



Literature 1830-1900 Course Descriptor

Course Title	Literature 1830 - 1900	Faculty	English
Course Code	NCHEN410	Course Leader	Dr Catherine Brown
Credit Points	30	Teaching Period	Michaelmas
FHEQ Level	Level 4	Date Approved	June 2020
Compulsory/ Optional	Compulsory		
Pre-requisites	None		
Co-requisites	None		

COURSE SUMMARY

This course aims to give knowledge of a range of texts from the nineteenth century, an understanding of their social and cultural contexts, and the interpretative skills necessary to give sophisticated descriptions of them.

COURSE AIMS

The course aims to give:

- A knowledge of a range of texts written from 1830-1900 across all three genres (poetry, prose, and drama).
- An understanding of the social and cultural contexts of these texts.
- The knowledge and skills to identify and understand the key formal and thematic characteristics of the literature of the period.
- The skills necessary to give sophisticated descriptions of texts from the period.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

On successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING

- K1a demonstrate a knowledge of the underlying concepts and principles of a range of texts in each of the genres of prose, poetry, and drama from period

- K2a present and evaluate an understanding of how this literature and its genres are related to relevant cultural and historical contexts
- K2a present and evaluate an understanding of the historical development of a number of literary genres

SUBJECT SPECIFIC SKILLS

- S2a present and evaluate ideas concerning the literature of the period
- S3a develop within a structured and managed environment an approach to the literature of the period in ways which are appropriate to its particular nature

TRANSFERABLE AND PROFESSIONAL SKILLS

- T1a present arguments and make sound judgments in verbal and written form
- T3a within a structured and managed environment, chart one's own course through the study of the period

TEACHING AND LEARNING

Students will have the opportunity to engage with:

- 1 x virtual learning environment (VLE)
- 30 x large-group hours
- 4 x tutorial hours (individual or group tutorial)
- Weekly office hours

Students are required to attend and participate in all timetabled sessions for this course and, with the ongoing support available, to manage their directed learning and independent study. Total study hours for this course are: 300.

EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS

- Develop presentation skills through group and individual tutorials.
- Develop independent thinking and decision-making through deciding on own texts. for assignments.
- Gain experience of producing a limited amount of writing in two days, with access to research resources; this approximates to some working-life project deadlines.

ASSESSMENT

FORMATIVE

Students will be formatively assessed during the course by means of set assignments. These do not count towards the end of year results, but will provide students with developmental feedback.

SUMMATIVE

Assessment will be in one form:

AE:	Assessment Activity	Weighting (%)	Online submission	Duration	Length
1	Take-home examination	100	Yes	48 hours	N/A

The examination will consist of a number of questions from which the student will have the choice of answering a specified number. Both the examination and the written assignment will be assessed in accordance with the assessment aims set out in the Programme Specification.

FEEDBACK

Students will receive formal feedback in a variety of ways: written (including via email correspondence); oral (within one-to-one tutorials or on an *ad hoc* basis); and indirectly through discussion during group tutorials. Students will also attend the formal meeting, Collections, at the end of Michaelmas and Hilary, in which they will receive constructive and developmental feedback on their term's performance.

Feedback is provided on written assignments (including essays, briefings, and reports) and through generic internal examiners' reports, both of which are posted on the College's VLE.

INDICATIVE READING

Note: Comprehensive and current reading lists for courses are produced annually in the Course Syllabus or other documentation provided to students; the indicative reading list provided below is used as part of the approval/modification process only.

BOOKS

Bristow, Joseph, *The Cambridge Companion to Victorian Poetry* (Cambridge: CUP, 2005)

Gilmour, Robin, *The Victorian Period: The Intellectual and Cultural Context of English Literature, 1830–1890* (London: Longman, 1994)

O'Gorman, Francis, ed. *The Victorian Novel* (Oxford: Blackwell, 2002)

JOURNALS

Nineteenth Century Studies

ELECTRONIC RESOURCES

<https://nines.org>

INDICATIVE TOPICS

- Topics related to identity e.g. gender and empire
- Topics related to intellectual life e.g. science and history
- Topics related to social life e.g. poverty and class
- Topics related to aesthetics e.g. drama, realism and aestheticism

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1.0	June 2021	June 2021	Catherine Brown	1 Academic Handbook > Course Descriptors 2 VLE	April 2025
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Modifications (As per AQF4)					
Version number	Date approved	Date published	Modification (including category number)		
2.0	June 2021	June 2021	Category 2: Change to 'Teaching and Learning Strategy'		