

Course Policies

Course: ENGL 2323.13

Instructor: Dr. Dean Bowers

Office Phone: (432) 335-6572

Office Hours: M 10-12; T 1:30-2:30; W 1-5; TH 10-11

Home Phone: 432-260-1778 (I will not answer after 9pm)

Please contact me by phone or by email when you have a question.

British Literature II

Office: Wilkerson 200

Email: dbowers@odessa.edu

Course Description

ENGL 2323 British Literature II (23.1404.5112) (3-0) 3 hours

ENGL 2323 focuses on reading and thinking critically about significant works of British literature from the Romantic period to the present day. In ENGL 2323, students will use analytical techniques to develop interpretations of literary works. Requirements include reading assignments, analytical papers, a final exam, and other assignments as determined by the instructor. This course is required of all English majors. (SCANS 1, 2, 9) Prerequisite: ENGL 1301 and ENGL 1302.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to

- Demonstrate the ability to think critically about notable works of British literature from the Romantic Period to the present;
- Demonstrate the ability to read assigned texts closely, develop interpretational analyses of these texts, and clearly articulate the findings of these critical interpretational analyses;
- Recognize the major movements and periods of British literature from the Romantic Period to the present;
- Discuss the basic and more abstract elements of different genres of literature of this period using the appropriate literary terminology;
- Recognize recurring cultural and literary themes as they appear in selected works of this period of British literature;
- Communicate this understanding of British literature using well-organized, lucid prose.

Required Materials

- 1) *Longman Anthology of British Literature*, Volume II, Damrosch et al, Pearson, 4th ed.
- 1) Access to a computer (see **Computer Access** section on page 3).
- 1) A computer file storage device, preferably a USB drive

Course Assignments

- Essays (3) 24%
- Major Analytical Paper 12%
- Tests (3) 24%
- Quizzes/Activities 10%
- Final Exam 15%

Encouragement

My overall philosophy is that you can succeed in this class, and that you can get and will get the grade that you are willing to work for. I will maintain rigorous standards, but I will help you in any way that I can to be successful because I do want all of you to do well. My goal is to help you develop your analytical reading skills, your critical thinking skills, and to continue to develop your ability to clearly articulate your ideas. These are skills that will serve you well in other classes, in job situations, and in your own personal development. I also hope that you enjoy the reading and find some authors and works that you like. I encourage you to talk to me if you have questions, concerns, or problems in the class. If you cannot come to my scheduled office hours, other meeting times can be arranged. I can also assist you in arranging the use of other helpful resources. I hope we can have an interesting, productive, and fun semester together.

Assignments

- Assignments are due by the dates designated on the class schedule and in the Assignments section. If you have questions about any assignment, please contact me as soon as possible.
- I would like all assignments submitted in Rich Text Format.
- You are responsible for any materials in the Course Materials folders: readings, linked web pages, videos, Tegrity sessions, supplemental documents.
- **On papers, tests, and discussion boards/replies, keep your discussion focused ONLY on the material that has been designated on the assignment instructions.**
- **Late assignments will lose 10 points. I will accept late assignments for 48 hours after the due date/time. After that, I will not accept them.**
- **If an assignment does not meet the word minimum, it will lose 10 points (or be subject to the penalty described on the assignment instructions).**
- If you have a legitimate, documented reason why you need more time on an assignment, please contact me.

Assistance with Assignments/Tutoring

You are always welcome to call me or email me with questions about your assignments. We can arrange a meeting in my office on campus and help you brainstorm for topics and ideas, help you organize your essay, help you with using quotations, help you edit your essay and/or discuss any other questions. I will also answer these kinds of questions and look at drafts of assignments to provide comments via email. Just please make sure to send me the draft with enough time to send you feedback before it is due.

In addition to my help, any registered Odessa College student can go to the Student Success Center for tutoring and for assistance with different subjects. The Odessa College Student Success Center is located on the first floor of the Learning Resources Center (library). You are welcome to go to the SSC for assistance in this class. The English tutors can help you with the same aspects of the paper as I have listed above. The point to emphasize here is that they will **help** you; **they will not do the assignment for you**. Make sure to take a copy of the assignment instructions with you so

that the tutor will understand the assignment. To get more information about the SSC, call 432-335-6673 or go to <http://www.odessa.edu/dept/ssc/index.htm>.

Odessa College also offers access to Smarthinking, an online student assistance service. You can access Smarthinking from the Student Success Center webpages; the following link will take you to the Smarthinking information on the SSC site: <http://www.odessa.edu/dept/ssc/tutoring.htm>. When you go to access Smarthinking, you will be directed to the Student Portal. Your same passwords that you use for your Blackboard and email should work for the Portal. If not, call 432-335-6673.

Plagiarism

Simply put, plagiarism is turning in work that you claim to be your own, but that is not yours; in other words, parts of it or all of it comes from another source.

Plagiarism occurs if you do any of the following without giving proper credit to the real author of the material: directly quote from another author's material, paraphrase from another author's material, or even borrow an idea from another author's material.

- **If you are caught plagiarizing material on any assignment (tests, essays, discussion board posts and replies), you will receive a zero on the assignment in question.**
- **If you are caught plagiarizing material a second time, you will receive an F for the course. I will also contact the Vice President of Student Services.**

You can do the work; plagiarism is not worth it. If you have questions, please contact me.

Ineligible Materials for Assignments

Please abstain from using material (quoted, paraphrased, or otherwise borrowed) from interpretational resources (such as Spark Notes, Cliffs Notes, etc.) or from essay sites (such as 123HelpMe, etc.) as the basis of your discussions in your essays, posts, and replies. While proving plagiarism can be difficult, it is not so difficult to tell when a student has relied on a supplemental website for assistance instead of on the actual assigned text. While this kind of laziness may not always qualify as plagiarism, it does demonstrate that you are not meeting the class requirements and your grade will reflect that.

- ω **If your discussion relies on these kinds of websites, the highest grade you will be able to get on that assignment will be a 65 (D).**
- ω **If your discussion uses materials other than those designated for the assignment, the highest possible grade you can get on that particular assignment will be a 75 (C).**
- ω **As the policy above states, if it can be proven that you have plagiarized from any source, you will incur the stated failing grades.**

Computer Access

You need to have regular access to a computer for this class:

- ♣ **Internet** – You need to have dependable access to the internet.
- ♣ **Word Processor** – All assignments should be typed, saved to your computer, and then submitted to Blackboard. If you don't have Word, most computers come with Works already loaded. Make sure to save documents in Rich Text Format. Alternative word processors include Google Docs or the free word processor available at www.openoffice.org.
- ♣ **Blackboard** - You are responsible for any materials that can be found in our Blackboard course.
- ♣ **Odessa College email** – When I send messages and reminders, they will go to this email. You are responsible for any information sent to your OC email.
- ♣ **Powerpoint** – You can open Powerpoints in Blackboard. Here is a link for a free Powerpoint Viewer: <http://www.microsoft.com/downloads/details.aspx?familyid=048dc840-14e1-467d-8dca-19d2a8fd7485&displaylang=en>.
- ♣ **Adobe Reader** – If you don't have this already, you can download the reader for free at <http://www.adobe.com/>.

Not having computer access is not an acceptable excuse for failing to complete assignments on time. If you are having difficulties with your own computer, please find an alternative. Also, please let me know immediately if you are having computer issues. One option is the Student Success Center computer lab on the Odessa College campus. Here is a link to their hours of operation: <http://www.odessa.edu/dept/ssc/hours.htm>.

Class Behavior

I expect you to be respectful towards other students and myself during class and in any online interactions such as discussion forums or on email. When a person, whether it is me or another student, is speaking, please do not interrupt them or hold conversations about topics that are not relevant to this class. I do want you to make comments, to ask questions, and to raise class concerns, and I will give you opportunities to do so. Also, if I have given you an individual or group assignment in class, I expect you to work on it for the allotted time. We will have periodic group and class discussions, and I expect you to be respectful toward your classmates at all times.

If behavior occurs that violates this policy, I will ask the student(s) to correct the behavior. If I have to do this more than a couple times during the semester, or if the student refuses to correct the behavior at the time I ask, I will give the student an official warning, ask him or her to leave the

class, and he or she will be counted absent and receive a zero for any activities done that day, even if those activities have already been concluded. This warning will be made in class, and I will also send a copy to the student and appropriate administrators.

- If a student interrupts me or another student who is contributing to class discussion
- If students are holding conversations about material that is not relevant to class
- If a student is rude, belligerent, or otherwise disruptive
- If a student has out non-course materials after I have announced the beginning of class
- If a student submits any disruptive, inappropriate, or offensive posts in the online class forums

If a student violates any aspect of the classroom behavior policy again after the warning, or if there is any case of very disruptive or disrespectful behavior, the same penalties will be given (counted absent, grades for the day forfeited), and I will consult the Dean of Arts and Sciences about further disciplinary action.

If you have questions or concerns regarding an issue that concerns the whole class, such as a question about assignment instructions, please ask. If you have questions or concerns regarding an issue that pertains only to you, such as a question about a grade on one of your papers, please discuss that with me during office hours or some other arranged time.

Non-Course Materials

I ask that you only have course materials out during class time, even if you have completed class work early. Non-course materials include other books (unless we are working with research materials for this class), other publications, planners, puzzles, etc. Electronic devices (computers, phones, games, ipods, etc) should be turned off and put away when class begins. If I have given you time to work on the computers, either writing or doing research, the only programs immediately relevant to the assignment should be open on your computer. If you need a device because of a disability, please bring me the proper documentation (see ADA Policy below). You will be subject to the Class Behavior policy (see above) if you have out non-course materials during class time.

Attendance

Regular attendance in class is vital to your success, and when you miss class, you will miss getting important information. You are given 1 absence with no questions asked. After that, absences will mean points off the final grade. Since the class meets once a week, then each absence is 3 points off.

I will not designate absences excused or unexcused; an absence is an absence. The only exception is if you have a serious illness/hospital stay that prevents you from coming to class or a death in the family. In these cases, you must provide official documentation no later than the second class day after your return to prevent these absences from affecting your grade.

When you are absent, it is YOUR responsibility to get the information that you missed.

You may ask me for the information or get the information from another classmate.

Instances of arriving late to class or leaving early as well as instances of violating the behavior policy will also affect your grade. Each two instances will result in a deduction of one point from your final grade. My philosophy is that if you are going to be in class, you need to be present for the whole class and need to be involved in class activities.

ADA Policy

Odessa College complies with Section 504 of the Vocational Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. If you have any special needs or issues pertaining to your access to and participation in this or any other class at Odessa College, please feel free to contact me to discuss your concerns. You may also call the Office of Disability Services at 335-6861 to request assistance and accommodations.

Resources

As a substitute for a grammar text, some of the following websites are very helpful:

<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/grammar/index.html>

<http://www.dianahacker.com/resdoc/>

Withdrawing from Class

April 13 (Fri.) is the last day you will be automatically be given a 'W' when you withdraw from a class. After that, you will receive the grade you currently have in this class, taking into account grades from all assignments for the semester, including incomplete ones.

Schedule Adjustments

I reserve the right to adjust the schedule and policies if necessary. You will be notified of any changes and will be responsible for information that has been emailed and/or posted.

Learning Resource Center (Library)

The Library, known as the [Learning Resources Center](#), provides research assistance via the [LRC's catalog \(print books, videos, e-books\)](#) and [databases \(journal and magazine articles\)](#). [Research guides](#) covering specific subject areas, [tutorials](#), and the "[Ask a Librarian](#)" service provide additional help.

Student E-mail

Please access your [Odessa College Student E-mail](#), by following the link to either set up or update your account: <http://www.odessa.edu/gmail/>. **All correspondence for the course will be conducted using your Odessa College email.**

Student Portal

You can access the Student Portal by clicking on the OC Portal link. This link appears under Quick Links on the OC Homepage and under the Current Students menu.

Technical Support

For Blackboard username and password help and for help accessing your online course availability and student email account contact the Student Success Center at 432-335-6673 or online at https://www.odessa.edu/dept/ssc/helpdesk_form.htm.

Important School Policies

For information regarding student support services, academic dishonesty, disciplinary actions, special accommodations, or students' and instructors' right to academic freedom can be found in the [Odessa College Student Handbook](#).