

## ENGL 262.H01—BRITISH LITERATURE 2

MWF 1:30–2:20 PM

G16 Woodburn Hall

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In this survey course, we will study selected works of British literature from approximately 1789 to the present, with an emphasis on historical and cultural contexts. You may apply ENGL 262 to the Historical Breadth requirement for the WVU English major; to GEC Objective 3 (The Past and Its Traditions) or 5 (Artistic Expression); and to GEF Objective F6 (The Arts and Creativity).

### OBJECTIVES

In this course you will develop your ability to think, talk and write critically about British literature from the late eighteenth to the early twenty-first century, with particular attention to:

- how literary texts relate to their historical contexts (e.g., the French Revolution, the social roles of women, British imperialism in India, etc.)
- how literary texts use formal devices (e.g., metrical verse, Scots dialect, the fairy tale, etc.) to advance their intellectual aims
- how literary texts grapple with enduring philosophical questions (e.g., Is change good? Under what conditions does art flourish? What do we owe to others? etc.)
- how literary texts engage in conversation with other texts (e.g., political philosophy, theology, the visual arts, etc.)
- how literary texts often generate paradoxes and contradictions instead of, in addition to, in spite of, or by virtue of searching for truth

### TEXTS

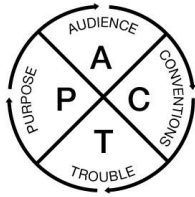
- Kiran Desai, *The Inheritance of Loss* (Grove)
- All other readings are available for download as .PDF files from the eCampus page for this course (<http://ecampus.wvu.edu>). I would appreciate your using hard copies in class.

### REQUIREMENTS

- Attendance at all class sessions, with readings completed and in hand. You may miss three (3) sessions without penalty; thereafter, for each unexcused absence I will deduct 2% of your course grade. Please do not ask me to review material covered in your absence; consult a classmate for missed notes and assignments.
- One (1) analytical essay on the assigned material, approx. 5 pp. You will sign up for a deadline corresponding to the text that you choose. Topics will fall into four categories, of which you must choose one: (1) **historical**, connecting the assigned text to its social and political context; (2) **formal**, connecting the poetic, prose and/or dramatic technique of the assigned text to its intellectual purpose; (3) **thematic**, exploring the attitude of the assigned text toward an enduring philosophical problem; (4) **intertextual**, comparing the assigned text to another work of literature or in some other medium that it influences or is influenced by. Research is not required for these papers; all relevant material will be provided. Approx. 15% of course grade. You may revise your paper for extra credit.

- One (1) in-class presentation on the assigned material, to be devised in collaboration with a small group of your peers. You will sign up for a deadline corresponding to the text that you choose. Topics will also fall into the four above-mentioned categories; you must agree on one. Your topic for the presentation and your topic for the analytical paper must come from different categories. Whatever form your presentation takes, your group will be responsible for conducting at least 30 minutes of the class session. A short (1-2 pp.) reflection paper will be due afterward. Approx. 15% of course grade.
- Midterm exam; in-class, objective (i.e., no essay questions). Approx. 15% of course grade.
- Final exam; objective and essay questions. Approx. 25% of course grade.
- Short quizzes, daily with exceptions, on lectures and readings. Missed quizzes cannot be made up and will count as a “zero” in the event of an unexcused absence. Collectively, approx. 15% of course grade.
- The approx. 15% of your course grade that remains will be made up by your overall attitude and contributions (exclusive of your group presentation) to the learning environment of the class.

### **SPEAKWRITE CERTIFICATION**



ENGL 262 has been designated as a SpeakWrite course by the Eberly College of Arts and Sciences. This class is committed to helping you communicate your knowledge effectively as you keep four key components in mind: purpose, audience, conventions, and trouble spots (or PACT for short). You can find resources at <http://speakwrite.wvu.edu>.

### **WVU STATEMENT ON ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

“The integrity of the classes offered by any academic institution solidifies the foundation of its mission and cannot be sacrificed to expediency, ignorance, or blatant fraud. Therefore, instructors will enforce rigorous standards of academic integrity in all aspects and assignments of their courses. For the detailed policy of West Virginia University regarding the definitions of acts considered to fall under academic dishonesty and possible ensuing sanctions, please see the West Virginia University Academic Standards Policy (<http://catalog.wvu.edu/undergraduate/coursecredittermsclassification>). Should you have any questions about possibly improper research citations or references, or any other activity that may be interpreted as an attempt at academic dishonesty, please see your instructor before the assignment is due to discuss the matter.”—WVU Teaching and Learning Commons (<https://tlcommons.wvu.edu/syllabus-policies-and-statements#10>)

### **WVU STATEMENT ON APPROPRIATE USE OF TECHNOLOGY**

“Use of technology in the classroom should always be directly related to class activities and/or course learning outcomes. Inappropriate technology use can be an impediment to learning and a distraction to all members of the class. As such, inappropriate use of technology in the classroom may be considered a disruption of the class and constitute a violation of the WVU Student Conduct Code and could potentially result in a referral to the Office of Student Conduct. Use of technology in the classroom when specifically prohibited by the instructor may also constitute a violation of WVU’s Academic Integrity policy.”—WVU Teaching and Learning Commons (<https://tlcommons.wvu.edu/syllabus-policies-and-statements#Tech>)

## WVU STATEMENT ON INCLUSIVITY (adopted 2/11/2013)

“The West Virginia University community is committed to creating and fostering a positive learning and working environment based on open communication, mutual respect, and inclusion. If you are a person with a disability and anticipate needing any type of accommodation in order to participate in this class, please advise me and make appropriate arrangements with the Office of Accessibility Services (<https://accessibilityservices.wvu.edu/>). More information is available at the Division of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (<https://diversity.wvu.edu/>).”—WVU Teaching and Learning Commons (<https://tlcommons.wvu.edu/syllabus-policies-and-statements#4>)

## WVU STATEMENT ON SEXUAL MISCONDUCT

“West Virginia University does not tolerate sexual misconduct, including harassment, stalking, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, or relationship violence (BOG Rule 1.6). It is important for you to know that there are resources available if you or someone you know needs assistance. You may speak to a member of university administration, faculty, or staff; keep in mind that they have an obligation to report the incident to the Title IX Coordinator (<https://titleix.wvu.edu/staff>). If you want to speak to someone who is permitted to keep your disclosure confidential, please seek assistance from the Carruth Center, 304-293-9355 or 304-293-4431 (24-hour hotline), and locally within the community at the Rape and Domestic Violence Information Center (RDVIC), 304- 292-5100 or 304-292-4431 (24-hour hotline). For more information, please consult WVU's Title IX Office (<https://titleix.wvu.edu/resources-offices>).”—WVU Teaching and Learning Commons (<https://tlcommons.wvu.edu/syllabus-policies-and-statements#7>)

## SCHEDULE OF READINGS (\* denotes separate text)

WEEK	DAY	DATE	ASSIGNMENT DUE
1	W	8/21	Introduction
1	F	8/23	Edmund Burke, from <i>Reflections on the Revolution in France</i>
2	M	8/26	Edmund Burke, from <i>Reflections on the Revolution in France</i>
2	W	8/28	Edmund Burke, from <i>Reflections on the Revolution in France</i>
2	F	8/30	Anna Barbauld, “Eighteen Hundred and Eleven”
<b>3</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>9/2</b>	<b>LABOR DAY—NO CLASS</b>
3	W	9/4	Anna Barbauld, “Eighteen Hundred and Eleven”
3	F	9/6	Anna Barbauld, “Eighteen Hundred and Eleven”
4	M	9/9	Sir Walter Scott, “The Two Drovers”
4	W	9/11	Sir Walter Scott, “The Two Drovers”
4	F	9/13	Sir Walter Scott, “The Two Drovers”
5	M	9/16	Mary Prince, from <i>The History of Mary Prince</i>
5	W	9/18	Mary Prince, from <i>The History of Mary Prince</i>
5	F	9/20	Mary Prince, from <i>The History of Mary Prince</i>
6	M	9/23	Review, etc.
6	W	9/25	Thomas Carlyle, from <i>Past and Present</i>
6	F	9/27	Thomas Carlyle, from <i>Past and Present</i>

7	M	9/30	<b>ROSH HASHANAH—NO CLASS</b>
7	W	10/2	Thomas Carlyle, from <i>Past and Present</i>
7	F	10/4	<b>MIDTERM EXAM</b>
8	M	10/7	Elizabeth Gaskell, from <i>Cranford</i>
8	W	10/9	<b>YOM KIPPUR—NO CLASS</b>
8	F	10/11	<b>FALL BREAK—NO CLASS</b>
9	M	10/14	Elizabeth Gaskell, from <i>Cranford</i>
9	W	10/16	Elizabeth Gaskell, from <i>Cranford</i>
9	F	10/18	Elizabeth Gaskell, from <i>Cranford</i>
10	M	10/21	Alfred Lord Tennyson, from <i>Idylls of the King</i>
10	W	10/23	Alfred Lord Tennyson, from <i>Idylls of the King</i>
10	F	10/25	Alfred Lord Tennyson, from <i>Idylls of the King</i>
11	M	10/28	William Butler Yeats, <i>Stories of Red Hanrahan</i>
11	W	10/30	William Butler Yeats, <i>Stories of Red Hanrahan</i>
11	F	11/1	William Butler Yeats, <i>Stories of Red Hanrahan</i>
12	M	11/4	Review, etc.
12	W	11/6	T.S Eliot, “Little Gidding”
12	F	11/8	T.S Eliot, “Little Gidding”
13	M	11/11	T.S Eliot, “Little Gidding”
13	W	11/13	Kiran Desai, <i>The Inheritance of Loss</i> *
13	F	11/15	Kiran Desai, <i>The Inheritance of Loss</i> *
14	M	11/18	Kiran Desai, <i>The Inheritance of Loss</i> *
14	W	11/20	Kiran Desai, <i>The Inheritance of Loss</i> *
14	F	11/22	Kiran Desai, <i>The Inheritance of Loss</i> *
	M	11/25	<b>THANKSGIVING BREAK—NO CLASS</b>
	W	11/27	<b>THANKSGIVING BREAK—NO CLASS</b>
	F	11/29	<b>THANKSGIVING BREAK—NO CLASS</b>
15	M	12/2	Kiran Desai, <i>The Inheritance of Loss</i> *
15	W	12/4	Mike Bartlett, <i>King Charles III</i>
15	F	12/6	Mike Bartlett, <i>King Charles III</i>
16	M	12/9	Mike Bartlett, <i>King Charles III</i>
16	W	12/11	Review, etc.
<b>EXAM</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>12/17</b>	<b>FINAL EXAM 11:00 AM–1:00 PM</b>