

Course: British Literature II
Instructor: Dr. Dean Bowers
Office: Wilkerson 200
Classroom: Online
Office Hours: M 9-11, T 1:30-2:30; W 1-5; TH 10-11

ENGL 2323.WBL
Spring 2012
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Course Description

ENGL 2323 British Literature II (23.1404.5112) (3-0) 3 hours

ENGL 2323 focuses on reading and thinking critically about significant works of British literature from the Romantic period to the present day. In ENGL 2323, students will use analytical techniques to develop interpretations of literary works. Requirements include reading assignments, analytical papers, a final exam, and other assignments as determined by the instructor. This course is required of all English majors. (SCANS 1, 2, 9) Prerequisite: ENGL 1301 and ENGL 1302.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to

- Demonstrate the ability to think critically about notable works of British literature from the Romantic Period to the present;
- Demonstrate the ability to read assigned texts closely, develop interpretational analyses of these texts, and clearly articulate the findings of these critical interpretational analyses;
- Recognize the major movements and periods of British literature from the Romantic Period to the present;
- Discuss the basic and more abstract elements of different genres of literature of this period using the appropriate literary terminology;
- Recognize recurring cultural and literary themes as they appear in selected works of this period of British literature;
- Communicate this understanding of British literature using well-organized, lucid prose.

Required Materials

- 1) *Longman Anthology of British Literature*, Volume II, Damrosch et al, 4th ed., Pearson
- 1) Access to a computer (see **Computer Access** section)
- 1) A computer file storage device (preferably a USB drive)

Course Assignments

- Essays (3) 24%
- Major Analytical Paper 12%
- Tests (3) 24%
- Quizzes/Activities 10%
- Final Exam 15%

Encouragement

My overall philosophy is that you can succeed in this class, and that you can get and will get the grade that you are willing to work for. I will maintain rigorous standards, but I will help you in any way that I can to be successful because I do want all of you to do well. My goal is to help you develop your analytical reading skills, your critical thinking skills, and to continue to develop your ability to clearly articulate your ideas. These are skills that will serve you well in other classes, in job situations, and in your own personal development. I also hope that you enjoy the reading and find some authors and works that you like. I encourage you to talk to me if you have questions, concerns, or problems in the class. If you cannot come to my scheduled office hours, other meeting times can be arranged. I can also assist you in arranging the use of other helpful resources. I hope we can have an interesting, productive, and fun semester together!

Computer Access

You need to have regular access to a computer for this class:

- **Internet** – You need to have dependable access to the internet.
- **Word Processor** – All assignments should be typed, saved to your computer, and then submitted to Blackboard. If you don't have Word, most computers come with Works already loaded. Make sure to save documents in Rich Text Format. Some alternative word processors are the one on Google Docs or the free word processor available at www.openoffice.org.
- **Blackboard** - You are responsible for any materials that can be found in our Blackboard course: documents, assignments, Powerpoints, linked resources.
- **Odessa College email** – When I send messages and reminders, they will go to this email. You are responsible for any information sent to your OC email.
- **Powerpoint** – You can open Powerpoints in Blackboard. Here is a link for a free Powerpoint Viewer: <http://www.microsoft.com/downloads/details.aspx?familyid=048dc840-14e1-467d-8dca-19d2a8fd7485&displaylang=en>.
- **Adobe Reader** – If you don't have this already, you can download the reader for free at <http://www.adobe.com/>.

I am assuming that concurrent students have access to computers at school, and hopefully everyone has access to computers at home. In any case, not having computer or printer access is not a valid excuse for failing to complete assignments on time.

Class Behavior

Even though most of our interactions will be on Blackboard and via email, I will expect for you to be courteous and respectful in our communications. We will probably not do discussion boards, but if we do, here are some guidelines.

- ω In Discussion Boards, I expect students to only post material appropriate for a classroom environment and to be respectful and courteous toward their fellow students.
- ω The Discussion Boards are an opportunity to share different points of view, and this will make the interactions more interesting for all of us. If you have a different point of view on a topic than someone else, I encourage you to share your ideas – just do so politely. Offer your ideas up as another possible way of looking at the topic.
- ω If a student submits inappropriate or belligerent posts, replies, or other materials to Blackboard, or if a student interacts with me or another student in an inappropriate or belligerent way, I will contact the Dean of Arts and Sciences, and we will explain to the student why the behavior was inappropriate and discuss how to avoid it in the future. If there is another incident, I will contact the Dean of Arts and Sciences and the Vice President of Student Services to discuss further disciplinary measures. In cases where inappropriate material has been submitted for an assignment, students will receive reduced credit or even no credit (depending on the situation) for the posts in question.

Attendance

Instructors at Odessa College are required to take attendance, even in online classes. **You need to access Blackboard at least two days each week.** At the end of each week (Sat.), I will check to make sure that people have been present. Considering the resources that you need to access on Blackboard, most weeks you will probably need to log in more than this. You get two absences without any penalty. Each subsequent absence will result in a loss of one point from your final grade.

Assignments

- ω **Assignments need to be posted on Blackboard by 11:59 PM on the designated due date in order to be counted on time.**
- ω **If you have trouble posting the assignment to Blackboard for any reason, contact me immediately and send the assignment to me via email by the deadline so that I can count it on time. You will need to post assignments on Blackboard for them to be graded once the submission problem is resolved.**
- ω Make sure to follow specific assignment instructions carefully.
- ω Assignments are due by the end of the day (11:59PM) on the designated date
- ω I would like all assignments submitted in Rich Text Format.
- ω Late assignments will lose 10 points. I will accept late assignments for 48 hours after the due date/time. After that, I will not accept them.
- ω If an assignment does not meet the word minimum, it will lose 10 points (or be subject to the penalty described on the assignment instructions).
- ω If you have a legitimate, documented reason why you need more time on an assignment, please contact me. The documentation must be included with the assignment.

Assistance with Assignments/Tutoring

You are always welcome to call me or email me with questions about your assignments. I can help you brainstorm for topics and ideas, help you organize your essay, help you with using quotations, help you edit your essay and/or discuss any other questions. I will also answer these kinds of questions and look at drafts of assignments to provide comments via email. Just please make sure to send me the draft with enough time before it is due to send you feedback.

In addition to my help, any registered Odessa College student can go to the Student Success Center for tutoring and for assistance with different subjects. If you are in Odessa, or nearby, the SSC can be a valuable resource. The Odessa College Student Success Center is located on the first floor of the Learning Resources Center (library). You are welcome to go to the SSC for assistance in this class. The English tutors can help you with the same aspects of the paper as I have listed above. The point to emphasize here is that they will **help** you; **they will not do the assignment for you**. Make sure to take a copy of the assignment instructions with you so that the tutor will understand the assignment. To get more information about the SSC, call 432-335-6673 or go to <http://www.odessa.edu/dept/ssc/index.htm>.

Odessa College also offers access to Smarthinking, an online student assistance service. You can access Smarthinking from the Student Success Center webpages; the following link will take you to the Smarthinking information on the SSC site: <http://www.odessa.edu/dept/ssc/tutoring.htm>. When you go to access Smarthinking, you will be directed to the Student Portal. Your same passwords that you use for your Blackboard and email should work for the Portal. If not, call 432-335-6673.

Plagiarism

Simply put, plagiarism is turning in work that you claim to be your own, but that is not yours; in other words, parts of it or all of it comes from another source.

Plagiarism occurs if you do any of the following without giving proper credit to the real author of the material: directly quote from another author's material, paraphrase from another author's material, or even borrow an idea from another author's material.

- ♣ **If you are caught plagiarizing material on any assignment (tests, essays, discussion board posts and replies), you will receive a zero on the assignment in question.**
- ♣ **If you are caught plagiarizing material a second time, you will receive an F for the course. I will also contact the Vice President of Student Services.**

When we are doing research assignments, errors on your citations will not be considered plagiarism unless you have not cited any of your sources. However, since using and citing sources are major components of the research assignments, correct citation count for a portion of the grade.

You can do the work; plagiarism is not worth it. If you have questions, please contact me.

Ineligible Materials for Assignments

Please abstain from using material (quoted, paraphrased, or otherwise borrowed) from interpretational resources (such as Spark Notes, Cliffs Notes, etc.) or from essay sites (such as 123HelpMe, etc.) as the basis of your discussions in your essays and other assignments. While proving plagiarism can be difficult, it is not so difficult to tell when a student has relied on a supplemental website for assistance instead of on the actual assigned text. While this kind of laziness may not always qualify as plagiarism, it does demonstrate that you are not meeting the class requirements and your grade will reflect that.

- ω **If your discussion relies on these kinds of websites, the highest grade you will be able to get on that assignment will be a 65 (D).**
- ω **If your discussion uses materials other than those designated for the assignment, the highest possible grade you can get on that particular assignment will be a 75 (C).**
- ω **As the policy above states, if it can be proven that you have plagiarized from any source, you will incur the stated failing grades.**

ADA Policy

Odessa College complies with Section 504 of the Vocational Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. If you have any special needs or issues pertaining to your access to and participation in this or any other class at Odessa College, please feel free to contact me to discuss your concerns. You may also call the Office of Disability services at 432-335-6861 to request assistance and accommodations.

Helpful Links

As a substitute for a grammar text, some of the following websites are very helpful:

<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/grammar/index.html>

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

Withdrawing from Class

April 13 (Fri.) is the last day you will be automatically be given a 'W' when you withdraw from a class. After that, you will receive the grade you currently have in the class.

Schedule Adjustments

I reserve the right to adjust the schedule and policies if necessary. You will be notified of any changes and will be responsible for information that has been emailed and/or posted.

Learning Resource Center (Library)

The Library, known as the [Learning Resources Center](#), provides research assistance via the [LRC's catalog \(print books, videos, e-books\)](#) and [databases \(journal and magazine articles\)](#). [Research guides](#) covering specific subject areas, [tutorials](#), and the ["Ask a Librarian"](#) service provide additional help.

Student E-mail

Please access your [Odessa College Student E-mail](http://www.odessa.edu/gmail/), by following the link to either set up or update your account: <http://www.odessa.edu/gmail/>. **All correspondence for the course will be conducted using your Odessa College email.**