

English 233: The Victorian Age

FALL 2014

Prof. Wm. A, Wilson

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Office Hours: M 4-430; W 4-430, 6-7 & by Appt.

Description: This course surveys the literature produced during the Victorian period, which is dated conventionally from 1832-1900. Our focus will be primarily upon the fiction and poetry of the age, supplemented by non-fiction prose, music, and art.

Requirements: Students must write one short explication (3-4 pp) and one long research essay (18-20 pp). Two presentations to the class are also required. Details about the presentations will be given in class along with individual assignments of dates. Students must also have prepared the readings assigned and appear in class ready to participate in discussion.

Grading: Short essay 20%; long essay 40%; presentations 15% each; seminar participation 10%.

Required Texts:

Stephen Greenblatt, *The Norton Anthology of English Literature* (8th ed.), vol. E [NA]

Charles Dickens, *Bleak House* (Penguin) [BH]

George Eliot, *Mill on the Floss* (Penguin) [MF]

Thomas Hardy, *Return of the Native* (Penguin) [RN]

William Makepeace Thackeray, *Vanity Fair* (Penguin) [VF]

Schedule

AUG 27: Introduction

SEPT 03:VF chs 1-22

10: VF chs 23-42

17: VF chs 42-67

24: BH chs 1-19; PRESENTATIONS

OCT 01: BH chs 20-38; PRESENTATIONS

08: BH 39-67; PRESENTATIONS

15: BH cont'd' ; ESSAY #1 DUE

22: MF

29: MF

NOV 05: RN Books First-Third

12: RN Books Fourth-end

19: Poetry: Tennyson and Browning in NA

DEC 03: Poetry: Arnold, PRB and Hardy in NA

10: Poetry: Meredith, *Modern Love* (handout or online); PRESENTATIONS

17: RESEARCH ESSAY DUE

NB: This course is governed by University regulations and departmental policies regarding enrollment and academic honesty. Please see the following website for details: <http://www.sjsu.edu/english/facultycorner/rqrdsyllabiinfo/index.html>