Course objectives

- Discuss and write about British literature of the Romantic period from an informed and flexible perspective
- Understand how British Romantic literature fits into a continuum of literary development
- Describe important issues in British Romantic literature that relate to the gothic, gender, social class, politics, colonialism, and spirituality
- Provide information about major Romantic writers and their literary works
- Read poems, plays, essays, and letters closely; analyze them; and synthesize ideas about them
- Use a scholarly vocabulary and voice in classroom discussions and written work
- Write scholarly arguments about Romantic literature
- Use MLA style in formatting papers and documenting information from sources
- Find relevant critical texts in the library and in databases
- Read critical texts and integrate scholarly debate into one’s own scholarly writing

- Produce a writing sample for use as COLFA conference submission, in job applications and graduate school applications.

Texts and other material

  Stephen Greenblatt, ed. ISBN 978-0-393-91252-4
- Two blue books for midterm and final exams
- See Blackboard for a record of your course grade, descriptions of assignments, and study guides.

Course policies

- Attendance is important. Roll will be taken in every class. Missing a class for any reason results in a 4-point deduction from the class attendance grade. (See “Class attendance” below for ways to make up points lost.)
- Dropping the course by the specified UTSA deadline is the responsibility of the student. Students who do not drop before published drop dates will receive a grade in the course, even if they have quit attending. Students should check for drop dates at myutsa/ASAP/Class Schedules/Academic Calendar for the semester.
- Support services, including registration assistance and equipment, are available to students with documented disabilities through the Office of Disabled Student Services (DSS), MS 2.03.18. Students are encouraged to contact that office at 458-4157 early in the semester. Also see http://www.utsa.edu/disability/students.htm
- Plagiarism will not be tolerated and may result in an F for the course. Plagiarism consists of cheating on an exam, copying another student’s work, copying a paper off the internet; not documenting the ideas and opinions of other writers—even when not quoting them directly. To access the UTSA scholastic dishonesty policy, go to the following site and scroll down to Section 203: http://www.utsa.edu/infoguide/appendices/b.html
- You may use a laptop, but please sit on the back row or the sides of the classroom. If you do not use a laptop and do not want the distraction of laptop screens, sit in the front or middle of the classroom.
- All students are expected to take the final exam on the scheduled date.

The UTSA Academic Honor Code

A. Preamble - The University of Texas at San Antonio community of past, present and future students, faculty, staff, and administrators share a commitment to integrity and the ethical pursuit of knowledge. We honor the traditions of our university by conducting ourselves with a steadfast duty to honor, courage, and virtue in all matters both public and private. By choosing integrity and responsibility, we promote personal growth, success, and lifelong learning for the advancement of ourselves, our university, and our community.

B. Honor Pledge - In support of the ideals of integrity, the students of the University of Texas at San Antonio pledge: “As a UTSA Roadrunner I live with honor and integrity.”

C. Shared responsibility - The University of Texas at San Antonio community shares the responsibility and commitment to integrity and the ethical pursuit of knowledge and adheres to the UTSA Honor Code.
Roadrunner Creed
The University of Texas at San Antonio is a community of scholars, where integrity, excellence, inclusiveness, respect, collaboration, and innovation are fostered. As a Roadrunner, I will:
- Uphold the highest standards of academic and personal integrity by practicing and expecting fair and ethical conduct;
- Respect and accept individual differences, recognizing the inherent dignity of each person;
- Contribute to campus life and the larger community through my active engagement; and
- Support the fearless exploration of dreams and ideas in the advancement of ingenuity, creativity, and discovery.
Guided by these principles now and forever, I am a Roadrunner!

Course requirements
Class attendance and participation 10%
4 quizzes (best 4 out of 5) 20%
Midterm Exam 15%
Final Exam 20%
Paper #1 15%
Term paper 20%

Grades - Letter grades will be assigned as follows:
A+ = 98-100  A = 92 - 97  A- = 88 - 91
B+ = 86 - 87  B = 82 - 85  B- = 78 - 81
C+ = 76 - 77  C = 72 - 75  C- = 68 - 71
D+ = 66 - 67  D = 62 - 65  D- = 60 - 61  F < 60

Class attendance and participation is an important part of the learning process in the course. Class time is designed to help students become critical thinkers, active listeners and lively discussants.

Students begin the semester with 100 points for class attendance. Each absence, regardless of reason, results in a loss of 4 points. Students can make up the lost points by doing two of each of the following:
- Participate in a panel discussion  4
- Present a report on an approved topic  4
- Review an approved literary event  4
The maximum points averaged into the final grade for class attendance is 100. See Blackboard for details.

Quizzes will be given at the beginning, middle, or end of the class periods designated below on the Schedule. Five quizzes are scheduled, but the best 4 out of 5 quizzes will be averaged into the course grade. If a student misses a quiz and receives a zero, that zero will be dropped. No make-ups on quizzes.

The midterm exam will be taken in class and will contain brief identification and short and long essays.

The final exam will be given during the time scheduled by UTSA. It will be similar to the midterm exam but will primarily focus on course readings after the midterm.

Paper #1 is a formal argument paper that presents a clear thesis and support. Relevant scholarly secondary sources are required, and information from sources must be documented using MLA style in-text citations and a works cited page. Page length = 5 pages. See Blackboard for more details. Also see Guidelines for Writing an Argument about a Literary Text.

Paper #2 is also a formal argument paper that is similar to paper #1. More secondary sources are required. Page length = 12 pages.

Late papers are excused from point penalties only if a student verifies in writing an incapacitating physical illness or death in the family. Students who will be absent for religious reasons or to conduct official University business should make arrangements with the instructor before the absence in order to avoid penalties.

Unexcused late paper penalties
Less than 24 hours late = 5 point deduction
24 – 48 hrs late = 10 point deduction
over 48 hours late = 15 point deduction
See cut-off dates for paper submissions below.

Online help for paper writing
Outline of guidelines for Papers #1 and #2 – Go to Blackboard, Course Content, Paper Writing folder
Detailed guidelines for Papers #1 and #2 – Go to Blackboard, Course Content, Paper Writing folder, Guidelines for Writing an Argument about a Literary Text. This is a more extensive explanation of the outlined requirements.

Articles in UTSA databases (Your fees pay for these, so use them!) – Go to UTSA library, click on databases, Liberal and Fine Arts. Then scroll down to these data bases and search by author, title, or subject: Galenet, LION, Literature Resource, MLA, and JSTOR. There are more sites. This is a start.

MLA style guide for format and documentation - Go to UTSA’s Tomas Rivera Center and scroll down to “Citation”; see MLA Style Guide PowerPoint. Also go to Purdue Owl, MLA style.

Information on punctuation, grammar, and style – Go to the UTSA Writing Center web site, “Writing Resources”

Introductory guide to literary criticism – Go to Purdue Owl, search for literary criticism, look left, and click on the criticism explanation that might help you. The questions at the bottom of each explanation may stimulate your thinking on your topic.

Sample argument papers about a literary text – Go to Guidelines for Writing an Argument (see above) and scroll to end of document.

Get help in person for paper writing
The UTSA Writing Center - JPL 2.01.12D; (210)458-6086
Schedule appointment or walk in. http://utsa.edu/twc/

Statement on website: “The Writing Center supports the entire UTSA Community, including undergraduates, graduate students, and faculty/staff members. Our experienced tutors provide assistance with each step of the writing process: brainstorming, establishing a thesis statement, achieving coherence and unity, documenting, and revising.” Please note that Writing Center tutors “do not edit or proofread your paper, but they help you improve your own editing skills.” Plan ahead; tutors do not work with assignments at the last minute just before they are due. Bring the guidelines for your paper.

Visit with Dr. Karen Dodwell at MB 2.476 – Show up during office hours or make an appointment (210 458 5364).
Schedule
(If not designated, assignments are from The Norton Anthology.)

Aug 29 W – Introduction to the course and to the Norton Anthology description of Romanticism. Lecture covers The Romantic Period, pp. 1 – 30
Aug 31 F - “Revolutionary Controversy and the ‘Spirit of the Age’, pp. 183-203

Sep 3 M – Labor Day holiday - no class
Sep 5 W – William Blake - Songs of Innocence and Songs of Experience; pp. 112-135
Sep 10 M – Quiz 1; William Blake – “The Book of Thel”, pp. 135-140


Sep 24 M - Quiz 2
Introduction to Coleridge in class; no reading
Sep 26 W – Samuel Taylor Coleridge – “Christabel”, pp 462-477; introduction to gothic literature
Sep 28 F – Paper #1 due printed out in class
Lord Byron – No reading; introduction to Byron and Byronic hero in class

Oct 3 W – Lord Byron - Don Juan, Canto I, pp. 673-704
Oct 4 F - Percy Shelley – Alastor pp. 748– 769

Oct 8 M – Percy Shelley – “Mont Blanc” pp 770-773; from A Defence of Poetry, pp 856-869
Oct 10 W – Quiz 3; Introduction to Keats; no reading

Oct 15 M – John Keats – the famous odes, pp 925-934

Oct 17 W – Midterm exam part 1 – two sentence identification & short essays
Oct 19 F – Midterm exam part 2 - Bring blue book for long essays

Oct 22 M - Cambridge Companion - Hogle article, “Romanticism and the ‘schools’ of criticism and theory,” pp. 1 – 30. (This is dense reading—lecture will focus on how scholars’ have approached Romanticism.)
Oct 24 W - Cambridge Companion - Chapter 3 – “Poetry in the age of revolution”, pp 56 - 81
Oct 26 F – The Slave Trade and the Literature of Abolition section of Norton, pp. 88 - 112

Oct 31 W – Introduction to Jane Austen and Mansfield Park; begin reading the novel

Nov 2 F - Quiz 4
Jane Austen, Mansfield Park, Vol I

Nov 5 M - Jane Austen, Mansfield Park, Vol II
Nov 7 W Jane Austen, Mansfield Park, Vol. III
Nov 9 F – Jane Austen Mansfield Park – critical articles to be assigned

Nov 12 M – Anna Letitia Barbauld – pp 39-53
Nov 14 W - Charlotte Smith Beachy Head –pp. 53 – 54 & 59 – 77
Nov 16 F – Quiz 5
Introduction to Mary Wollstonecraft; no reading assigned

Nov 19 M - Mary Wollstonecraft – from A Vindication of the Rights, Norton pp. 208 - 239
Nov 21 W – Mary Wollstonecraft - Norton - Letters, pp 239-252
Nov 23 – No class – Thanksgiving holiday

Nov 26 M – Cambridge Companion Chapter 9 “Romantic Fiction”, pp 187 - 208
Nov 28 W - Maria Edgeworth, “The Irish Incognito”, pp. 253 - 269

Dec 3 M – Letitia Elizabeth Landon – pp 996 - 1014
Dec 5 W – Paper #2 due in class printed out; no reading assignment; lecture on Trans Atlantic Romanticism
Dec 7 F – No reading assignment; lecture in class on Romantic art. Last day to submit late Paper #2 – by end of class period.

Final exam – Mon, Dec 17, 01:30 pm - 04:00 pm