

English 2317-1116
Fall 2011
British Literature II
T Th 12.15-1.30 pm
Irby 310

Dr. R.-J. Frontain
Office: Irby 317G
Office Hours: MW 12-2 pm
T 1.30-2, 4.30-6 pm
Th 1.30-3 pm

COURSE DESCRIPTION

British Literature II surveys the development of the literary culture of the British Isles from the Restoration to the close of the Romantic period. Emphasis is upon shifting cultural paradigms as England was slowly but gradually transformed by the mid-seventeenth century Civil Wars and the Glorious Revolution from a monarchy to a democracy in which the printing press came to play a major role in the dissemination of ideas, and in which the individual and his/her interior life became increasingly more important than the communal devotional life.

TEXTBOOKS

Stephen Greenblatt et al, eds. *The Norton Anthology of English Literature*, vols. 1-2, eighth ed. (New York: Norton, 2006).

SCHEDULE OF READINGS AND ASSIGNMENTS

Introduction: Shifting Paradigms

R 25 Aug. Introduction: When Paradigms Collide: In Eternity: Donne, "The Sunne Rising" (I.1266) and Marvell, "To His Coy Mistress" (I. 1703)

T 30 Aug. When Paradigms Collide: On the Country Estate: Jonson, "To Penshurst" (I. 1434) and Marvell, *Upon Appleton House* (I. 1716)

R 1 Sept. When Paradigms Collide: In Private Life: Herrick, "Corinna's Going A-Maying" (I. 1658), Rochester, "The Imperfect Enjoyment" (I. 2162), and Behn, "The Disappointment" (I. 2180)

Unit I: Literature, Politics, and the Organization of Society

T 6 Sept. Marvell, "An Horatian Ode" (I. 1712)

R 8 Sept. [FILM: "The Rake"]

T 13 Sept. Dryden, *Absalom and Achitophel* (I. 2087)

R 15 Sept. “

T 20 Sept. Dryden, *Mac Flecknoe* (I. 2111)

R 22 Sept. “

T 27 Sept. Rochester, "A Satire against Reason and Mankind" (I. 2172)

R 29 Sept. Conclude unit: discussion and preparation for exam

T 4 Oct. EXAMINATION #1

Unit II: The Satiric Mode

R 6 Oct. Lecture: Jonson and the Neoclassical Mode

T 11 Oct. Congreve, *The Way of the World* (I. 2226)

R 13 Oct. “

T 18 Oct. Pope, *The Rape of the Lock* (I.2513)

R 20 Oct. FALL RECESS

T 25 Oct. Conclude discussion, *Rape*

R 27 Oct. Pope, “Epistle to Dr. Arbuthnot” (I. 2548)

T 1 Nov. Swift, *Gulliver’s Travels* (I. 2323-65)

R 3 Nov. “ (I. 2365-2418)

T 8 Nov. “ (I. 2418-62)

R 10 Nov. EXAMINATION #2

Unit III: Sentiment and Sensibility

T 15 Nov. Johnson, “The Vanity of Human Wishes” (I. 2666)

R 17 Nov. Gray, “Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard” (I. 2867)

T 22 Nov. Wordsworth, “Lines Composed a Few Miles above Tintern Abbey” (II. 258)

R 24 Nov. THANKSGIVING RECESS

T 29 Nov. Wordsworth, “Preface” to *Lyrical Ballads* (II. 262)

PAPER DUE IN CLASS

R 1 Dec. Byron, *Don Juan* (II. 669-97)

T 6 Dec. “ (II. 697-732)

R 8 Dec. Conclude discussion of Byron, papers returned, review for final exam

R 15 Dec. FINAL EXAMINATION (2-4 pm)

OBSERVATIONS

1. Be on time and be prepared.

2. The term paper assignment is to analyze either Aphra Behn’s *Oronooko, or The Royal Slave* (I. 2183) or Eliza Haywood’s *Fantomina; or, Love in a Maze* (I. 2565) in the context of themes and literary operations studied this semester. The paper should be 5-7 pages typewritten (12 point type, double space, standard margins) and should employ MLA documentation style.

3. The final grade will be computed as follows: Examination #1 (20%), Examination #2 (25%), Final

Examination (30%), and Paper (25%). Penalties for excessive absences/tardies will be assessed on the final grade.