

FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH
COURSE OUTLINE

ENGLISH 445-01 (M/W 14:00-15:15 in SS012)
COURSE TITLE: Literature of the Early Victorian Period

Winter 2016

Instructor: Eden Lackner

Office: SS 1020

Phone: 403-220-8174

E-mail: eden.lackner@ucalgary.ca

Office Hours: Mondays 12:00-13:00 or by appointment.

Homepage/Course Website: <https://d2l.ucalgary.ca/d2l/home/122247>

[Desire2Learn Website for English 445]

Course Description: A survey of poetry, prose, and drama by such writers as Charlotte and Emily Brontë, Robert Browning, Thomas Carlyle, Elizabeth Gaskell, Alfred Tennyson, and William Makepeace Thackeray.

Prerequisite(s): English 302 and either 240 or 340. Not open to students with credit in English 444.

Texts and Readings:

Available in University Bookstore:

- *Jane Eyre* by Charlotte Brontë
- *The Old Curiosity Shop* by Charles Dickens
- *Mary Barton* by Elizabeth Gaskell

Available Online, via English 445 D2L Forum:

- *The String of Pearls: A Romance* by James Malcolm Rymer and Thomas Peckett Prest (<http://halfpennydreadfuls.com/wp-content/uploads/The-String-Of-Pearls-aka-Sweeney-Todd.pdf>)
- Selected short poems, prose and drama by Anne Brontë; Emily Brontë; Elizabeth Barrett Browning; Robert Browning; Thomas Carlyle; Mary Russell Mitford; Ann Plato; Edgar Allen Poe; Mary Shelley; Alfred, Lord Tennyson; and William Makepeace Thackeray. (See detailed weekly schedule of readings.)

Assignments and Evaluation:

Unless otherwise indicated, all assignments are due at the beginning of class on their corresponding due dates. Please make every effort to hand in assignments directly to the instructor. If it is not possible to do so, take your assignment to SS 1152 and put it in the dropbox. It will be date-stamped and placed in the instructor's mailbox. Late assignments will lose a fraction of a grade per day (not per class) unless an extension has been granted. (Ex: An assignment submitted two days late that would have earned a B will instead receive a C+.) No assignments will be accepted one week past the assignment deadline without the prior consent of the instructor.

All assignments must be typed, double-spaced and submitted in hard copy (paper) form unless otherwise instructed. Students are responsible for keeping copies of all assignments in case of loss of any kind. Only the instructor is able to return assignments to students; they cannot be returned by staff in the Department office.

All assignments must be completed in order to receive a passing grade.

Reader Response Journaling Project (15%):

Part of the process of engaging with literature is recognizing our own first responses to a text and using those preliminary thoughts as springboards to more nuanced and informed understandings. Over the course of this class, we will be reading three novels and one penny dreadful; students will be responsible for completing seven journals of 300 to 500 words each critically engaging with these narratives. These journals may trace the development of particular themes, literary figures and techniques, and consider difficult or challenging passages. All of them will use quotations and references to specific events and details in each narrative in order to demonstrate engagement with each text. They can be written in more informal language than a typical research essay, but proper grammar, spelling and complete sentences are still required. Completing all seven journals and displaying thoughtful consideration of the texts will result in a grade of A- for this cumulative assignment; higher grades will be awarded to outstanding work.

Journal Due Dates:

- Monday, January 18: Journal #1, response to the first half of *Jane Eyre*.
- Wednesday, January 27: Journal #2, response to the second half of *Jane Eyre*.
- Monday, February 8: Journal #3, response to the first half of *Mary Barton*.
- Wednesday, February 24: Journal #4, response to the second half of *Mary Barton*.
- Wednesday, March 9: Journal #5, response to the first half of *The Old Curiosity Shop*.
- Wednesday, March 23: Journal #6, response to the second half of *The Old Curiosity Shop*.
- Wednesday, April 6: Journal #7, response to full text of *The String of Pearls: A Romance*.

Close Reading (30%):

Understanding the detailed forms, figures and themes of a work is as important to literary criticism as considering texts within wider theoretical frameworks. This short essay of 1000 to 1500 words will focus on a close reading of one or more works by an author covered in the course. Students will engage with their chosen texts by examining their content and forms. Each essay will be accompanied by an MLA formatted bibliography listing both the primary and secondary scholarly texts consulted. **Due Date: Monday, February 22.**

Research Paper Proposal (5%):

An important part of academic development is identifying areas of study that capture our attention and require further investigation. Students will develop their own research paper topics based on a concept, theme or idea discussed within the classroom. The proposal will consist of 1 to 3 paragraphs (maximum 500 words) describing the argument under consideration, and listing the texts and authors to be examined, including at least two scholars of Victorian Literature whose works will be consulted. A short bibliography (in MLA format) of the academic sources considered so far will accompany the proposal. **Due Date: Wednesday, March 2.**

Research Paper Annotated Bibliography (10%):

Evaluating criticism can help us better prepare for and focus our research. The annotated bibliography will consist of a list of five scholarly essays (cited in MLA format) consulted so far for the research paper, with

each citation followed by 1 to 3 short paragraphs evaluating the content and usefulness of each article to the student's research. Students will submit their bibliographies by posting both a short summary of their paper topic and their annotated bibliographies to the course's D2L forum. **Due Date: Wednesday, March 16.**

Research Paper (40%)

The research paper marks the culmination of all our work throughout English 445. This essay of 1750 to 2000 words will build on the work started in the proposal and annotated bibliography. Students will pursue their chosen lines of inquiry with reference to texts and authors covered in the course and the criticism of Victorian literature scholars. These analyses will include contextualizing such arguments in terms of the social and artistic climates of the nineteenth century, or their long-term effects on modern literature. **Due Date: Wednesday, April 13.**

TOTAL: 100%

English 445 does not have a Registrar-scheduled exam.

Grading System:

The University of Calgary's four-point Undergraduate Grading System, as described in the Calendar (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f-2.html>), will be used in this course.

A+/A (4.0); A- (3.7); B+ (3.3); B (3.0); B- (2.7); C+ (2.3); C (2.0); C- (1.7); D+ (1.3); D (1.0); F (0)

Please note that, according to the University Calendar (F.1), instructors may use their discretion when rounding upwards or downwards when the average of term work and exams is between two letter grades.

Although the A+ is solely an honorific that entails no additional points in the four-point system, the course instructor will employ this mark to distinguish superlative work that exceeds expectations in style, correctness, intellectual depth and breadth, sophistication, and originality.

Plagiarism:

Using any source whatsoever without clearly documenting it is a serious academic offense. Consequences include failure on the assignment, failure in the course and possible suspension or expulsion from the university. Please refer to the following information and make sure you are familiar with the statement below on plagiarism:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-2-1.html>

Policies Regarding Electronic Devices in the Classroom:

Please restrict the use of electronic and mobile devices to course-related functions within the classroom. If you want or need to text, phone, surf the 'net or otherwise employ such devices for personal and other non-course-related functions, please quietly exit the room for the duration of the class. Please turn off or mute all cell phones when the class is in progress. Situations in which students need to be available or on call during the class may be permitted if previously discussed with the instructor.

Scribe and Muse Club for English Students:

The Scribe and Muse Reading and Writing Club (SMRWC) fosters and champions reading and writing through community service, leadership, and engagement. We strive to enhance the academic and social experience of undergraduate students by promoting academic excellence and interaction between students,

faculty, and the community, through social, cultural, and academic events

[http://english.ucalgary.ca/scribe-and-muse-english-club.](http://english.ucalgary.ca/scribe-and-muse-english-club)

Our email address is [smecuofc@gmail.com.](mailto:smecuofc@gmail.com)

English Department Website:

For more information about courses, programs, policies, events and contacts in the Department of English, please go to our website at [http://english.ucalgary.ca.](http://english.ucalgary.ca) Please note that the course outlines posted on the English Department website constitute the official course outline for purposes of appeals. Students should verify any hard copies against this posted version. For courses which employ numerical grades, the official departmental percentage to letter grade conversion scale is also posted on the department website.

Writing support:

The Student Success Centre offers both online and workshop writing support for U of C students.

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/writing-support>

Guidelines on e-mail Etiquette:

<http://www.enough.utoronto.ca/computeruse/eetiquette.htm>

Library and Research Support:

Melanie Boyd, Librarian for English, offers research support to students, including strategies for finding articles, books, and other library materials. Contact: maboyd@ucalgary.ca

Find The English Pages research guide here: <http://libguides.ucalgary.ca/english>

Follow the Department of English on Facebook & Twitter:



Academic regulations and schedules:

Consult the Calendar for course information, university and faculty regulations, dates, deadlines and schedules, student, faculty and university rights and responsibilities. The homepage for the University Calendar is

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/index.htm>

Grade appeals:

Consult the following University Calendar link and request advice from the English Department office, SS 1152. Please note that “mere dissatisfaction with a decision is not sufficient grounds for the appeal of a grade or other academic decision.”

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i.html>

Deferral of term work and final examinations:

Should you require an extension for completion of term papers or assignments beyond the deadline of five days after the end of lectures, an Application of Deferment of Term Work form must be completed. The University also has regulations governing the deferral of final examinations. See Calendar:

[http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/g-6.html,](http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/g-6.html)

[http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/g-7.html.](http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/g-7.html)

Student Accommodations:

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit www.ucalgary.ca/access/.

Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor.

The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy_0.pdf.

Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>;

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip/>

“Safewalk” Program:

Campus Security will escort individuals day or night: call 220-5333 for assistance. Use any campus phone, emergency phone or the yellow phone located at most parking lot pay booths.

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk/>

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources:

Have a question, but not sure where to start? The new Arts Students’ Centre (ASC) is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS102, call us at 403-220-3580 or email us at ascarts@ucalgary.ca. You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> which has detailed information on common academic concerns.

For program planning and advice, contact the Student Success Centre (formerly the Undergraduate programs Office) at (403) 220-5881 or visit them in their new space on the 3rd Floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library.

For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Library Block.

Contact for Students Union Representatives for the Faculty of Arts:

arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, arts4@su.ucalgary.ca

Contact for Students Ombudsman’s Office: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds>

Universal Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI):

"At the University of Calgary, feedback provided by students through the Universal Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI) survey provides valuable information to help with evaluating instruction, enhancing learning and teaching, and selecting courses (www.ucalgary.ca/usri). Your responses make a difference - please participate in USRI Surveys."

PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism is an extremely serious offence. Please read the following information carefully. The penalty routinely recommended by the English Department for documented plagiarism is failure of the course in which the offence occurred; academic probation is also routinely applied at the Faculty level. Suspension or expulsion can result from severe or repeated plagiarism.

The University Calendar states:

1. Plagiarism - Essentially plagiarism involves submitting or presenting work in a course as if it were the student's own work done expressly for that particular course when, in fact, it is not. Most commonly plagiarism exists when:

- (a) the work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work (this includes having another impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for one's own in an examination or test),
- (b) parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author,
- (c) the whole work (e.g., an essay) is copied from another source, and/or,
- (d) a student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course (although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved.

While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted.

Plagiarism occurs when direct quotations are taken from a source without specific acknowledgement, or when original ideas or data from the source are not acknowledged. Citing your sources in a bibliography is not enough, because a bibliography does not establish which parts of a student's work are taken from other sources. MLA (Modern Language Association) documentation or other recognized forms of citation must be used for this purpose. Advice on adequate documentation can be found at the following web sites:

<http://www.dianahacker.com/resdoc/>

<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/>

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH STATEMENT ON PRINCIPLES OF CONDUCT

According to the University Calendar, (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/j.html>) "The University of Calgary community has undertaken to be guided by the following statements of purpose and values: to promote free inquiry and debate, to act as a community of scholars, ..., to respect, appreciate, and encourage diversity, [and] to display care and concern for community". The Department of English, like the university as a whole, is committed to a "positive and productive learning and working environment." This environment is characterized by appreciation and encouragement of diversity and respect for the dignity of all persons: students, support staff, and faculty. The department will not tolerate unacceptable behaviour, such as threatening gestures, threatening or abusive verbal or written communication (including e-mails), or any conduct that "seriously disrupts the lawful education and related activities of students and/or university staff". Any cases of such misconduct should be reported immediately to the department Head, who, depending on the nature and severity of the incident, may then take further appropriate action.