

HL 4019: Advanced Studies in Victorian
Literature

Theme : The Nineteenth-Century Novel



Please note that you will be reading six (6 !) nineteenth-century novels. You may think of starting with *Bleak House* early.

We will start with Austen's *Persuasion*, followed by *Bleak House*, which is the lengthiest and most complex text on the course.

Happy Reading !

Primary Texts :

Jane Austen, *Persuasion*
Wilkie Collins, *Hide and Seek*
Charles Dickens, *Bleak House*
Elizabeth Gaskell, *North and South*
Anthony Trollope, *The Warden*
Mrs Henry Wood, *East Lynne*

Please note that this course is **100 % CA (Continuous Assessment)**

You will be working towards a lengthy research paper, learning how to undertake research, to develop an argument, to formulate an abstract, to put together an annotated bibliography, and to write up your research.

Each student will produce a poster for the poster presentations. These posters will be shared online this semester.

Please note:

This course aims to teach students advanced research and writing skills that will allow them to explore Victorian literature critically and analytically.

The students in this class should already have a good foundation in Victorian studies and be prepared to work on more extensive research projects.

Approximate Breakdown:

Lengthy Research Paper, including Abstract 50%:

This is a research project on which you will be working throughout the semester. You will choose a topic based on our core primary texts and develop your own argument.

This component also includes participation during the abstract workshop.

Annotated Bibliography 20%:

Putting together an annotated bibliography will help you practice conducting research, sorting the material, and extracting what is relevant to a specific research project. You will be compiling an annotated bibliography for a specific research project in Victorian studies. You will need to decide what the relevant primary and secondary materials are, locate and read them, and learn to summarise both what these works' main arguments and their significance for the specific research project are. Simultaneously, this task will require you to use a style manual correctly and consistently. The subsequent assessments build on these research skills.

Poster 20%:

You will present your research topic in an engaging manner on during a poster presentation.

Class Participation 10%:

Preliminary Lecture Schedule

Week No.	Topics	Readings
12 August	Introduction: The Nineteenth-Century Novel	
19 August	The Long Nineteenth Century	<i>Persuasion</i>
26 August	The Big Victorian Novel	<i>Bleak House</i>
2 September	Experiments with Narrative Situation I *How to write an Abstract	<i>Bleak House</i>
9 September	The Realism Wars	<i>The Warden</i>
16 September	Industrial and Social-Problems Fiction	<i>North and South</i>
23 September	Sensation Fiction I	<i>Hide and Seek</i>
30 September	<i>Recess</i>	
7 October	Abstract Workshop * Abstract Drafts Due *How to compose an Annotated Bibliography	
14 October	Sensation Fiction II	<i>East Lynne</i>
21 October	Poster Presentations	

Week No.	Topics	Readings
28 October	Poster Presentations *Final Abstracts are due *Annotated Bibliography is due	
4 November	Public Holiday	
11 November	The Victorian Novel and its Legacies Reconsidered Summary & Revision	