

EN 360: The Nineteenth-Century Novel

WINTER 2018

Instructor: D. Dyck

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Class Location: A2212

Class Time: T/Th 2:30-3:45 pm

Office Location: L2062

Office Hours: W/F 2:30-3:30 pm

Texts: Austen, Jane. *Persuasion*.

Brontë, Charlotte. *Jane Eyre*.

Dickens, Charles. *Great Expectations*.

All texts are Broadview Press.

Eliot, George. *The Mill on the Floss*.

Hardy, Thomas. *The Mayor of Casterbridge*.

Course Description:

From the Academic Calendar: Many contemporary ideas about the individual, political economy, psychology, gender, faith, creativity, science, and art took shape during the Victorian period. The novel of the nineteenth century displays and distills the cultural and intellectual ferment that defined this remarkably prolific period in English literature. Representative novels by the major, minor, and, occasionally, quirky writers of the period will be covered.

Note: The reading in EN 360 is heavy, and if you are a slow reader, you may find it challenging to keep up. But it *is* possible, and it can even be fun! Just don't assume you can catch up the night before a class meeting. Plan ahead, carry your texts with you everywhere, seize every opportunity to read a page or two (or five)—and if you feel really swamped, skim along for a while and THEN GO BACK later to important sections. Whatever you do, don't start skipping class because you are behind; it's much better to be in class and know more or less what we're talking about than to fall out of the loop and the discussion altogether.

Expected Learning Outcomes:

Students completing this course will:

1. Understand better the literature, thought, and imaginative tendencies of the Nineteenth Century.
2. Understand better the literary history of the Nineteenth Century and the importance of the novel genre in the Western literary tradition.
3. Identify and describe the dominant conventions, genres, themes, and motifs of the nineteenth-century novel.
4. Develop the skills of literary analysis and literary research by completing a number of short writing assignments and one or two longer essays.

Course Requirements:

- Attend class. Always bring the relevant readings to class. If the relevant reading is a PDF (available on Moodle), print it out and bring it in hard copy.
- In addition to the assigned readings, you are responsible for the content of all lectures.
- All assignments are due in hard copy by the beginning of class AND must be submitted to receive a passing final grade in the course.
- The penalty for late assignments is one refined letter grade per class day late. Extensions may be granted on written assignments in exceptional circumstances.
- The most current version of this syllabus will always be available on Moodle. You are responsible for any changes to it announced in class.

Course Work:

Mini-Midterms (5 @ 4%)

At the end of our class work on each novel, students will write an in-class “mini-midterm” comprised of short answer questions and a passage to analyze.

Short Essay (20%)

Students will write a 2000 word critical essay on one of our first four novels. You may choose which novel you write on and thus which deadline you need to meet (see schedule), but **you must send me an email stating your intention by the proposal deadline**. Students who anticipate writing a final essay are urged to write on one of the first three novels we read. **You may not back out once you have submitted your proposal; no late proposals will be considered.**

Reading Journals (20%)

The best way to engage with our texts and be ready for class is to read actively—annotating, highlighting, questioning, and commenting on what you notice. To support and encourage you in this effort, one of the course requirements is a regular reading journal which you will keep on Moodle. The basic requirement is **two entries per novel**, each of which will be worth 2%. The more particular requirements are as follows:

Content: Entries must be in complete, coherent sentences and a minimum of **200 words**; they must include at least one relevant quotation. Each entry should explicitly address developments in our current novel up to the pages assigned by your posting date (e.g. if you post about *Persuasion* on January 20th, your post must demonstrate in some way that you have read to the end of the novel).

Timing: **You cannot get credit for more than one post on a single day**, so plan ahead. Otherwise you may post your entries on your own schedule, as long as you get them done before the cut-off dates (see schedule). To be absolutely clear, you may post on **any** day of the week, not just days on which we have class. You are also welcome to write more often than is strictly required: you will find your journal a valuable resource when working on your essays or studying for the exam.

Final Exam—Option A (30%)

There will be a 3-hour final exam with short answer questions, passages to analyze, and an essay question focusing on *The Mayor of Casterbridge*. Until I have agreed that you may do Option B, assume you will be writing the final exam for this course.

Final Essay—Option B (30%)

If you get a B- or better on the short essay and would like to write a longer research essay on either *The Mill on the Floss* or *The Mayor of Casterbridge*, you are invited to do so. You must state your intention to write a research essay **no later than April 1st** and submit an essay proposal, which includes a tentative thesis statement. You may change your mind about writing a research essay (and choose instead to write the final exam) provided you notify me in writing before the essay is due and in time for you to write the exam.

Participation (10%)

Participation is your visible engagement with the class and the texts: look alert, ask questions, share your thoughts, and visit me during my office hours. Obviously, participation requires your regular attendance; skip class and your grades will suffer.

Course Schedule:

Jan	Readings	Assignments
4	Introductions	
9	Austen , <i>Persuasion</i> , Chs. 1-3	
11	<i>Persuasion</i> , Vol. I, Chs. 4-11	
16	<i>Persuasion</i> , Vol. I, Ch. 12-Vol. 2, Ch. 7	
18	<i>Persuasion</i> , Vol. II, Ch. 8-end	<i>Persuasion</i> proposals due LAST DAY for <i>Persuasion</i> journals
23	Brontë , <i>Jane Eyre</i> , Chs. 1-9	Mini-Midterm 1: <i>Persuasion</i>
25	No Classes: Program Day	
30	<i>Jane Eyre</i> , Chs. 10-17	
Feb		
1	<i>Jane Eyre</i> , Chs. 18-24	<i>Persuasion</i> essays due
6	<i>Jane Eyre</i> , Chs. 25-30	
8	<i>Jane Eyre</i> , Chs. 31-end	<i>Jane Eyre</i> proposals due LAST DAY for <i>Jane Eyre</i> journals
13	Dickens , <i>Great Expectations</i> , Vol. I. Chs. 1-12	Mini-Midterm 2: <i>Jane Eyre</i>
15	<i>Great Expectations</i> , Vol. I, Ch. 13-Vol. II, Ch. 4	
20	<i>Great Expectations</i> , Vol. II, Chs. 5-18	<i>Jane Eyre</i> essays due
22	No Classes: Spring Break	
27	No Classes: Spring Break	
Mar		
1	<i>Great Expectations</i> , Vol. II, Ch. 19-Vol. III, Ch. 9	
6	<i>Great Expectations</i> , Vol. 3, Ch. 10-end	<i>Great Expectations</i> proposals due LAST DAY for <i>Great Expectations</i> journals
8	Eliot , <i>The Mill on the Floss</i> , Bk. I, Chs. 1-10	Mini-Midterm 3: <i>Great Expectations</i>
13	<i>The Mill on the Floss</i> , Bk. I, Ch. 11-Bk. III, Ch. 3	
15	<i>The Mill on the Floss</i> , Bk. III, Ch. 4-Bk. V, Ch. 2	<i>Great Expectations</i> essays due
20	<i>The Mill on the Floss</i> , Bk. V, Ch. 3-Bk. 6, Ch. 7	
22	<i>The Mill on the Floss</i> , Bk. VI, Ch. 8-end	<i>The Mill on the Floss</i> proposals due LAST DAY for <i>Mill on the Floss</i> journals
27	Hardy , <i>The Mayor of Casterbridge</i> , Pref.-Ch. 12	Mini-Midterm 4: <i>The Mill on the Floss</i>
29	<i>The Mayor of Casterbridge</i> , Chs. 13-23	
Apr		
3	<i>The Mayor of Casterbridge</i> , Chs. 24-35	<i>The Mill on the Floss</i> essays due OPTION B proposals due
5	<i>The Mayor of Casterbridge</i> , Chs. 36-end	
10	<i>The Mayor of Casterbridge</i>	Mini-Midterm 5: <i>The Mayor of Casterbridge</i> LAST DAY for <i>M. of Casterbridge</i> journals

Grading Scale:

Letter Grade	Percentage	Description	Letter Grade	Percentage	Description
A+	96-100	Excellent	C+	68-71	Satisfactory
A	91-95	Excellent	C	63-67	Satisfactory
A-	86-90	Excellent	C-	60-62	Satisfactory
B+	82-85	Good	D+	56-59	Poor
B	75-81	Good	D	50-55	Minimum Pass
B-	72-74	Good	F	0-49	Failure

Ambrose University Academic Policies:

Communication

All students have received an Ambrose e-mail account upon registration. It is the student's responsibility to check this account regularly as the Ambrose email system will be the professor's instrument for notifying students of important matters (cancelled class sessions, extensions, requested appointments, etc.) between class sessions. If students do not wish to use their Ambrose accounts, they will need to forward all messages from the Ambrose account to another personal account.

Registration

During the **Registration Revision Period** students may enter a course without permission, change the designation of any class from credit to audit and /or voluntary withdraw from a course without financial or academic penalty or record. Courses should be added or dropped on the student portal by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. After that date, the original status remains and the student is responsible for related fees.

Students intending to withdraw from a course after the Registration Revision Period must apply to the Office of the Registrar by submitting a "Request to Withdraw from a Course" form or by sending an email to the Registrar's Office by the **Withdrawal Deadline**; please consult the List of Important Dates on the my.ambrose.edu website. Students will not receive a tuition refund for courses from which they withdraw after the Registration Revision period. A grade of "W" will appear on their transcript.

Students wishing to withdraw from a course, but who fail to do so by the applicable date, will receive the grade earned in accordance with the course syllabus. A student obliged to withdraw from a course after the Withdrawal Deadline because of health or other reasons may apply to the Registrar for special consideration.

Exam Scheduling

Students, who find a conflict in their exam schedule must submit a Revised Examination Request form to the Registrar's Office by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. Requests will be considered for the following reasons only: 1) the scheduled final examination slot conflicts with another exam; 2) the student has three final exams within three consecutive exam time blocks; 3) the scheduled final exam slot conflicts with an exam at another institution; 4) extenuating circumstances. Travel is not considered a valid excuse for re-scheduling or missing a final exam.

Electronic Etiquette

Students are expected to treat their instructor, guest speakers, and fellow students with respect. It is disruptive to the learning goals of a course or seminar and disrespectful to fellow students and the instructor to use electronics for purposes unrelated to the course during a class session. Turn off all cell phones and other electronic devices during class. Laptops should be used for class-related purposes only. Do not use iPods, MP3 players, or headphones. Do not text, read, or send personal emails, go on Facebook or other social networks, search the internet, or play computer games during class. Some professors will not allow the use of any electronic devices in class. The professor has the right to disallow the

student to use a laptop in future lectures and/or to ask a student to withdraw from the session if s/he does not comply with this policy. Repeat offenders will be directed to the Dean. If you are expecting communication due to an emergency, please speak with the professor before the class begins.

Academic Policies

It is the responsibility of all students to become familiar with and adhere to academic policies as stated in the Academic Calendar. Personal information (information about an individual that may be used to identify that individual) may be required as part of taking this class. Any information collected will only be used and disclosed for the purpose for which the collection was intended. For further information contact the Privacy Compliance Officer at privacy@ambrose.edu.

Extensions

Although extensions to coursework in the semester are at the discretion of the instructor, students may not turn in coursework for evaluation after the last day of the scheduled final examination period unless they have received permission for a course Extension from the Registrar's Office. Requests for course extensions or alternative examination time must be submitted to the Registrar's Office by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. Course extensions are only granted for serious issues that arise "due to circumstances beyond the student's control."

Appeal of Grade

An appeal for change of grade on any course work must be made to the course instructor within one week of receiving notification of the grade. An appeal for change of final grade must be submitted to the Registrar's Office in writing and providing the basis for appeal within 30 days of receiving notification of the final grade, providing the basis for appeal. A review fee of \$50.00 must accompany the appeal. If the appeal is sustained, the fee will be refunded.

Academic Integrity

We are committed to fostering personal integrity and will not overlook breaches of integrity such as plagiarism and cheating. Academic dishonesty is taken seriously at Ambrose University as it undermines our academic standards and affects the integrity of each member of our learning community. Any attempt to obtain credit for academic work through fraudulent, deceptive, or dishonest means is academic dishonesty. Plagiarism involves presenting someone else's ideas, words, or work as one's own. Plagiarism is fraud and theft, but plagiarism can also occur by accident when a student fails or forgets to acknowledge to another person's ideas or words. Plagiarism and cheating can result in a failing grade for an assignment, for the course, or immediate dismissal from the university college. Students are expected to be familiar with the policies in the current Academic Calendar that deal with plagiarism, cheating, and the penalties and procedures for dealing with these matters. All cases of academic dishonesty are reported to the Academic Dean and become part of the student's permanent record.

Note: Students are strongly advised to retain this syllabus for their records.