Henry N. Rogers III

Spring 2015

Victorian Period Seminar: the Evolution of the Novel 6305 CRN 29434

T Th 8:00-9:15 Irby 313

Office: Irby 317E ph# 450-5104 e.mail rustyr@uca.edu

Office hours: M-W-F 10:00-11:50, 1:00-3:00

T-Th 9:30-10:40, 1:30-3:00 By appointment

Texts *Bleak House* Dickens

*Vanity Fair* Thackeray

*North and South* Gaskell

*The Moonstone* Collins

*The Eustace Diamonds* Trollope

*Middlemarch* Eliot

*New Grub Street* Gissing

The seminar will study the development of the novel through the reading and examining of some of the major English novels of the Victorian period. We will read and discuss them thoroughly as individual works which are of course greatly influenced by their historical, literary, and biographical context. We will consider the various ways each author, novel, and the novelistic genre itself were shaped by such factors as readership, serial publication, censorship—both official and societal—writers’ working conditions, and the particular lives of the authors themselves.

Course evaluation will be based upon 2 hour exams, a comprehensive final exam, and a critical research paper. Tests will be primarily essay, with a short objective section. There will be no multiple choice, true-false, or fill-in-the-blank questions. Essays will be judged on factual knowledge and comprehension of the literature, the ability to analyze and synthesize the material, and the clarity and correctness of the writing. Class discussion is significant, although not as important as written work in terms of a grade, and will therefore also be included in evaluation. Critical research papers should be 12-15 pages, and documentation should follow the *MLA Style Manual*. The papers will be due 1 week before the date of the final exam. Late work is not accepted.

Class attendance is mandatory. Remember that being absent does not remove the responsibility for preparing work for the next class. More than 4 absences--which is 2 weeks in a T Th class--is unacceptable and will necessitate a student dropping the course or being dropped for non-attendance. This isn’t a punitive requirement. That is simply too much time and work to be made up, especially in a novel course, and the reasons for the absences do not matter.

Cell phones must be turned off and out of sight, and laptops are not allowed in class. Plagiarism will result in at least a failing grade on the work containing the plagiarism and possibly an F for the course or expulsion from the class. . The 11th edition of the *Harbrace College Handbook* defines plagiarism as presenting as your own work, deliberately or **accidentally**, the words or ideas of another (424).

“The University of Central Arkansas affirms its commitment to academic integrity and expects all members of the university community to accept shared responsibility for maintaining academic integrity. Students in this course are subject to the provisions of the university’s Academic Integrity Policy, approved by the Board of Trustees as Board Policy No. 709 on February 10, 2010, and published in the Student Handbook. Penalties for academic misconduct in this course may include a failing grade on an assignment, a failing grade in the course, or any other course-related sanction the instructor determines to be appropriate. Continued enrollment in the course affirms a student’s acceptance of this university policy.”

References to UCA policies may be found in the UCA student handbook.

Sexual Harassment Policy--page 93

Academic Policies--beginning on page 25

“The University of Central Arkansas adheres to the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you need accommodation under this act due to a disability, contact the Office of Disability Support services at 450-3135.”

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: Defoe *Moll Flanders*

Fielding *Tom Jones*

Goldsmith *The Vicar of Wakefield*

Smollett *Humphrey Clinker*

Sterne *Tristram Shandy*

Burney *Evelina*

Lewis *The Monk*