Survey of English Literature II
Dr. Elizabeth Weston
ENG 382 128 Cherry Hall
TT 12:45-2:05 Office Hours: Mon. 4:30-5:20,
Thurs. 11:30-12:30, and by appt.

Course Description:
In this course, we will read a wide range of literary texts from the late eighteenth century to the present. As a survey course, the class will offer a look at a large body of literature, in the hopes that you happen upon authors you would like to explore further. We will balance the attempt at breadth of coverage with looking at selected texts in greater depth (for instance we are reading a contemporary novel at the end of the course). In terms of how we will read, we will discuss and employ a variety of approaches in our discussions: attention to cultural context, literary genres, social issues such as gender and race, philosophical approaches, and others that we find useful. You will also work on the skill of close reading and developing your critical thinking ability. I will be encouraging you to think about a variety of approaches to literature and to find the ones that you find most meaningful.

Objectives:
- to explore a variety of ideas about what the experience of reading can offer,
- to develop your own approach to literature,
- to use writing and discussion to think through ideas,
- to acquire exposure to a range of British and Anglophone literary texts from the late eighteenth century to the present,
- and to consider these texts in relation to their cultural contexts.

Course Requirements:
To help meet the first three objectives in particular, this class requires active participation. This includes participation in class discussions and the online discussion forum (more specific guidelines to follow), a brief presentation (five minutes of your thoughts along with two questions for class discussion), and periodic reading quizzes/in-class written responses. All these elements will help you interact with the text and with the ideas of your fellow students.

We will have two exams. These will be essay exams, with questions that direct you to discuss particular texts and themes or issues that the texts raise. The course also includes two papers: the first 3-4 pages, and the second 5-6 pages (typed and double-spaced). The essay assignments will offer guidelines and suggestions, but will invite you to develop your own approaches to the texts. The second essay will also ask that you include reference to several secondary sources, but will still consist primarily of your analysis of a text. These larger assignments will be opportunities to explore your ideas about the literature in depth, and to continue to develop your writing ability.

Evaluation:
25%: Quizzes and Participation (in-class discussions and online discussion forum)
15%: Paper #1 (3-4 pages)
20%: Paper #2 (5-6 pages)
15%: Midterm
25%: Final Exam

Policies:
Latecomers disrupt class discussions, and missing classes means missing discussions entirely, so only illness and other such circumstances should prevent you from attending and arriving on time. I will take attendance into account when figuring the participation grades, so do inform me of any reasonable circumstances that keep you from attending classes. You must be present for the midterm and final. I will accept late papers but for a reduced grade (one grade lower per calendar day).

Plagiarism:
All writing that you submit must be your own. You may incorporate quotes from other sources, as long as you attribute them properly. You may of course consult sources on the web if you attribute them, but avoid the papers on line; using them, or parts of them, as your own work is plagiarism.

Texts:
- The Longman Anthology of British Literature II (3rd edition)
- Peter Ackroyd’s The Plato Papers

Schedule: [this schedule of topics and texts is subject to change as needed]

August
T 8/26: Introduction
TH 8/28: Abolition Narrative and Poetry:
excerpt from Olaudah Equiano’s The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano (pp. 211-219);
Robert Southey’s Sonnets 3-6 (pp. 245-246)

September
T 9/2: Nonfiction and Poetry on Gender and Class:
excerpt from Mary Wollstonecraft’s A Vindication of the Rights of Women (pp. 283-301);
Anna Letitia Barbauld’s "To the Poor" (p. 67), "Washing Day" (p. 67-69);
Charlotte Smith’s "The Dead Beggar" (p. 88)
TH 9/4: Early Nineteenth-Century Fiction:
Mary Shelley’s "The Swiss Peasant"(pp. 1086-1097)
T 9/9: Romantic Poetry:
"Lines Written a Few Miles above Tintern Abbey" (p. 352-56), "Strange fits of passion have I known" (p. 363), "Song" (p. 364), "Three years she grew in sun and shower" (p. 364), Elegaic Stanzas--"Peele Castle" (p. 461)

T 9/16: Romantic Poetry:
Dorothy Wordsworth's "Floating Island" (p. 546), excerpt from “The Grasmere Journals” (pp. 551-58);
Samuel Taylor Coleridge's "This Lime-Tree Bower My Prison" (pp. 574-76), "Kubla Khan" (pp. 614-16), "Dejection: An Ode" (pp.619-23)

TH 9/17: Romantic Poetry:
excerpt from George Gordon, Lord Byron’s “Childe Harold’s Pilgrimage” (pp. 711-25);
Percy Bysshe Shelley’s “Ozymandias” (p. 823), “The Mask of Anarchy” (pp. 824-34), “Ode to the West Wind” (pp. 835-37)

T 9/23: Romantic Poetry:
John Keats' "On Seeing the Elgin Marbles" (p. 934), "Ode on a Grecian Urn" (p. 955-57), "Ode on Melancholy" (p. 959-60), "This Living Hand" (p. 991);

Victorian Poetry:
Robert Browning's “My Last Duchess” (p. 1415-16), “Memorabilia” (p. 1424)

TH 9/25: Victorian Poetry:
Elizabeth Barrett Browning's “Sonnets from the Portuguese” #s 14 and 22 (pp. 1200-01), excerpt from “Aurora Leigh” (pp. 1203-21);
Alfred Tennyson's "Ulysses" (pp. 1244-46), “Tithonus” (pp. 1246-48), “The Charge of the Light Brigade” (pp. 1291-93)

T 9/30: Victorian Poetry:
Dante Gabriel Rossetti’s “The Woodspurge” (p. 1716);
Christina Rossetti’s “Cobwebs” (p. 1728), “Promises Like Pie-Crust” (p. 1745)

October
TH 10/2: FALL BREAK (NO CLASS)

T 10/7: Victorian Poetry:
Christina Rossetti’s “Goblin Market”
Algernon Charles Swinburne’s “Hymn to Proserpine” (pp. 1772-75), “A Forsaken Garden” (p. 1775-76)

TH 10/9: Analytical Essay #1 Due

T 10/14: Nineteenth-Century Fiction and an Essay on Class:
excerpts from Charles Dickens’ Dombey and Son and Hard Times (pp. 1146-49);
excerpt from Frederick Engels’ The Condition of the Working Class in England in 1844 (pp. 1150-58)
Sir Arthur Conan Doyle’s “A Scandal in Bohemia” (pp. 1557-72)

TH 10/16: Midterm Exam

T 10/21: Nineteenth-Century Fiction:
Robert Louis Stevenson’s "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde"

TH 10/23: Nineteenth-Century Fiction:
Robert Louis Stevenson’s "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde"

T 10/28: Thomas Hardy’s “The Withered Arm”

TH 10/30: Nineteenth-Century Drama:
Oscar Wilde’s "The Importance of Being Earnest" (Act I)

November
T 11/4: ELECTION DAY ( NO CLASS)

TH 11/6: Nineteenth-Century Drama:
Oscar Wilde’s "The Importance of Being Earnest" (Acts II and III) and selected excerpts (TBA)

T 11/11: Modern Fiction:
D.H. Lawrence’s "The Odor of Chrysanthemums" (pp. 2748-61);
James Joyce’s "Eveline" (pp. 2274- 77), "Araby" (pp. 2434-38), and excerpts from Ulysses (TBA)

TH 11/13: Modern Fiction:

T 11/18: Modern Poetry:

TH 11/20: WWI/Modern Poetry:
Siegfried Sasson’s “Glory of Women” (p. 2343-44), “They” (p. 2344);
Wilfred Owen’s “Disabled” (p. 2347-48), “Dulce Et Decorum Est” (p. 2348-49);
T.S. Eliot’s “The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock” (pp. 2509-12), "Gerontion" (pp. 2516-18)

T 11/25: Postwar Poetry
W. H. Auden’s “September 1, 1939” (pp. 2909-11) and “In Praise of Limestone” (pp. 2912-14);
Phillip Larkin’s “High Windows” (p. 2921), and “The Trees” (not in text);
Eavan Boland’s “Anorexic” (pp. 3073-74), "The Pomegranate" (pp. 3076), "Quarantine" (not in text)

TH 11/27: Contemporary Fiction:
Peter Ackroyd’s The Plato Papers

December
T 12/2: Contemporary Fiction:
Peter Ackroyd’s The Plato Papers

TH 12/4: Contemporary Fiction:
Peter Ackroyd’s The Plato Papers

T 12/9: FINAL EXAM (10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.)

W 12/10: Research Essay Due