

Hacettepe University
Faculty of Letters
Department of Language and Literature

Syllabus

Title of the Course: IED 387 (01-02) English Novel II

Instructor: Assist. Prof. Dr. Aytül Özüm

Year and Term: 2012-20013 Fall

Status: Obligatory

I. Aim and Contents: The aim of this course is first to introduce the students to the social, intellectual, political and cultural background of the Victorian period and Victorian novel and then to go into the details of four novels which are the representatives of different decades of the period. The thematic and stylistic contribution of each novelist will be thoroughly analyzed. Therefore, the aim is not to focus only on the themes and plots of the novels, the aesthetic characteristics of the texts will be given utmost importance, too. The course will not only analyse the novels through conventional methods, there will be some other perspectives that the students will be asked to develop, such as seeing the texts through gender values, political developments, structural innovations etc. The students will be encouraged to make some preliminary research in relation to the assigned material through study questions on certain details and articles on various issues about the novels. Along with the major novels that will be analysed in class, the other novels which will be of the interest of the course are Dickens's *Oliver Twist*, Eliot's *Silas Marner*, A. Brontë's *The Tenant of the Wildfell Hall* and Hardy's *The Return of the Native*.

II. Course Outline:

Week I-II: An introduction to the social, political and aesthetic features of the period. The change in the novel genre and society-novel interaction will be dealt with along with the discussion of the movements which dominated the literary scene of the period.

Week III: Charles Dickens and *Bleak House*.

Week IV: official holiday

Week V: *Bleak House*

Week VI: Emily Brontë and *Wuthering Heights*

Week VII: Midterm I.

Week VIII: Emily Brontë and *Wuthering Heights*

Week IX-X: George Eliot and *The Mill on the Floss*

Week XI: Midterm II

Week XII: *The Mill on the Floss*

Week XIII-XIV: Thomas Hardy and *Tess of the D'Urbervilles*

There might be make-up classes.

III. Textbooks: Students are expected to provide the texts of the novels themselves at the beginning of the semestre.

IV. Method of Instruction: Basically the course will be conducted through lectures. An interaction between the students and the lecturer is highly required and

appreciated. Initially each student is expected to make some preliminary research about the novels.

V. Requirements: There will be pop-quizzes on the major novels and presentations on the other novels of the writers throughout the semestre. More than 11 hours of absence will result in F1. Do not ask for compensating your absence in the exams with an extra essay(s) or exam(s). A make-up exam can only be given if the students can document their excuse approved by the Faculty Academic Board. Class participation will be seriously taken into consideration while giving the final grades. The students are expected to come to class having read the assigned major novels and the other novels of the writers listed above.

VI. Assessment: There will be two midterms, pop-quizzes, presentations and a final exam.

Midterm I: 25%

(Midterm II, 4-5 pop quizzes and presentation) : 25% (50% Midterm II, 25% pop-quizzes, 25% presentation)

Final: 50%

The students must receive at least 50 points over 100 from the final exam. In the grading of exam papers, up to 25% of the total mark will be taken off for grammatical and writing mistakes.

Suggested Reading:

A. Blake, *Reading Victorian Fiction*.

R. Daniel, *Victorian People and Ideas*.

R. Gilmour, *The Victorian Period: The Intellectual and Cultural Context*.

M. Wheeler, *English Fiction of the Victorian Period*.