

ENGLISH 123: THE 19TH CENTURY ENGLISH NOVEL

Prof. Dehn Gilmore
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Dabney 315

W 1-3:55

Office Hours: Tu 4:15-5:15 or by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

TEXTS:

All texts are widely available from Amazon and other online sources. I also encourage you to order them through independent retailers like powells.com, or our local Vromans. We will be supplementing the books available for purchase with Xeroxes, which I will distribute in class.

Charles Dickens, *Oliver Twist* (Mass Market)
Charlotte Bronte, *Jane Eyre* (Vintage)
Wilkie Collins, *The Woman in White* (Penguin)
George Eliot, *Middlemarch* (Oxford)
Thomas Hardy, *Jude the Obscure* (Oxford)
Arthur Conan Doyle, *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*(Penguin)

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Thoughtful Participation in Class Discussion and Attendance. Our classes will be devoted to intensive reading and discussion of the texts. Accordingly, it is vital that you come prepared: *with the book in hand* (and marked up!), and ready to talk, to listen and to engage. Missing more than two classes in the course of the semester will threaten your ability to pass the class; if you do miss class or know that you will have to, please be in touch with me to find out what you missed.

2-3 page Short Writing Assignment. This is a practice for the longer papers, so you get some sense of how I respond to your writing. Please submit the assignments to me as “.doc” files by e-mail *before* the class for which they are due. Please format with name and assignment number: eg: “johnsmithassignment2.doc”

Quizzes. Periodically, there will be a very short reading quiz at the beginning of class. Quizzes will be unannounced, but should be very easy if you have completed the assigned reading. To wit, prepare by keeping up with the reading. I will drop your lowest quiz grade out when calculating your grade.

2 6-7page papers. 12 point font, double spaced. I will distribute a set of suggested topics for these papers before they are due (see syllabus for dates) though you may also generate your own topics. These should be sent to me by e-mail as .doc files on the listed day due. Please format with name and paper number: eg: “johnsmithpaper2.doc”

Discussion Questions At FOUR different points in the term, please email me a list of 3-10 discussion questions by 10 pm the night before class. You can choose which weeks you contribute.

GRADE BREAKDOWN: Class participation, discussion questions and quizzes (30%)
Long Papers (60 %) Short Writing Assignments (10%).

PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism is the passing off of another's words *or* ideas as your own. It is an extremely serious offense. Cases of plagiarism will be handled according to the University's policy regarding academic honesty so please, please make sure to read this policy, and always ask if you feel that you are dealing with a gray area. For more information, please see: <http://www.writing.caltech.edu/plagiarism>

LATE PAPERS/ASSIGNMENTS

Under certain extenuating circumstances (eg: serious illness, a research trip, a death in the family) I will grant extensions. To receive an extension, you **MUST** petition well in advance of the paper deadline, and you must have other grounds for seeking it than overwork/poor time management

FALL COURSE SCHEDULE

*Please note that this schedule is subject to amendment as the semester proceeds.

Week One

October 2: Introduction

Week Two

October 9: *Oliver Twist*

Week Three

October 16: *Jane Eyre* (short writing assignment due)

Week Four

October 23: *The Woman in White* (through the first two epochs)

Week Five

October 30: *The Woman in White/ Middlemarch* (through book one)

November 1: FIRST 5-7 PAGE PAPER DUE by 5pm

Week Six

November 6: *Middlemarch* (through chapter XXXVII in book IV)

Week Seven

November 13: *Middlemarch* (through book VI) (short writing assignment due)

Week Eight

November 20: *Middlemarch/Jude the Obscure* (through “At Marygreen”)

Week Nine

November 27: *Jude the Obscure* (through “At Albrickham and Elsewhere”)

Week Ten

December 4: *Jude the Obscure*/ Selected stories from *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*

Week Eleven

December 9 : SECOND 5-7 PAGE PAPER DUE by 5pm