

ENG 213: Studies in 19th-Century Fiction

Fall 2018-9

ECTS Credits: 5

Tue-Fri, 13:30-15:00, Room XΩΔ02 114

Dr. Antonis Balasopoulos

Office Hours: Tue 15:30-16:30, Fri 16:30-17:30

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Course Syllabus

I. Course Purpose and Objectives

This course focuses on literary work by female authors spanning the period 1800-1847. After introducing students to elemental aspects of the so-called “rise of the novel”—the most important form of fiction in the nineteenth century—and the attendant rise of literacy and the formation of a new, predominantly middle-class literary audience, it will delve into issues of genre as these emerge in our selected texts: the historical novel, satire and the gothic in the Irish colonial context Maria Edgeworth’s case, the domestic novel and the marriage plot in that of Jane Austen, the novel of female education and the Gothic in Charlotte Brontë. We will discuss such generic constructs in relation to questions of social and political issues that mark the history of the Anglophone world in the 19th century: “domestic” colonialism and the economic exploitation of Ireland, class mobility and class alliance in England, the place of women, women’s rights and femininity in middle-class culture, slavery and abolitionism.

II. Learning Outcomes

Students are expected to be able to demonstrate their ability to engage critically with primary texts in terms of form, style, connotation and contextual significance; to synthesize texts and critical/theoretical contexts (depending on the particular course, this may include a range of theoretical perspectives); and to develop the structural, argumentative and theoretical skills necessary for comparative textual examination.

III. Course Grading and Evaluation

Students will be evaluated on the basis of a **mid-term examination** (30%), a **reading response assignment** (20%) and a **final examination** (50%).

-The mid-term exam may involve questions on introductory lecture material and will involve short essays on the texts studied.

-Reading response assignments must be between 800-1.000 words (approx. 3-4 pages typed). Topics for these assignments (one sheet of assignment topics for every novel) will be handed out in advance and will be due in class two weeks from the day received.

-The final examination will involve longer essay questions on the primary texts studied. Take-home work, specifically the reading-response assignment, must be typed and should conform to MLA format if it makes use of outside (critical sources). Bear in mind that **plagiarism is a very serious form of academic misconduct and will be dealt with according to the relevant university and Department regulations.**

IV. Class Policies

Discussion of the texts and performance in the exams requires that you keep pace with each session's reading assignments. Failure to do so will negatively affect your overall performance in the course. Class attendance is required according to university policy. It is

essential that you are punctual and consistent. Habitual tardiness will not be tolerated; if there is a serious reason why you have to come slightly late or leave slightly early, you must inform the instructor in advance. If you miss above a certain number of classes, you may be advised to withdraw or be told to expect a failing grade in the course. All take-home work for the course must be handed in within the deadlines provided.

V. Required Texts

- Maria Edgeworth, *Castle Rackrent*. Oxford University Press. ISBN: 978-0199537556

Price at bookdepository.com: 5.26 euro

- Jane Austen, *Emma*. Penguin Classics. ISBN: 978-0141439587

Price at bookdepository.com: 6.84 euro

- Charlotte Brontë, *Jane Eyre*. Penguin Classics. ISBN: 978-0141441146

Price at bookdepository.com: 7.81 euro

- Course packet

* Purchasing the books (in the editions specified) is **your own responsibility**; no order has been placed in any bookstore. My personal recommendation is obtaining them at bookdepository.com, as they charge no delivery fee, but you may obtain them wherever you wish. In the case of our first novel, *Castle Rackrent*, an (unbound) photocopy will be available for those who cannot obtain the book on time (by the second week of class), in the same store where the course packets are (Unique Copy Center).

Course packets are available at Unique Copy Center, 127 Larnacos Ave., Phone#: 22462932, email: savvia@mmprintings.com.cy. Please obtain your copy right away!

VI.Relevant Sources on Short-term Loan

Armstrong, Nancy. *Desire and Domestic Fiction*. Oxford UP, 1989. PR 830 D6A7 1989.

Bannet, Eve Tavor. *The Domestic Revolution: Enlightenment Feminisms and the Novel*.

Johns Hopkins UP, 2000. PR858. F45 B36

Brown, Homer Obed. *Institutions of the English Novel*. U of Pennsylvania P, 1997. PR 851 B75.

Davis, Lennard. *Factual Fictions*. U of Pennsylvania P, 1996. PR 851 D3.

Eagleton, Terry. *Heathcliff and the Great Hunger: Studies in Irish Culture*. Verso, 1995.

DA925.E24 1995

Gilbert, Sandra and Susan Gubar. *The Madwoman in the Attic: The Woman Writer and the Nineteenth Century Literary Imagination*. Yale UP, 1984. PR115.G5 1984

Gilmour, Robin. *The Victorian Period: The Intellectual and Cultural Context, 1830-1890*.

Longman, 1993. PR461.G55.1993.

Hunter, Paul J. *Before Novels: The Cultural Context of Eighteenth-Century Fiction*. Norton, 1990. PR 858 S615 H8.

Huet, Marie-Helene. *Monstrous Imagination*. Harvard UP, 1993. PN56. M536H84 1993.

Lynch, Deidre. *The Economy of Character: Novels, Market Culture and the Business of Inner Meaning*. U of Chicago P, 1998. PR858.C47L94 1998

McKeon, Michael. *The Origins of the English Novel, 1600-1740*. Johns Hopkins UP, 1987. PR 841 M3.

Miller, D.A. *Jane Austen, Or the Secret of Style*. Princeton UP, 2003. PR 4037 M55.

Moretti, Franco. *Atlas of the European Novel 1800-1900*. Verso, 1999. PN3383.S67M6713 1999

Trumpener, Katie. *Bardic Nationalism*. Princeton UP, 1997. PR868.N356T78 1997
Watt, Ian. *The Rise of the Novel*. Hogarth, 1987. PR851 W3.

VII. Class and Reading Schedule

Note: I expect to be absent for conferences on October 5-7 and November 1-6, so classes for those sessions will have to be rescheduled.

Tuesday, September 4

Course Introduction

Ian Watt, *The Rise of the Novel* pp. 9-11, 13-15, 18-23, 26-27, 32-33

Friday, September 7

Ian Watt continued

J. Paul Hunter, "What was New about the Novel?", *Before Novels*, pp. 23-25

Tuesday, September 11

Nancy Armstrong, "The Rise of the Novel", *Desire and Domestic Fiction*, pp. 96-107

Maria Edgeworth, *Castle Rackrent* (1800)

Friday, September 14

Edgeworth, *Castle Rackrent*

Terry Eagleton, "Form and Ideology in the Anglo-Irish Novel", *Heathcliff and the Great Hunger*, pp. 145-147, 161-177

Tuesday, September 18

Edgeworth, *Castle Rackrent*

Friday, September 21

Edgeworth, *Castle Rackrent*

Daniel Hack, "Castle Rackrent and Anglo-Irish Union", pp. 145-164

Tuesday, September 25

Edgeworth, *Castle Rackrent*

Friday, September 28

Edgeworth, *Castle Rackrent*

Mary Jean Corbett, "Another Tale to Tell: Postcolonial Theory and the Case of *Castle Rackrent*", p. 1-11

Tuesday, October 2

Jane Austen, *Emma* (1815)

Williams, *The English Novel*, pp. 9-27

Friday, October 5

Austen, *Emma*

No Class-Absence at Conference

Class will be remade, preferably on Wednesday, September 19

Tuesday, October 9

Austen, *Emma*

Friday, October 12

Austen, *Emma*

Moretti, *Atlas of the European Novel* pp. 12-29

Tuesday, October 16

Austen, *Emma*

Nancy Armstrong, "The Rise of the Domestic Woman", *Desire and Domestic Fiction* pp. 69-81

Friday, October 19

Austen, *Emma*

Tuesday, October 23

Austen, *Emma*

Patricia Meyer Spacks, *Gossip*, pp. 165-170

Friday, October 26

Austen, *Emma*

Tuesday, October 30

Mid-term Exam

Friday, November 2

Charlotte Brontë, *Jane Eyre* (1847)

No class-Absence at Conference

Class will be remade

Tuesday, November 6

Brontë, *Jane Eyre*

No class-Absence at Conference

Class will be remade

Friday, November 9

Brontë, *Jane Eyre*

Robert B. Heilman, "Charlotte Brontë's 'New' Gothic", pp. 165-180

Tuesday, November 13

Brontë, *Jane Eyre*

Sandra Gilbert and Susan Gubar, "Plain Jane's Progress," pp. 336-351

Friday, November 16

Brontë, *Jane Eyre*

Sandra Gilbert and Susan Gubar, "Plain Jane's Progress," pp. 351-371

Tuesday, November 20

Brontë, *Jane Eyre*

Bette London, "The Pleasures of Submission," pp. 195-213

Friday, November 23

Brontë, *Jane Eyre*

There is a chance this class will be missed due to participation in hiring committee. Students will be duly informed and the class will be remade if missed.

Tuesday, November 27

Brontë, *Jane Eyre*

Lisa Sternlich, "Hazarding Confidences," pp. 452-479

Friday, November 30

Brontë, *Jane Eyre*

Final Exam according to University Examination Schedule