ENGLISH 2321: Readings in British Literature
The Supernatural

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010 Academic Building
MW 10-12PM / T 9-11PM*
and by appointment

Course Overview:

This course, which generally aims to introduce students to the skills of literary analysis through exposure to important works of British literature, takes as its specific theme monstrosity and the supernatural, surveying diverse depictions of the "other" in a variety of cultures, periods, and genres. Covering the literature of over 800 years, this course will start by engaging medieval depictions of monstrosity in *Beowulf* and Marie d'France's "Bisclavret," and then will transition to early modern England's shifting perceptions of the supernatural and magic, examining Marlowe's *Doctor Faustus* and Shakespeare's *Hamlet*, and then will shift yet again to interrogate Romantic and Victorian sensibilities of such difference with first Samuel Taylor Coleridge's "Rime of the Ancient Mariner" and Christina Rosetti's "Goblin Market" to then conclude the semester then Robert Louis Stevenson's *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*. Importantly, the works we cover are not designed to give students an exhaustive account of British literature, but to present various attitudes and presentations of monstrosity and the supernatural within its cultural and historical contexts. All of these works are ambivalent in their expression of monstrosity, enabling students to interrogate their own ideas, to shape their reactions to texts and to support and develop their readings into literary arguments that contribute to the colloquy.

Course Objectives and Student Learning Outcomes:

This course has two primary goals: first, students will develop close reading and analytical skills regarding structural and thematic elements of an admittedly small sample of British literature; second, students will develop interpretive skills to transition observations into interpretive arguments. Upon completing sophomore literature, students should be able to understand (1) the role of literature as an expression of values and interpretation of human experience; (2) able to apply methods of responding to literature analytically; (3) understand its form, function, scope and variety, including terminology; (4) and understand the interactive relationship between history, culture, and literature.

In addition to these student learning outcomes, this course will help you 1) gain a broader understanding and appreciation of intellectual and cultural activity 2) learn to analyze and critically evaluate ideas, arguments, and points of view; and 3) develop creative capacities.

Required Texts and Materials:

- Stephen Greenblatt *et al*, editors. *The Norton Anthology of English Literature, The Major Authors.* 10th ed. W.W. Norton 2019. 2 vols. (ISBN 978-0-393-60308-8 and 978-0-393-60309-5).
- Additional readings will be posted on the course's Blackboard site and are marked on the calendar with (BB). Students *must* have access to these readings off-campus, either by print or reading them on-screen.
- Access to a computer/phone with a webcam and speakers.
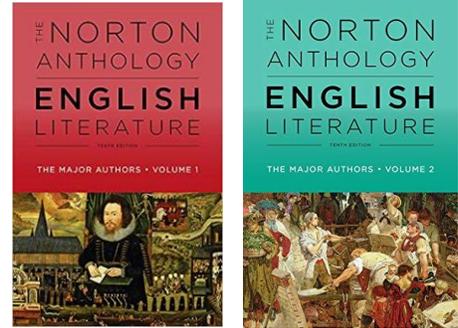
Core Curriculum Objectives/ Measures for Sophomore Literature:

Students in sophomore literature will practice the following core curriculum learning objectives in critical thinking, communication, social responsibility, and personal responsibility. Students will demonstrate their capabilities in these objectives through reading quizzes, written analyses, or examinations. Critical thinking is demonstrated in class activities when students gather, analyze, evaluate, and synthesize information relevant to a question or issue in an assigned literary work. Communication is demonstrated in class activities when students develop, interpret, and express ideas through effective written communication. Social responsibility is demonstrated in students' ability to engage with literary artists and the texts they create, and to reflect upon the shared traditions of literary expression, the debates that help shape literature, and the conflicts, cultural differences, and shared experiences. Personal responsibility is demonstrated in a student's ability to evaluate choices, actions, and consequences by identifying, analyzing, and evaluating ethical decision-making in literary examples.

Methods of Instruction:

This is an online course. It is not self-paced.

Each module in the course will open and close on specific dates. Each module will open on the Friday before any assignment is due and will close for submissions after the last assignment is due. **Once a module has closed, assignments will not be accepted.** Blackboard is utilized for all course content delivery, and class assignments, including midterm and final examinations. Students must be able to access Blackboard on a regular basis and check their ASU email <u>daily</u>.

Course Requirements:

1. It is the student's responsibility to have access to a computer with Internet and adequate speed to do classwork, tests, and exams, and Blackboard. You will also need a webcam (or you must be able to use your phone) and speakers for many of the projects and lectures in this class. The latest version of a browser is recommended, Firefox and Chrome work well with Blackboard – some others, like Safari, work less well. Internet connectivity problems and home computer problems are not considered adequate excuses for missing assigned learning activities. Technical support concerns should be submitted to the ASU IT Service Center via phone at (325) 942-2911 or toll-free at (866) 942-2911.

2. All assignments need to be submitted through the posted Blackboard or TurnItIn link in the Blackboard course site. You must push "<u>submit</u>" and then "<u>confirm</u>" to upload to TurnItIn. You should record the confirmation number received when you submit your work. This is the only proof of submission you have and if a technological problem occurs (as they tend to), this is the only assurance of submission you may present to me. You should always double-check that your assignment uploaded by refreshing your browser and looking for your submission and its document. **Assignments are not accepted via email.**

3. All files uploaded to Blackboard must be in either a **.doc, .dox, or pdf** format. Any files I cannot open for ANY reason (technical incompatibility, corruption, etc.) **will** be counted as zeros.

4. **All formatting and citations should conform to MLA standards.** For more information and examples of formatting and citation, please consult Purdue OWL (linked here and in Week One).

Attendance Policies:
As this course is conducted entirely online, I have no attendance policy and no grade for "class participation." Your proctor in your classroom will have their own policies. **This is not a self-paced course, however; you must make time in your schedule to "come to class" online each week.** Since this is a three semester-hour (3 SCH) course, you should plan for at least three (3) hours of instructional time online each week, <u>PLUS</u> an additional 6 hours for readings and assignments, just as you would in any face-to-face course.

Due dates for all assignments are listed in each module. All assignments must be turned in completely and on time. It is important to use your time wisely and watch due dates. All students are to adhere to all ASU policies concerning attendance as contained in OP 10.04 and OP 10.19. If you have a conflict for a deadline, you should submit your materials early. If you are sick, I still expect you to still get your work done. If you are seriously ill and under the prolonged care of a physician, you should contact me as soon as you can (prior to missing deadlines) and we can work something out.

Evaluation:
Your final grade is determined by your performance in the following areas, though failure to complete any major assignment (a response paper or exam) will jeopardize your ability to pass the course :

Reading & Lecture Quizzes, Videos	25 %
Discussion Board Posts	40 %
Exams (3)	35 %

Grading Scale:
A: 90 – 100   B: 80 – 89   C: (70 – 79)   D: 60 – 69   F: 59-0
Any work that is not submitted will receive a zero.

Anytime official grades are needed by your school district, they will be provided by your instructor in the appropriate manner.

Readings:
Please use the assigned edition listed above. For each module, I expect you to read and study the full assignment outside of class, attending to plot, characterization, diction, imagery, important ideas, and

other objects of literary analysis. Each reading assignment also includes any related headnotes and footnotes.

Reading Quizzes:
These quizzes are designed to encourage you to keep up with reading assignments. Typically, they are a combination of short answer, fill-in-the-blank, and multiple-choice questions concerning the week's readings and they take only about a minute per question for the prepared student. There is at least one each week. **ALL quizzes are due by Thursday at 11:59PM**. All quizzes can only be submitted once, are timed, and will close after time expires. You should factor on about a minute per question, so a five-question quiz, for example, will be allotted a time constraint of approximately seven minutes once you begin. **No late quizzes will be accepted.**
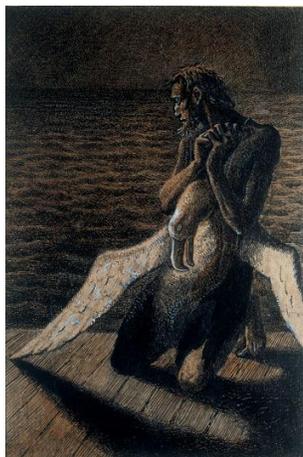
Discussion Posts (DBPs):
By each **Friday at 11:59PM**, students must submit arguments to Blackboard® (see below), answering an assigned question. All these answers will be interpretive in nature, meaning that they will require you to think deeply about the question and the text to formulate your answer. I will evaluate these responses via blackboard's grading function with each student, assigning a grade, but more importantly, asking questions, prompting further consideration and development, etc. **Each DBP must be between 300-500 words, should take a position that makes an argument and supports each claim with well-considered textual evidence.** All work must be completed in a professional manner with care taken about mechanics, audience, citation, comprehension, as well as educational and literary ethics. All students should consult the rubric for the evaluation of DBPs and watch the presentation PRIOR to their first post. **No late DBPs will be accepted and no extensions will be granted**. This means that absence for school events or illness should not prohibit you from completing your assignments. Nevertheless, I recognize that things come up; as a gesture of goodwill, I will drop one DBP at the end of the semester.

Examinations:
Examinations in ENGL 2321 are due by the deadline. No extensions will be granted except in **dire** and **documented** emergency. **Portions of each examination are timed and the entire exam is only available for a finite window; no late exams will be accepted and no make-up exams will be arranged without prior permission**. Rather than provide feedback for each person on each essay, I will provide models questions and answers prior to the exam and general feedback on the class's performance after all exams are submitted.

Communication:
The course is designed to offer regular and substantive interaction between students and me, your professor. Both groups are responsible for effective and appropriate, communication and interaction.

Student Communication:
Students should initiate communications with instructors through in-person office hours, telephone, or the ASU email system. Students should check Blackboard and email frequently for announcements and reminders. It is an expectation of this department that you use academic and professional writing skills

and always treat your interlocutor with respect. Technical support concerns should be submitted to the IT Service Center via phone at (325) 042-2911 or toll-free at (866) 942-2911.

Professor Communication:
I will provide regular communications relevant to the course and subject matter through emails, Blackboard announcements, interactions during learning activities such as moderating discussion boards, and feedback on submitted assignments. These course activities help build a sense of community among learners. I will typically respond to email within 24 hours.

Blackboard®:
This course operates entirely within a Blackboard website, http://blackboard.angelo.edu, where students will find important announcements, assignment prompts and guidelines, and relevant handouts. You will turn in your essays for the exams through Blackboard via TurnItIn®, a plagiarism detection software. You should check Blackboard <u>daily</u> to stay abreast of new assignments, changes in the syllabus and announcements.

Office Hours:
My office hours are a time that I set aside to be available to students who want help with assignments. I will make every effort to be available during your scheduled class but of course you are welcome to call or contact me when you have a question. I will make every effort to accommodate you regarding appointments; if you want help, email me or call my office. I am delighted to speak with students about the course, their educational goals, their life-experiences, anything that is of interest to you.

Statement on Academic Honesty:
Angelo State University expects its students to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic pursuits. Students are responsible for understanding the Academic Honor Code, which is contained in both the print and web versions of the Student Handbook. Your participation in English 2321 assumes your agreement to ASU's honor code.

If you do not understand the rules regarding plagiarism as outlined in the Academic Honor Code, it is incumbent upon you to seek clarification *prior* to the first assignment. In addition to asking me, you may consult the Center for Academic Integrity. I have no patience for plagiarism: any student who violates the Academic Honor Code will receive a failing grade for the **semester**.

Counseling Services:
Students struggling with events in their lives or with mental health issues should seek out allies and resources available to all students. The following are institutional sources of support, but you may seek out faculty, staff and others on campus for help, including me.

Campus Counseling Services 325-942-2171
Campus Police 325-942-2071
Michelle Boone, Title IX Coordinator 325-486-5367

Students with Disabilities:
Persons with disabilities that may warrant academic accommodations must contact the Student Disability Services in order to request such accommodations prior to any being implemented. You are encouraged to make this request early in the semester so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Calendar of Readings and Assignments (all dual credit courses adhere to ASU's academic calendar)
This syllabus is subject to change.
All assignments are due on either Thursday or Friday, with the dates marked accordingly.
It is the student's responsibility to complete all assignments posted here and/or on Blackboard.

Wk #	Readings	Assignments Due

One 8/26-8/30	• Syllabus, Assignment Rubrics, Helpsheets
	• Yeats, "Leda and the Swan" (*NA* 1147)
	• View Presentations (3)
	   • Introduction to the Course
	   • Literary Analysis Lecture
	   • How to Write a DBP Lecture
	   • MLA Citation Powerpoint
		• Submit Quizzes (2) by Thursday 11:59PM
		• Upload Introduction Video by Thursday 11:59PM
		• Upload DBP 1 by Friday 11:59PM

Two 8/31-9/6	• *Beowulf* (*NA*1.37) lines 1-862
	• British Library link: "Beowulf"
	• Term List (Medieval)
	• View Presentations (4)
	   • Medieval History Powerpoint
	   • Anglo Saxon Poetry Powerpoint
	   • The Heroic Code Powerpoint
	   • *Beowulf* Lecture
		• Submit Quizzes (2) by Thursday 11:59PM
		• Upload Video by Thursday 11:59PM
		• Upload DBP 2 by Friday 11:59PM

Three 9/7-9/13	• *Beowulf* lines 863-1888
	• View Presentations (2)
	   • Grendel & Grendel's Mother Lecture
	   • Heremod Powerpoint
		• Submit Quizzes (3) by Thursday 11:59PM
		• Upload DBP 3 by Sunday 11:59PM

Four 9/14-9/20	• *Beowulf* lines 1889-end
	• View Presentations (2)
	   • The "epic" *Beowulf* Powerpoint
	   • Kingship & Heroic Code Lecture
		• Submit Quizzes (3) by Thursday 11:59PM
		• Upload DBP 4 by Friday 11:59PM

Five 2/21-2/27	• "Bisclavret" (on BB)
	• View Presentations (2)
	   • "Bisclavret" Lecture
	   • Chivalry and Romance Powerpoint
	• Exam Review Sheet
		• Submit Quizzes (3) by Thursday 11:59PM
		• Upload DBP 5 by Friday 11:59PM

Six 9/28-10/4		• **Medieval Literature Examination, Parts 1,2,3 all due by Friday 11:59PM**

Wk #	Readings	Assignments Due

Seven 10/5-10/11	• *Doctor Faustus* (*NA*1.511) scene 1-5
	• Term List (Early Modern)
	• View Presentations(4)
	    • Early Modern History and Soteriology Powerpoint
	    • Early Modern Theaters Powerpoint
	    • "Kit" Marlowe Biography Powerpoint
	    • *Doctor Faustus* Lecture
		• Submit Quizzes (4) by Thursday 11:59PM
		• Upload Video by Thursday 11:59PM
		• Upload DBP 6 by Friday 11:59PM

Eight 10/12-10/18	• *Doctor Faustus* Scene 6-end
	• View Presentations
	    • Doctor Faustus's Fate Powerpoint
	    • Anti-Papal Satire Powerpoint
		• Submit Quiz (2) by Thursday 11:59PM
		Upload DBP 7 by Friday 11:59PM

Nine 10/19-10/25	• *Hamlet* (on BB) Act I
	• View (4) Presentations
	    • Shakespeare Biography Powerpoint
	    • Purgatory in England Powerpoint
	    • The Ghost in *Hamlet* Powerpoint
	    • *Hamlet* Lecture
		• Submit Quizzes (4) by Thursday 11:59PM
		• Upload Video by Thursday 11:59PM
		• Upload DBP 8 by Friday 11:59PM

Ten 10/26-11/1	• *Hamlet* Act II-V
	• View (4) Presentations
	    • Revenge Tragedies Powerpoint
	    • Staging *Hamlet*'s Revenge Powerpoint (w/ Clips)
	    • Ophelia Powerpoint
	    • Salvation in *Hamlet* Lecture
	• Exam Review Sheet
		• Submit Quizzes (4) by Thursday 11:59PM
		• Upload DBP 9 by Friday 11:59PM

Eleven 11/2-11/8		• **Early Modern Literature Examination, Parts 1,2,3 all due by Friday 11:59PM**

WK #	Readings and Presentations	Assignments Due

Twelve 11/9-11/15	• "Rime of the Ancient Mariner" (*NA*2.258)
	• Term List (Romantic and Victorian)
	• View (3) Presentations
	  • Romantic Poetry Powerpoint
	  • Romantic and Victorian History Powerpoint
	  • "Ancient Mariner" Lecture
		• Submit Quizzes (2) by Thursday 11:59PM
		• Upload DBP 10 by Friday 11:59PM

Thirteen 11/16-11/22	• "Goblin Market" (NA 862)
	• Weblink to the British Library "Introduction to Goblin Market"
	• View (3) Presentations
	  • Monstrosity and Sexuality Powerpoint
	  • The Pre-Raphaelites
	  • "Goblin Market" Lecture
		• Submit Quizzes (3) by Thursday 11:59PM
		• Upload DBP 11 by Friday 11:59PM

Fourteen 11/23-11/29	• *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* (*NA* 886)	**THANKSGIVING BREAK**

Fifteen 11/30-12/6	• *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* (*NA* 886)
	• View (4) Presentations
	  • Analyzing Hyde Powerpoint
	  • Dualism Powerpoint
	  • Jekyll's Narrative of the Case Powerpoint
	  • *Jekyll and Hyde* Lecture
	• Exam Review Sheet
		• Submit Quizzes (3) by Thursday 11:59PM
		• Upload DBP 12 by Friday 11:59PM

Sixteen 12/7-12/11		• **Romantic & Victorian Literature Examination, Parts 1,2,3 all due by *Wednesday* 11:59PM**