

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 Trollope's *The Warden*, and then *Bleak House*, which is the lengthiest and most complex text on the course.

Happy Reading !

Primary Texts :

Jane Austen, *Persuasion*
Charlotte Brontë, *Villette*
Wilkie Collins, *Hide and Seek*
Charles Dickens, *Bleak House*
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.

There will be an in-class quiz at the end.

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:

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.

Lengthy Research Paper, including Abstract 50%:

Poster Presentation and Write-Up 20%:

You will present your research topic in an engaging manner, producing a poster.

Participation in class, including in-class quiz 10%:

Week No.	Topics	Readings
14 August	Introduction: The Nineteenth-Century Novel	
21 August	“The Natural Sequel to an Unnatural Beginning”: Shifts in Nineteenth-Century Fiction	<i>Persuasion</i>
28 August	The Realism Wars	<i>The Warden</i>
4 September	Bildungsroman & Panoramic Novel – Experiments with Narrative Situation I *How to write an Abstract	<i>Bleak House</i>
11 September	Union Day – No Class	<i>Assignment (tbc)</i>
18 September	“The Romantic Side of Familiar Things”	<i>Bleak House</i>
25 September	Sensation Fiction I Abstract Workshop * Bring Abstract Drafts *How to compose an Annotated Bibliography	<i>Hide and Seek</i>
2 October	<i>Recess</i>	
9 October	Sensation Fiction II	<i>East Lynne</i>

Week No.	Topics	Readings
16 October	Experiments with Narrative Situation II: The Unreliable Narrator & the Mock-Gothic Presentations *Final Abstracts are due *Annotated Bibliography is due	<i>Villette</i>
23 October	Poster Presentations	<i>Villette</i>
30 October	Poster Presentations	
6 November	No Class (public holiday)	
13 November	Revision: Q&A * In-Class Quiz	