

ENG 3368

The English Novel

Instructor

Chad Hammett, M.F.A.

Course Description

English prose fiction. (MC) (WI)

Required Materials

The texts for this course are eight examples of the British novel:

- *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*, by Robert Louis Stevenson
- *Frankenstein*, by Mary Shelley
- *Tess of the D'Urbervilles*, by Thomas Hardy
- *Heart of Darkness*, by Joseph Conrad
- *Women in Love*, by D.H. Lawrence
- *To the Lighthouse*, by Virginia Woolf
- *Howard's End*, by E.M. Forster
- *Lord of the Flies*, by William Golding

A substitution of one of these novels is possible. See the final page of this module, entitled *Twenty Great British Novels*, for more information.

Course Objectives

This course concerns the English novel, which I will right off the bat rename the “British” novel, meaning novels written in the English language by native or naturalized citizens of England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland, and Ireland. In some cases, English may not be the author’s first language, but the novels in this course will have been written in English. The time period reaches from 1740 to the present.

By the end of this course, you should be able to:

- define the term British novel;
- summarize the history of the British novel;
- state the names of at least ten major British novelists;
- state the titles of at least ten major British novels;
- define the basic techniques of writing found in the British novel;
- name the characters found in the eight novels assigned;
- state the ideas of the eight novels assigned;
- identify the specific writing techniques of the eight novels assigned; and
- identify the assigned novel from which key quotations come.

Beyond all that, you should feel at ease, hopeful, or even excited about starting a British novel that you haven’t read before because of your increased reading skills.

Lesson Objectives

For each novel, the objectives remain constant. There are five things I want you to be able to do. These are extremely important, and will provide the material upon which you will be tested. After each lesson, you should be able to:

- state the plot of the novel;
- name the characters of the novel;
- identify the ideas of the novel;
- identify the speaker and situation within the text of the novel, when given a quote from the novel; and
- identify technique or the peculiarities of the craft of the novel, with regard to the novel as an art form.

These are the five main objectives for each lesson. On the *Objectives and Assignments* page of each lesson, you will see a reference to “the five main objectives.” These are the five main objectives for each novel throughout the course.

Written Assignments

Each lesson includes a written assignment. You have to pass written assignments 1-4 in order to take the midcourse exam. And you have to pass written assignments 5-8 to take the final.

All assignments are submitted via the *Assignments* link in the left menu. Instructions for submission are included in each lesson.

Exams

You must pass the midcourse and the final exams in order to pass the course!

Check that out. That’s pretty clear. You have to pass both the midcourse exam and final exam in order to pass this course. You have to get at least a D on the midcourse exam and the final exam in order to pass the course with a D. Failing either the midcourse exam or the final exam means that you have failed the course. You have to pass both. That means, if you fail the midcourse exam, you have failed the course. If you pass the midcourse but fail the final, you have failed the course. You have to pass both.

So, this is what you have so far:

1. You have to pass Written Assignments 1-4 to take the midcourse exam;
2. You have to pass the midcourse exam (or you have failed the course);
3. You have to pass Written Assignments 5-8 in order to take the final; and
4. You have to pass the final or you fail the course.

No matter how well or poorly you may do on the lesson responses, you must receive passing grades on both the midcourse and the final in order to pass the course. It is up to your instructor to decide whether you can redo a failed written assignment. You have only one shot at each exam.

The midcourse and final exams consist of identification, short answer, and essay questions. You could be asked to identify characters or passages from various novels by giving an identifying characteristic about the character or the title and author from which the passage was taken. There may be questions about plot, character conflict, setting, or interpretation. There may be questions about craft or the technique of novel writing. You will be asked to write one or more brief critical interpretive essays. You may be questioned about anything you were assigned to read, or anything appearing in the course content.

That may seem like a chunk to bite off right here at the beginning, but you aren’t being asked to take the exams now, and as we go along, you will accumulate knowledge.

Speaking of accumulating knowledge, the exams are cumulative—you will be responsible on the final exam for material from the whole course (Lessons 1-8).

Grading Scale

Your course grade will be based on the following percentages:

Midcourse Exam: 30%

Final Exam: 30%

Eight Written Assignments: 5% each (40% total)*

*You must pass each of the written assignments in order to be eligible to take the exams.

The following scale will be used to determine grades:

A: 90-100%

B: 80-89.9%

C: 70-79.9%

D: 60-69.9%

F: below 59.9%

Academic Integrity

The [Texas State Academic Honor Code](#) applies to all Texas State students, including correspondence students. The Honor Code serves as an affirmation that the University demands the highest standard of integrity in all actions related to the academic community.

Faculty-Student Contact

According to “Seven Principles for Good Practice in Undergraduate Education,” faculty-student contact is very important. Even though this is a correspondence course, I encourage you to contact me if you have any concerns, questions, or problems. You are welcome to e-mail me by using the Mail tool in the left menu bar. (It is important to keep all mail related to this course contained within this TRACS site.) My policy is that during non-holiday breaks or announced away times, any email I receive between Monday morning and Friday at noon will receive a reply within 48 hours. Emails received between Friday at noon and Sunday night will receive a reply on the next business day.

Free Tutoring Resources

A variety of free tutoring resources are available for students enrolled in correspondence courses. All correspondence students have access to several hours of free online tutoring from Smarthinking for subjects ranging from grammar and writing to mathematics and Spanish. Free online tutoring for writing-related assignments is also available from the Texas State Writing Center. For information on accessing these resources, please visit the Office of Distance and Extended Learning’s [Free Tutoring](#) page. Currently-enrolled, degree-seeking students able to visit the Texas State campus are eligible for free in-person tutoring from the [Student Learning Assistance Center \(SLAC\)](#) on the fourth floor of Alkek Library and from the [Math Lab](#) in Derrick 233.

TRACS Technical Support

Texas State’s Information Technology Assistance Center (ITAC) provides phone and LiveChat technical support for TRACS 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. To take advantage of these services, visit [ITAC online](#) or call 512.245.ITAC (4822). Note also that a number of online TRACS tutorials are available from [TRACS Facts](#).

Students with Special Needs

The Office of Distance and Extended Learning is committed to helping students with disabilities achieve their educational goals. A disability is not a barrier to correspondence study, and we strive to provide reasonable accommodations to individuals in coursework and test taking. Students who require special accommodations need to provide verification of their disability to the [Office of Disability Services](#), Suite 5-5.1 LBJ Student Center, 512.245.3451 (voice/TTY). Students should then notify the [Office of Distance and Extended Learning](#) of any disability-related accommodation needs as soon as possible to avoid a delay in accommodations.