

IED 677 19th Century English Novel

Instructor: Asst. Prof. Dr. Alev KARADUMAN

Term: Spring 2013

Hours and Day: 09: 15-13:15- Friday

Course Description: The course is to cover, as extensively as possible, the British novel of the Victorian era. The major aim is to illustrate the way in which the Victorian novel immersed itself in the social and political circumstances that affected the development of the novel genre. The primary concern will be to read the novels closely in order to understand, analyze and appreciate the richness and variety of form, language and content. In order to achieve this purpose, careful attention will be put to textual detail as well as to themes and pattern. Some relevant terms and concepts in literary terms alongside the social issues in the Victorian period will be studied. Topics of discussions will include the relationship of the individual to society and its institutions, problems of identity, questions of love, class and gender, morality and marriage, and the role of the novelists and the novel as a genre.

Requirements: 2 short papers of 500-750 (20%), 2 long papers of 2500-3000 words (30%), 2 presentations (10%), 1 final exam (30%), regular attendance and participations in class discussions (10%).

Short Papers: For each short paper, students will analyze a passage from one of the novels paying careful attention both to particular details of the passage and how these details relate to themes, problems and structures in the novel as a whole. These essays will be clear, concise and avoid plot summary or paraphrasing, in favour of a perceptive commentary on specific features of student's passage.

Long Papers (Term Papers): Term papers should pursue a critical and interpretive argument about two novels that each student will work on, and they should be carefully organized around clear thesis which has to be supported by extensive textual evidence. Again, plot summary and paraphrasing will not be tolerated. YOUR TERM PAPER will not focus on the novel on which you write a short paper.

Presentations: Your presentations should focus on a relevant historical, social or critical topic. They should be limited to 15 minutes exactly. Before presentation, you must prepare a handout for the class (such as an outline of key points, charts or quotations that illustrate your topic). A bibliographical source must be included.

TOPICS FOR SHORT PAPERS

Social/Political Topics

Catholic Emancipation
Utilitarianism
High Church: Tractarianism
Chartism on the Chartist Movement
The Corn Laws
Reform Acts
The Woman Question
Queen Victoria as a Victorian figure

Literary Topics

The Bildungsroman Genre
Realism in the Victorian novel
The Genre of the Political novel
The Victorian Governess novel
The Social Problem Novel
The Silver Fork Novel
Sub-genres of Victorian fiction
Fantastic fiction
The Sensational Novel

NOVELS

William Makepeace Thackeray – Vanity Fair (1847)
Anne Bronte – The Tenant of Wildfell Hall (1848)
Elizabeth Gaskell – Mary Barton (1848), Cranford (1851)
Charlotte Bronte – Villette (1853)
Charles Dickens – Hard Times (1854), Great Expectations (1861)
Anthony Trollope – The Warden (1855)
George Elliot – Adam Bede (1859)
Wilkie Collins – No Name (1862), The Moonstone (1868)
Thomas Hardy – The Return of the Native (1878), The Mayor of Casterbridge (1886)
George Meredith – The Egoist (1879)
Samuel Butler – The Way of All Flesh (1903), Tüm İnsanlar Gibi

CRITICAL TEXTS

Wolfgang Iser – The Implied Reader (Chapters 5 and 6-1) (1974)
Georg Lukacs – The Theory of the Novel (Chapter 4) (1974)
Michel Foucault – Discipline and Punish (1975)
Michel Foucault – The History of Sexuality (1976)
Eliane Showalter – A Literature of their Own (1977)
Ellen Moers – Literary Women (1977)
Sandra M. Gilbert and Susan Gubar – The Madwoman in the Attic (1979)
J. Hillis Miller – The Form of Victorian Fiction (1986)