in the 28th century . . . (read the author interview, as well)</p>	<p>7/30 Exam (over French Revolution, Smith, Wollstonecraft, Byron, Shelleys and Keats)</p>
<p>8/2 Review for final exam (a comprehensive essay exam covering the semester's readings)</p>	<p>8/3 Last Day of Class</p>			