

ENGL 2323.001 British Literature From 1770 to the Present**Fall 2023****Policy Statement and Syllabus****Instructor:** Dr. Catherine Ross

Distinguished Teaching Professor

Founding Fellow, the University of Texas System Academy of Distinguished Teachers

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ZOOM Link: _____

**Class meets Tues/Thurs 9:30-10:50 AM in RBN 3041****Office Hours:** Thursdays 2:45-4:45 PM, in person, via zoom, and by appointment**Course Weeks:** The course calendar of work is planned by the week. There are 14 weeks plus exam week. Each week begins with our class on Tuesdays and ends on the following Monday. Due dates are before class by 9:00 AM on Tuesday and Thursday and by Monday night at midnight for end-of-week assignments**Course Overview:** This course is part of the University of Texas System Core Curriculum and is intended to help launch your first two years of college by teaching you important lessons about Western culture as well as necessary learning and life skills. We do this by introducing you to an area of study in the humanities and by building your confidence in your ability to do well in college. The content is a selection of poems from the Romantic (1770-1830), Victorian (1830-

1905), and Modern/Post-Modern Periods (20th/21st Centuries), a Victorian novel, and short stories from the modern period.



Student Learning Outcomes: these are the lessons and skills we plan for you to learn and develop.

- 1) You will become aware of important texts, writers, and contexts of English literature from 1770 to the present and how to read and interpret them. You will become aware of why these texts/writers/ideas and themes are of importance to our own times.
- 2) You will practice reading, analyzing, and responding to texts in prose and verse.
- 3) You will improve your ability to discern what is important and worth remembering in these texts.
- 4) You will become more aware of how culture, history, values, politics, communication styles, economy, beliefs, and/or practices shape the arts, letters, and life in Western society.
- 5) You will be introduced to our library and research resources by our Literature Research Librarian and you will begin researching yourself
- 6) You will be asked to work on developing or improving a number of important life and learning skills that will affect your studies and future. Key among these are focus, time-management, self-advocacy, and problem-solving. You will learn to assess your skills yourself.



Required Textbooks and Readings:

Elizabeth Gaskell, *North and South* (The BBC created an excellent 4-part television series based on the novel. Look for it!) I have ordered the Penguin edition, but if you would prefer a free ebook, here is the link:

eBook <https://libguides.uttyler.edu/c.php?g=1066647&p=7761758>Links to an external site.

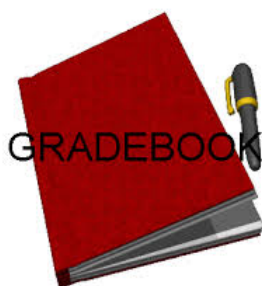
Course Packets: Poetry Collection, Short Stories



Special Course Notes:

- Please come to class on time, with all of the necessary materials, and your assignments completed. Arrive ready to participate. Keep in mind it is your time and your money being spent every day you are in college. Make the most of every day!
- Bring your completed CPAs to class, be ready in the first ten minutes for a daily quiz over the reading. There are no make ups on quizzes (because there are so many; I drop at least one zero at the end of the term).
- I will ask each student to speak up in class as often as possible, because this is how you practice sorting out your ideas and expressing yourself. No one will make fun of you. If at the end of the week you haven't had a chance to speak up, you will be invited to use the Canvas Discussion Board to catch up.
- We will *not* use laptops in class because they are too distracting. Keep them out of sight, please.
- I ask you *to take notes everyday and by hand*. Check out the page about Note-taking to see why! [taking notes flipbook.pdf](#)Download taking notes flipbook.pdf

- You may have your cell phone nearby; from time to time we might use students' phones to look something up. But please have yours turned off and stowed away out of sight--phones are such a tempting distraction for all of us (me included!)
- At the beginning, middle, and end of the term you will complete Self-Assessments of your Learning and Life Skills using this document: [Life.Learning.Skills self.assessment for 2323. fall 2023.docx](#)Download Life.Learning.Skills self.assessment for 2323. fall 2023.docx
- We will use Canvas as our Learning Management System; and, when we study *North* and *South* we will also use plot summaries that I have selected. These are provided by Course Hero: <https://www.coursehero.com/lit/North-And-South/plot-summary/Links to an external site.>



Assignments and weights/point values

- 10% Conferences with Dr. Ross and Ms Dubre
- 15% Class Preparation Assignments (CPAs)
- 15% Daily Quizzes
- 20% Attendance, Class Participation and Professionalism, including Weekly Reflections
- 10% Midterm Self-Assessment
- 20% Project (Documents 10% and Presentation 10%)
- 10% Final Self-Assessment

Grading Scale:

A	90% or greater
B	80 – 89%
C	70 – 79%
D	60 – 69%
F	below 60%



Late Work and Make-Up Exams: While we all encounter unexpected events in our lives, being able to keep up with one's job and other responsibilities despite such interruptions is an important work skill. I will, of course, allow you occasional or emergency extensions if you truly need them.

There is so much paper work in ENGL 2323 that make ups on daily work—CPAs and quizzes—are impractical. **YOU CANNOT MAKE UP DAILY QUIZZES.** I will, however, drop one or two daily work zeros at the end of the semester.

Attendance Policy: Research shows a direct correlation between students' attendance and their course grades; it is in your best interest to come to class every day. You are, however, allowed two unexcused absences. I am always glad that students come to class, even if they haven't finished all the work or are a bit late, but regular tardiness is disrespectful of the others in the class. So try to avoid being late. Two tardies of over ten minutes are equal to one unexcused absence. Excused absences include sanctioned university events (games, performances), documented illness (you *must* have a doctor's note), religious practice, and military service. If you just cannot make it to class regularly, consider dropping the course for now and coming back later.



Graded Course Requirements Information:

Meetings with Dr. Ross: These are low-key visits, in my office or via zoom, to get to know each other and to discuss your interests, skills, status, project progress, or any other matters pertaining to your work and success in the class. Please make (and keep!) appointments during the specified weeks in the term.

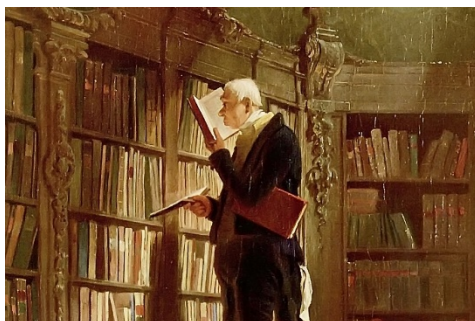
Class Preparation Assignments (CPAs): These are lists of guiding and interpretive questions for each reading assignment that you are expected to use when you are doing the assignments at home. Students find them very useful, as they help you see what we will be talking about in

class. They truly are "preparations" for class. Please write thoughtful responses to at least 75% of the questions and post the document on Canvas. Bring a copy for yourself to class; it can serve as a sort of script for your reference when we talk in class.

Daily Quizzes: At the beginning of every class there will be a brief content quiz over the homework. This is to help keep you on your toes. After class, expect a follow up quiz on line. No make ups!

Research Project: Knowing more about the historical and cultural contexts of a novel will help you and your classmates better understand the issues and conflicts in Elizabeth Gaskell's novel *North and South*.

Self-Assessments and Essays: I will provide you with a Skills Inventory, which lists the skills that are most important for students to be successful in this course, in other college-level classes, and in private life and work. Attached to the skills list there may also be one to three short writing prompts that will help us determine your literary knowledge, writing skills, and overall progress. I will explain what is expected on each assessment. You will be given several days to complete each assessment, and they are "open book and open notes". The midterm and final assessments will count in place of midterm and final examinations



2323 Research Projects

Project Goals:

1. To learn how to do college-level research
2. To learn about the historical and cultural contexts for Gaskell's novel, *North and South*, so you can read it with great understanding, insight, and appreciation. Suggested topics are listed below.
3. To produce a short, written and visual resource for your classmates about the topic you research; you will post this on our Canvas site the week before we begin reading the novel.

Process and Outcomes

In the first two weeks of class:

I will explain the project and talk briefly about the list of topics listed below.

You will choose one topic and have a [conference with me](#), so I can explain why your topic is important, how it figures into the novel, and give you advice on how to proceed. This will be a time for you to ask all of your questions! We will meet again, too.

Our Research Librarian will meet briefly with the class, and thereafter each of you will arrange a [one-on-one meeting with Ms. Dubre](#) to talk about how to go about researching your topic.

In Weeks 2 to 6:

You will work on your research and begin planning your presentation. To do this, you should build a written file that includes all your reading, conference, and planning notes; an outlines of what you want to presentation with images, and reference citations.

By the end of Week 5, September 22nd, you should have completed and posted your Research Bibliography [Research Project Bibliography](#)

In Week 6 you will [meet again with me](#) to be sure you are ready to present.

In Week 7:

NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6th midnight, you will post your research project on the Discussion Board, so all your classmates may read it. Here is the link: [Contexts Research Postings](#)

Once you have posted, please look over the other research projects posted by your classmates. Choose at least three to read carefully. Their shared knowledge will help you understand and appreciate *North and South* better than those without such information.

Topic Choices:

Life in England in the 19th century: southern agrarianism and northern industrialism, Victorian social customs and Practices.

Many of these topics are quite broad. When you meet with me and Ms Dubre, we will help you narrow and focus them.

1. The class system in Victorian England: aristocrats, gentry and professionals, craftsmen and merchants, labourers
2. Country houses
3. The parish church and role of the local vicar
4. Farming life in Victorian England

5. Conditions of living in newly industrializing cities—housing, streets, sanitation
6. The textile industry
7. New technologies of the Period: steam engines, factory machinery, railroads, steam powered ships, telegraphy
8. Work conditions in Victorian factories
9. Labor unrest, strikes, workers' organizations in the Victorian Period
10. Laissez faire business policy
11. Entrepreneurs and newly rich businessmen
12. City mansions and the London "Season"
13. Education and literacy in Victorian England
14. Courtship, the "marriage market"
15. Marriage and family practices in the Period
16. The "public" and "private" spheres
17. The Royal Navy: officers and men
18. Ladies' pastimes in Victorian England
19. The housework of a married "gentlewoman"
20. Servants in English households in the Victorian Period
21. Solicitors and Barristers in England in the Victorian Period
22. Medical practice in the Victorian Period
23. Religion:
 - I. The Church of England
 - II. Religious dissent in England: Deism or "rational religion" (late 17th to mid-19th century)
 - III. The Oxford Movement
 - IV. The Great Awakening and the Evangelical movement
 - V. The Catholic Church in Victorian England



WEEKLY CLASS ASSIGNMENTS

See our Canvas site for all referenced texts and documents such as the poems, CPAs, Professionalism/Response assignments, etc. Use your planners, look ahead to due dates. Keep up each week with the schedule for the Research Project.



Week 1: August 22-28

RESEARCH PROJECT:

In Weeks 1 and 2:

I will explain the project and talk briefly about the list of topics listed below.

You will choose one topic and have a [conference with me](#), so I can explain why your topic is important, how it figures into the novel, and give you advice on how to proceed. This will be a time for you to ask all of your questions! We will meet again, too.

Our Research Librarian will meet briefly with the class, and thereafter each of you will arrange a [one-on-one meeting with Ms. Dubre](#) to talk about how to go about researching your topic.

CLASS WORK:

For class on Thursday: Re-read "When we two parted" in the Poetry Collection. Download Poetry Collection. Copy the poem and circle all the syllables that you think are accented. (For example: the word "today"--we accent the second syllable: "to--DAY". If your name is "Carmen"--we accent the first syllable: "CAR--men". If your name is "Kristina"--we accent the second of the three syllables: "kris--TEEN--a"). ALL POEMS and CPAs ARE ON CANVAS in the Poetry Collection and posted in the Modules for the week.

Complete this Self-Assessment Download Self-Assessment document --give yourself a grade A or B or C, etc. (you can use pluses and minuses)--keep one copy and bring one to class Thursday for Dr. Ross

Peruse the first two modules of this Canvas Course: "ENGL 2323 Home Base" and "Skills, Best Practices, Vectors of Development, Essential Needs, Advice". The first should answer most of your questions about what is expected of you in this class; the second is a rich source of information about how to succeed in college and have a happy, productive year.

By the end of the week (Monday, Aug. 28) complete the Week 1 Professionalism/Response

For class next Tuesday:

Read the Blake poems "Introduction" to the Songs of Innocence, "The Lamb," and "The Little Black Boy" by William Blake in the Poetry Collection for Fall 2023 Download Poetry Collection for Fall 2023 and do the CPA: CPA Blake, Innocence, Lamb, Little Black Boy.

Select a research topic and make an appointment with Dr. Ross



Week 2: August 29-Sept 4

RESEARCH PROJECT:

In Weeks 2 to 6:

You will work on your research and begin planning your presentation. To do this, you should build a written file that includes all your reading, conference, and planning notes; an outlines of what you want to presentation with images, and reference citations.

By the end of Week 5, September 22nd, you should have completed and posted your Research Bibliography [Research Project Bibliography](#)

In Week 6 you will [meet again with me](#) to be sure you are ready to present.

CLASS WORK:

For class on Tuesday: ALL POEMS and CPAs ARE ON CANVAS in the Poetry Collection and posted in the Modules for the week. Read "Introduction" to the Songs of Innocence, "The Lamb," and "The Little Black Boy" by William Blake in the Poetry Collection for Fall 2023 Download Poetry Collection for Fall 2023 and do the CPA: CPA Blake, Innocence, Lamb, Little Black Boy

For class on Thursday: Read three more poems by Blake: "Introduction" to Songs of Experience, "The Tyger", and "A Poison Tree" in the Poetry Collection. Download Poetry Collection. Do the CPA for three blake experience poems.docx Download CPA for three blake experience poems.docx

At the end of the week do: Week 2 Professionalism/Response

Other to-dos this week: Meet with Dr. Ross to talk about your research project topic. Email her for an appointment time. This can be in person or via zoom. Start working through Ms Dubre's research tutorials. They must all be completed by Sept. 15th

For Tuesday of next week: Read two poems by William Wordsworth in the Poetry Collection: "I wandered lonely as a cloud" and "We are seven" use and complete this document: Class Preparation Assignment for "I wandered lonely as a cloud" and "We are seven". Bring a copy of the completed CPA to class on Tuesday.



Week 3: September 5-11

RESEARCH PROJECT

In Weeks 2 to 6:

You will work on your research and begin planning your presentation. To do this, you should build a written file that includes all your reading, conference, and planning notes; an outlines of what you want to presentation with images, and reference citations.

By the end of Week 5, September 22nd, you should have completed and posted your Research Bibliography [Research Project Bibliography](#)

In Week 6 you will [meet again with me](#) to be sure you are ready to present.

CLASS WORK

For class on Tuesday: ALL POEMS and CPAs ARE ON CANVAS in the Poetry Collection and posted in the Modules for the week. Read two poems by William Wordsworth in the Poetry Collection: "I wandered lonely as a cloud" and "We are seven" use and complete this document: Class Preparation Assignment for "I wandered lonely as a cloud" and "We are seven". Bring a copy of the completed CPA to class on Tuesday.

For class on Thursday: Review the document about prosody posted on Canvas. In class we will read "Tintern Abbey" together and unpack it. After class, complete this CPA: CPA: "Tintern Abbey"

At the end of the week do Week 3 Professionalism/Response

For Tuesday of next week: Read "Kubla Khan" and make a careful sketch that depicts what the poem says.



Week 4: September 12-18

RESEARCH PROJECT

In Weeks 2 to 6:

You will work on your research and begin planning your presentation. To do this, you should build a written file that includes all your reading, conference, and planning notes; an outlines of what you want to presentation with images, and reference citations.

By the end of Week 5, September 22nd, you should have completed and posted your Research Bibliography [Research Project Bibliography](#)

In Week 6 you will [meet again with me](#) to be sure you are ready to present.

CLASS WORK

For Tuesday: ALL POEMS and CPAs ARE ON CANVAS in the Poetry Collection and posted in the Modules for the week. Read "Kubla Khan" and make a careful sketch that depicts what the poem says. All poem texts are on Canvas in the Week 4 module

For Thursday: Read "The Rime of the Ancient Mariner"; use the plot summary and the CPA

At the end of the week: Do Week 4 Professionalism/Response

For Tuesday of next week: Read Tennyson's "Charge of the Light Brigade" and "The Lady of Shalott" do the CPA for the latter of these two poems



Week 5: September 19-25

RESEARCH PROJECT

In Weeks 2 to 6:

You will work on your research and begin planning your presentation. To do this, you should build a written file that includes all your reading, conference, and planning notes; an outlines of what you want to presentation with images, and reference citations.

By the end of Week 5, September 22nd, you should have completed and posted your Research Bibliography [Research Project Bibliography](#)

In Week 6 you will [meet again with me](#) to be sure you are ready to present.

CLASS WORK

For Tuesday: ALL POEMS and CPAs ARE ON CANVAS in the Poetry Collection and posted in the Modules for the week. Tennyson's "Charge of the Light Brigade" and "The Lady of Shalott"

For Thursday: Sonnets I, VII, and XXI from Elizabeth Barrett Browning's Sonnets from the Portuguese (we may also read Christina Rossetti's sonnet "In Progress" for comparison. The link below is an annotated version of the five Elizabeth Barrett Browning sonnets. Please download, print, and read the sonnets and the footnotes using this document.

By the end of the week: By the end of Week 5, September 22nd, you should have completed and posted your Research Bibliography [Research Project Bibliography](#) and do Week 5 Professionalism/Response.

For Tuesday of next week: Read Sonnets XXXII and XLII by EBB and Hopkins' "As Kingfishers Catch Fire". Texts are all on Canvas in the Week 5 module.



Week 6: September 28-October 2

RESEARCH PROJECT: In Week 6 you will [meet again with me](#) to be sure you are ready to present.

CLASS WORK

For Tuesday: ALL POEMS and CPAs ARE ON CANVAS in the Poetry Collection and posted in the Modules for the week. The last two sonnets from EBB

For Thursday: Hopkins' "As Kingfishers Catch Fire" and "God's Grandeur"

At the end of the week do Week 6 Professionalism/Response

Next week we will do the Midterm Self-Assessment.



Week 7: October 3-9

RESEARCH PROJECT

NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6th midnight, you will post your research project on the Discussion Board, so all your classmates may read it. Here is the link: [Contexts Research Postings](#)

Once you have posted, please look over the other research projects posted by your classmates. Choose at least three to read carefully. Their shared knowledge will help you understand and appreciate *North and South* better than those without such information.

CLASS WORK

For Tuesday: ALL POEMS and CPAs ARE ON CANVAS in the Poetry Collection and posted in the Modules for the week. Poems by Larkin, MacNiece, and Carson

For Thursday: Midterm. Bring your Self-Assessment from the first week to class.

By Friday, post your research project on the Discussion Board

At the end of the week do Week 7 Professionalism/Response

For Tuesday of next week: ALL CPAs for the NOVEL ARE ON CANVAS posted by week. Read and comment on the context research postings as directed. Read the first six chapters of *North and South*. See the plot summaries and CPAs: CPA North and South Chaps 1-6



Week 8: October 10-16

CLASS WORK

For Tuesday: come ready to talk about your and your classmates' research postings.

For Thursday: ALL CPAs for the NOVEL ARE ON CANVAS posted by week. read the PLOT SUMMARY posted below, then carefully read the first six chapters of *North and South*, using the CPA to guide you. Be ready to connect your research to what we read and to explain this to your classmates.

At the end of the week do [Week 8 Professionalism/Response](#) and read this [brief overview](#) of the novel, with the key actions and the plot diagram

For next Tuesday read Chapters 7-12 of *North and South*



Week 9: October 17-23

CLASS WORK

For Tuesday: ALL CPAs for the NOVEL ARE ON CANVAS posted by week. Chapters 7-12 of *North and South*

For Thursday: Chapters 13 to 18 of *North and South*

At the end of the week do [Week 9 Professionalism/Response](#)

For next Tuesday: Chapters 19-21 of *North and South* and the CPA



Week 10: October 24-30

CLASS WORK

For Tuesday: ALL CPAs for the NOVEL ARE ON CANVAS posted by week. Chapters 19-21 of *North and South* and the CPA

For Thursday: Chapters 22-24 of *North and South* and the CPA

At the end of the week do [Week 10 Professionalism/Response](#)

For next Tuesday: For Tuesday: Chapters 25-27 of *North and South* and the CPA



Week 11: October 31-November 6

CLASS WORK

For Tuesday: ALL CPAs for the NOVEL ARE ON CANVAS posted by week. Chapters 25-27 of *North and South* and the CPA

For Thursday: Chapters 28-30 of *North and South* and the CPA

At the end of the week do [Week 11 Professionalism/Response](#)

For next Tuesday: For Tuesday: Chapters 31-34 of *North and South* and the CPA



Week 12: November 7-13

CLASS WORK

For Tuesday: ALL CPAs for the NOVEL ARE ON CANVAS posted by week. Chapters 31-34 of *North and South* and the CPA

For Thursday: Chapters 35-37 of *North and South* and the CPA

At the end of the week do [Week 12 Professionalism/Response](#)

For Tuesday of next week: Chapters 38-40 of *North and South* and the CPA



Week 13: November 14-27 (includes Thanksgiving holiday: November 20-25)

CLASS WORK

For Tuesday: ALL CPAs for the NOVEL ARE ON CANVAS posted by week. Chapters 38-40 of *North and South* and the CPA

For Thursday: Chapters 41-43 of *North and South* and the CPA

At the end of the week do [Week 13 Professionalism/Response](#)

For Tuesday after the break: Chapters 44-52 of *North and South* and the CPA



Week 14: November 28-December 1

CLASS WORK

During this week students will read and compose their own CPA questions for Chapters 47-52 of *North and South*.

For Tuesday: Chapters 47-49 of *North and South* and sharing of your CPAs

For Thursday: Chapters 50-52 of *North and South* and sharing of your CPAs

For Finals Week: Review your Midterm and the CPAs for selected poems. Review your research experience and prepare to write about *North and South*.

Finals Week : December 4-7

CLASS WORK

The objectives of this week will be to (1) To look back upon what you have read, thought about, researched, and experienced in this class and to take stock of how much smarter, confident, and readier you are for the next term!

And (2) To assess your improvement in general life skills, learning skills, and critical reading and thinking skills with English literature

And (3) To do the Final Self-Assessment