

ENGL312 Victorian Literature

Trimester 1 2014

3 March to 2 July 2014

20 Points

IMPORTANT DATES

Teaching dates: 3 March to 6 June 2014

Easter/Mid-Trimester break: 18 April to 4 May 2014

Study week: 9 to 13 June 2014

Examination/Assessment period: 13 June to 2 July 2014

Note: Students who enrol in courses with examinations must be able to attend an examination at the University at any time during the scheduled examination period.

Withdrawal Dates: Refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds
If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test or examination, refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats.

CLASS TIMES AND LOCATIONS

Lectures

Mon, Wed 3.10 – 4.00pm New Kirk KKL301

Tutorials

Tutorials begin in WEEK 2. Please register for tutorials via the ENGL312 site on Blackboard: go to “Tutorials” and then follow the instructions under the “S-Cubed - Tutorial Enrolment Instructions” link. Please read the instructions carefully. Tutorial rooms will be listed on S-Cubed, Blackboard and on the bulletin board in the Level 3 corridor of the Hugh Mackenzie Building.

NAMES AND CONTACT DETAILS

| Staff | Email | Phone | Room |
|--------------|--|----------|--------|
| Anna Jackson | anna.jackson@vuw.ac.nz | 463 6840 | VZ 919 |

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| Harry Ricketts | harry.ricketts@vuw.ac.nz | 4636814 | VZ 810 |
| Angelina Sbroma | angelina.sbroma@vuw.ac.nz | | VZ913 |
| Jane Stafford (course coordinator) | jane.stafford@vuw.ac.nz | 463 6816 | VZ 901 |

COMMUNICATION OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

This course uses Blackboard for all important information and announcements, and encourages you to check it regularly. Information about the course will be posted from time to time on the English Programme's notice-board on the third floor of the Hugh Mackenzie building, outside Hugh Mackenzie LT206, as well as announced in lectures and posted on Blackboard. If you have a question or problem, consult your tutor or the course co-ordinator. Draft and final examination timetables will be posted on the HM notice-board and on Blackboard.

If you are not going to use the Victoria email address set up for you, we strongly encourage you to set a forward from the Victoria email system to the email address you do use.

PRESCRIPTION

This course examines a selection of fiction, non-fiction and poetry from the Victorian period, under the broad categories of the literature of empire, the literature of religious doubt, and the literature of gender and sexuality. The majority of texts are British, but some New Zealand material will be included.

COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES (CLOS)

This course aims to introduce advanced students to a representative group of key Victorian texts, poetry, fiction and autobiography, and to provide the critical and cultural contexts in which they have been and are being read. The course is organised in terms of three central concerns of the period, issues of gender and sexuality, of religious doubt, and of empire.

Students who pass the course will:

- be familiar with the texts studied on the course;
- have an understanding of the cultural and historical contexts of these texts;
- be familiar with the critical and theoretical contexts in which these texts have been and are currently being read;
- be able to develop their own critical and theoretical readings in formal academic writing.

TEACHING FORMAT

ENGL312 is taught by two lectures and one tutorial a week.

MANDATORY COURSE REQUIREMENTS

The minimum course requirements are:

- completion of all in-term assessment by 6 June at the very latest;
- sitting the final examination;
- achieving an overall pass mark of 50%;
- attendance at least 70% of tutorials, i.e. at least 8 out of 11 tutorials. You are strongly advised (and, indeed, expected) to plan to attend all tutorials. However, from time to time there may be unusual circumstances, such as illness, which prevent your attendance. In ENGL312, we regard the mandatory requirement of only 70% attendance as making provision for such circumstances.

You will be asked to complete worksheets (as distributed a week in advance at the lecture and published on Blackboard) for your tutorial each week. Your attendance will be counted only when your tutor has checked the requisite worksheet at the tutorial.

Failure to satisfy any of these course requirements will leave you with a fail grade.

WORKLOAD

The expected workload for a 20 point course is 200 hours over the trimester or 13 hours per teaching week.

You should expect to spend, on average, about 13 hours per week on work for a 20-point course (including time in class). Please note that this is a rough guideline only. Some students might have to put in more time, others less. The time commitment is likely to be greatest in the weeks immediately prior to tests and essay submission dates.

ASSESSMENT

Assessment has been structured to help students meet the objectives of the course. The course combines internal assessment and a final examination. The internal requirements are one test (sat in class time), one close reading exercise, and one research essay, which together account for 60% of the final mark. All three pieces of internal assessment will be the subject of tutorial discussion and preparation.

The examination, which will be two hours in length, provides the other 40%. Information concerning the exam will be made available during the course.

| Assessment items and workload per item | | % | CLO(s) | Due date |
|--|-------------------------------------|-----|---------|----------|
| 1 | Class Test | 15% | 1, 3, 4 | 31 March |
| 2 | Close reading exercise (1500 words) | 20% | 1,2,3,4 | 12 May |
| 3 | Research essay (2500 words) | 25% | 1,2,3,4 | 4 June |
| 4 | Exam (2 hours) | 40% | 1,2,3,4 | TBA |

SUBMISSION AND RETURN OF WORK

Assignment cover sheets can be found on Blackboard or outside the Programme office: Von Zedlitz building, level 8. Remember to fill in your tutor's name. Hardcopy assignments are submitted in the drop slot outside the administration office. Your marked assignment will be handed back by your tutor in tutorials or during their office hours. Any uncollected assignments can be picked up from the Programme Administrator after the last day of teaching. Assignments will be held in the Administration office until the end of the following trimester. You need to show your student identification to collect marked assignment from the Administration office.

Work provided for assessment in this course may be checked for academic integrity by Turnitin, the online plagiarism prevention tool.

EXTENSIONS AND PENALTIES

Extensions

In exceptional and unforeseen circumstances an extension may be granted. Issues of workload do not constitute exceptional and unforeseen circumstances. If you require an extension, you must complete an extension request form (available on your course Blackboard site) prior to the assignment due date. This must be accompanied by relevant documentation (e.g. a doctor's certificate) where appropriate. Tutors cannot grant extensions.

Penalties

Work submitted after the deadline will be penalised by a 2.5 percent deduction from your total mark per work day. Late work also receives only minimal comments from your marker.

SET TEXTS

ENGL 312 Student Notes Anthology;
Charles Dickens, *David Copperfield* (Oxford World Classics);
Edmund Gosse, *Father and Son* (Penguin);
Rudyard Kipling, *Plain Tales from the Hills* (Oxford World Classics).

You can order *textbooks and student notes* online at www.vicbooks.co.nz or can email an order or enquiry to enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz.

CLASS REPRESENTATIVE

The class representative provides a useful way to communicate feedback to the teaching staff during the course. A class representative will be selected at the first lecture of the course. Students may like to write the Class Rep's name and details in this box:

Class Rep name and contact details:

STUDENT FEEDBACK

Student feedback on University courses may be found at www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php.

In week six or seven of the trimester your class representative will be invited to a meeting with the Programme staff. In week five your class representative will ask the class for any feedback on this course to discuss at this meeting.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

The information above is specific to this course. There is other important information that students must familiarise themselves with, including:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism
- Aegrotats: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats
- Academic Progress: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin
- Grades: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades
- Resolving academic issues: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Special passes: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy
- Student support: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support
- Students with disabilities: www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability
- Student Charter: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter
- Student Contract: www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library/resources/subjectcontacts.html>
- Turnitin: www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin
- University structure: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure
- VUWSA: www.vuwsa.org.nz
- School website: www.victoria.ac.nz/seftms

LECTURE PROGRAMME

3 March: Introduction: the Victorian world, *Student Notes Anthology* (JS)

Module one: Gender and sexuality

5 March: Introduction: The Woman Question, *Student Notes Anthology* (JS)

No tutorial this week.

10 March: Poetry: Christina Rossetti, 'Goblin Market', *Student Notes Anthology* (HR)

12 March: Poetry: Elizabeth Barrett Browning, *Student Notes Anthology* (JS)

Tutorial week 2: Gender and Sexuality

17 March: Charles Dickens, *David Copperfield* (JS)

19 March: *David Copperfield* (JS)

Tutorial week 3: *David Copperfield*

24 March: *David Copperfield* (JS)

Module Two: Religious doubt

26 March: Introduction: God's Funeral (JS)

Tutorial week 4: *David Copperfield*

31 March **Class Test: David Copperfield**

2 April Edmund Gosse, *Father and Son* (AJ)

Tutorial week 5: Gosse close reading

7 April *Father and Son* (AJ)

9 April *Father and Son* (AJ)

Tutorial week 6: Tennyson, Kipling and Gosse/ Darwin and Clough.

14 April Alfred, Lord Tennyson, *Student Notes Anthology* (HR & JS)

16 April Matthew Arnold, *Student Notes Anthology* (HR)

Tutorial week 7: Arnold's 'The Buried Life'

18 April to 4 May 2014: Easter/Mid-Trimester break

5 May Gerard Manley Hopkins, *Student Notes Anthology* (JS)

Module Three: Empire

7 May Introduction: Writing and reading empire, *Student Notes Anthology* (JS)

Tutorial week 8: Boehmer's 'Imperialism and Textuality'

12 May Rudyard Kipling, *Plain Tales from the Hills* (HR) **Exercise due**

14 May *Plain Tales from the Hills* (HR)

Tutorial week 9: Richards' *The Imperial Archive* and Kipling

19 May *Plain Tales from the Hills* (HR)

21 May Kipling's poetry, *Student Notes Anthology* (HR)

Tutorial week 10: Kipling and boundary crossing

26 May Maoriland, *Student Notes Anthology* (JS)

28 May Maoriland, *Student Notes Anthology* (JS)

Tutorial week 11: 'Mandalay' and 'The Old Place'

2 June Queen's Birthday

4 June Conclusion (JS & HR) **Essay due**
Tutorial week 12: Exam preparation

Study Week: Monday 9 to Friday 13 June 2014
Examination Period: Friday 13 June to Wednesday 2 July 2014

SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY

Biography

- Ackroyd, Peter. *Dickens*. London: Minerva, 1991.
Forster, Margaret. *Elizabeth Barrett Browning: a Biography*. London: Chatto & Windus, 1988.
Hamilton, Ian. *A Gift Imprisoned: the Poetic Life of Matthew Arnold*. London: Bloomsbury, 1998.
Jones, Kathleen. *Learning not to be First: the Life of Christina Rossetti*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1992.
Ricketts, Harry. *The Unforgiving Minute: a Life of Rudyard Kipling*. London: Chatto & Windus, 1999.
Ricks, Christopher. *Tennyson*. Basingstoke: Macmillan, 1989.
Thwaite, Ann. *Edmund Gosse: a Literary Landscape 1849-1928*. London: Secker & Warburg, 1984.
Tomlin, Claire. *Charles Dickens: a Life*. London: Viking, 2011.

Literary Criticism

- Armstrong, Isobel. *Victorian Poetry: Poetry, Poetics and Politics*. London: Routledge, 1993.
Auerbach, Nina. *Woman and the Demon: the Life of a Victorian Myth*. Cambridge, Mass. : Harvard University Press, 1982
Blake, Andrew. *Reading Victorian Fiction*. New York: St Martin's Press, 1989.
Flint, Kate. *Dickens*. Brighton: Harvester, 1986.
Gilbert, Sandra M. and Susan Gubar. *The Madwoman in the Attic: the Woman Writer and the Nineteenth-century Literary Imagination*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1979.
Ingham, Patricia. *Dickens, Women and Language*. New York: Harvester, 1992.
Levine, George. *Darwin and the Novelists: Patterns of Science in Victorian Fiction*. Cambridge, Mass: Harvard University Press, 1988.
Morgan, Nicholas H. *Secret Journeys: Theory and Practice in Reading Dickens*. London: Associated University Presses, 1992.
Stafford, Jane and Mark Williams. *Maoriland: New Zealand Literature 1872-1914*. Wellington: Victoria University Press, 2006.
Wheeler, Michael. *Death and Future Life in Victorian Literature and Theology*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1990.
Wolf, James D. *Edmund Gosse*. New York: Twayne, 1972.

Cultural background

- Bell, Leonard. *Colonial Constructs: European Images of Maori, 1840-1914*. Auckland: Auckland University Press, 1992.
Goldie, Terry. *Fear and Temptation : the Image of the Indigene in Canadian, Australian and New Zealand Literatures*. Kingston : McGill-Queen's University Press, 1989.
Newsome, David. *The Victorian World Picture*. London: John Murray, 1998.
Thompson, Dorothy. *Queen Victoria: Gender and Power*. London: Virago, 1990.
Trudgill, Eric. *Madonnas and Magdalens : the Origins and Development of Victorian Sexual Attitudes*. London : Heinemann, 1976.
Wilson, A.N. *God's Funeral*. London: Abacus, 1999.

——, *The Victorians*. London: Hutchinson, 2002.

INTERNAL ASSESSMENT: RESEARCH EXERCISE AND ESSAY

Close Reading Exercise: the Literary Expression of Religious Doubt

Choose one of the poems from the section ‘The Poetry of Religious Doubt’ in the *Student Notes Anthology*, pp. 41-62.

Write a critical commentary of the poem illustrating the way in which it deals with the issue of religious doubt.

You should make yourself familiar with the lecture material and critical writings in the *Student Notes Anthology* and elsewhere on the subject of doubt and demonstrate that you have done this in your exercise, although the emphasis should be on the poem itself.

Similarly, you should concentrate on the argument the poem puts forward – its position on doubt – but you should at the same time show the way in which literary techniques – setting, narration, tone, language, etc. – are used to illustrate that argument.

In some cases the *Student Notes* collection gives excerpts rather than entire poems. You can work with the excerpt alone but you may choose to refer back to the entire poem. All can be found at Literature Online which can be accessed through the Library webpage – ‘Online Resources (Databases)’.

If you would like to write on a poem which is not in the Student Notes anthology but is a Victorian poem on doubt, we are happy for you to do this, but please check with your tutor.

Due 12 May. Length 1500 words. Worth 20% of total mark.

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Essay: the Literature of Empire

Due 4 June. Length 2500 words. Worth 25% of the final mark.

Topics to be advised.

Picture source: Dante Gabriel Rossetti, Drawing of Georgiana Burne-Jones, c. 1860.