

English 4320 Romantic Literature
Spring 2019, MWF 11:15-12:10, HPR 248

Dr. Catherine Ross

Office: CAS 135A

Office Hours: 10:00-11:00 MWF and by appointment

You may also visit with me, by appointment, via ZOOM: <https://uttyler.zoom.us/my/c.ross>

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I can usually respond to emails on the same day, if they are sent before 10 PM.

Research Librarian: Ms. Vandy Dubre

LIB 214

vdubre@uttyler.edu

903-566-7167

This course earns you 3 credit hours. It counts in the “Modern” literature category for the English major.
 Pre-requisite: ENGL 3308 or permission of professor

In ENGL 4320 you will be assigned to join a Study Team, and you will be asked to work with your team mates on daily tasks and long term projects. Your team will become important to you. Teams will be chosen in the first week of class. Please be prepared to meet in and outside of class with this team.

Books:

Norton Anthology of Romantic Lit 10th edition. This is your primary course textbook; it contains historical information, short biographies of writers, excellent footnotes, and discussion of themes and movements with selected readings. **REQUIRED**

Prosody Packet. This packet contains notes on meter, how it works in poetry, and why it matters. It includes lessons about prosody, a collection of sonnets that will be used in class, and several scansion exercises. **REQUIRED**. Dr. Ross will hand this out on the first class day.

Frankenstein, Mary Shelley, Norton Critical Edition. Shelley wrote this novel when she was seventeen. Frankenstein is NOT the monster. This is the 1818 edition, the first one. It begins as a series of letters written by an Englishman named Robert Walton. He rescues Victor Frankenstein from the ice, and hears a wild tale. **REQUIRED**

Persuasion, Jane Austen, Norton Critical Edition. This is Jane Austen’s last novel. It is a story of broken and mended hearts, class consciousness, and character. **REQUIRED**

30 *Great Myths about the Romantics*, Duncan Wu. Written by a professor of Romanticism, this lively book debunks some of the crazy things people have said about the Romantics: William and Dorothy Wordsworth were *not* lovers, Keats *didn't* die because of a bad review, the Romantics *didn't* hate science, most of them were *not* atheists, and so on. Recommended.

Course Description:

The Period: The Romantic Period was a pivotal era in the development of English literature and literary studies. The Romantics experimented with form and content in ways never before attempted; they championed the rights of men—and women—more enthusiastically than any other group of writers; and they produced some of the greatest poems and novels in the literary canon. They cared about individual experience and feeling, humankind’s relationship to the natural world, love and relationship, social justice, God and country. They have much to teach us today. This course will explain the historical and cultural backgrounds that made the Romantic Period possible and introduce you to exemplars of the era.

Romantic Poetry: Because the period was distinguished for its lyric poetry, much of the course will focus upon the writings of the “big six” poets: William Wordsworth, Samuel Taylor Coleridge, Lord

Byron, Percy Shelley, John Keats, and William Blake. Lesser known poets will be read as well. Our study of poetry will begin with lessons in prosody, which is the study of the forms and uses of meter in verse. Our poetry studies will culminate with presentations by Study Teams on selected poets.

Romantic Period Prose: Besides studying poetry, the class will read, discuss, and write about Romantic prose as well. In class we will study two very different, but nevertheless iconic novels of the period: *Frankenstein* by Mary Shelley and *Persuasion* by Jane Austen. Throughout the course, Study Teams will also be studying Romantic prose by working on their Term Project portfolio, which is due on our class's scheduled final examination day in Week 15. Teams will select a text from the following list:¹

- Gothic novels (such as Matthew Lewis' *The Monk* or Horace Walpole's *The Castle of Otranto*)
- The novels of Sir Walter Scott (such as *Waverley*, *Ivanhoe*, or *Kenilworth*)
- Major works of non-fiction (such as Thomas De Quincey's *Confessions of an English Opium Eater* or Mary Wollstonecraft's *Vindication of the Rights of Woman*).

Teams will work together to plan and complete the project portfolio and to present their text and research to the class.

Student Learning Outcomes:

- In this course you will continue to build the critical thinking skills required of all English majors. These include recognizing patterns, relationships, and themes in and between texts and becoming familiar with the issues involved in a range of human experiences that are common subjects of imaginative literature.
- You will continue to improve your understandings of how literary texts use not only the meanings of words, but also the sounds and rhythms of language to communicate thoughts and feelings. The study of prosody—that is, writers' use of sound and rhythm—will help you to be more aware of the artistic effects of language and to find new levels of meaning in texts.
- You will be coached on how to improve your ability to write and speak about all of the matters noted above.
- You will practice and improve your research skills.
- Finally, I will ask you to work closely with me, Ms. Dubre, and your study team as you plan and complete the course assignments on Romantic poetry and prose. Hence, you will be better prepared for any number of real-world careers where knowledge, critical thinking, empathy, team work, and good communication skills matter.

Course Work, Policies, and Student Responsibilities.

I have planned carefully to structure an interesting course that will build on your existing skills and that will give you useful new ones. You are expected to be engaged in and responsible for your learning. This means that you should attend class regularly, do all assignments, work helpfully with your study team, and participate in class activities and discussion with energy.

Grades: Your grade will be calculated according to the weighting formula printed below. All grades are on a 100 point scale. **Effort and improvement** are rewarded by this method. I have a **“no-nines rule”** on major grade. So if you earn an 89 on the exam, for example, I will raise the grade to 90. I use the same rule for final course grades. **Extra credit is not available**, but **you may revise and re-submit** two of the six short papers required in this course.

25% Daily Quizzes, Research Exercises, Peer Evaluations

10% Short Essay on *Persuasion*

15% Poetry Project (7% for scansion and mtg. w/ Dr. Ross, 4% for document, 4% for presentation)

10% Short Essay on *Frankenstein*

¹ Other works in these categories may be selected, with Dr. Ross's permission.

- 15% Examination
 25% Study Team Term Project (10% for critical paper, 10% for team job, 5% for presentation)

The Syllabus. The assignments and activities planned for each week are specified on the syllabus. Please keep it in your notebook and refer to it regularly, so you can come to class **prepared** and meet your **deadlines**. It will indicate when to expect quizzes, when reading and other required activities are due.

Daily quizzes that cover the previous class's lesson and the assigned reading for each day will be a norm in this class. Be aware that these **quizzes may not be made up** if you miss class; there will be so many of them that one or two poor quizzes will not hurt you, and at the end of the term I will drop your lowest quiz score.

Essays. You will be asked to write two short essays, one on *Persuasion* and one on *Frankenstein*. These will be approximately three typed pages each. Details will follow in a handout. Due dates are in Week 7 for *Persuasion* and Week 13 for *Frankenstein*.

Examination. There will be one examination in the 9th week of class. I will tell you exactly what the test will cover, and we will do exam review.

Projects: Detailed handouts with instructions for the novel essays, the Poetry Project, and the Term Project will be handed out during the first week of class. On those documents and in class, I will explain what I expect on each of these assignments, and in some cases I will supply a rubric ahead of time. The Poetry Project comes due in the 10th and 11th weeks of class. The Term Project is due on our scheduled examination day, in Week 15.

Attendance. If you wish to do well in this class, you will not miss class. Experience proves that once you get behind, you will find it very hard to catch up. If for any reason you have to be absent on the examination day, please make arrangements for a make-up. Absence on the Poetry Project presentations days (both as a presenter and an observer) is unacceptable and will result in your earning an F on that project. Any more than two unexcused absences will result in your final course grade being lowered by 10%. Two tardies of more than 5 minutes will equal one unexcused absence. If you anticipate being absent from class due to a religious observance, please inform me by the second class meeting of the semester. If you intend to be absent for a university-sponsored event or activity, you (or the event sponsor) must notify me at least two weeks prior to the date of the planned absence. At that time we will set a date and time for you to make-up any missed assignments.

Communication: It is important that you keep abreast of what is going on in this course at all times. Students often ask questions after class that can be of use to everyone in the course. When they do, I will send messages via Canvas to everyone. Additionally, from time to time, I post reminders and announcements via Canvas. So, be sure you *check and read your **UT Tyler email every day***. It would also be helpful if you will give me a working telephone number where you may be reached via text in an emergency.

Phones, Computers, and Internet: Please turn your phone's ringer off when you come to class and put the phone away. From time to time I may ask you to use it to look up something; but do not use it for any other purpose in class. I do not allow students to take notes on laptop computers. I will explain why in class. If you do not have your own computer for homework or do not have dependable access to the internet at home, please go to the Academic Computing Center (ACC) on the first floor of the College of Arts and Sciences building (at the end of the building nearest the library) and ask for assistance. [The ACC may be relocated to RBN this spring, if so, I will tell you where.] Computers with access to the internet are available to all UT Tyler students in the ACC, in the library, in the UC, and in the dorms).

Useful Resources for This Course:

A number of very useful resources are available to you, starting with your professor, Dr. Ross, and your Study Team. Ms. Dubre, our Research Librarian, is also a great help. She has prepared a helpful website for literary studies. Information about this is below. The Writing Center is available as well; but be sure to make an appointment ahead of time.

UT Tyler Library Website for literary studies:

<https://libguides.uttyler.edu/c.php?g=357599&p=2413346>.

UT Tyler Writing Center (903.565.5995),

writingcenter@uttyler.edu,

<http://www.uttyler.edu/writingcenter/>

UT Tyler Counseling Center (903.566.7254)

<http://www.uttyler.edu/counseling/>

Resources for Romantic Studies:

Encyclopedia Britannica:

<https://www.britannica.com/art/English-literature/The-Romantic-period>

The British Library:

<https://www.bl.uk/romantics-and-victorians/articles/the-romantics>

Romantic Circles website:

<https://www.rc.umd.edu/>

The Blake Archive website:

<http://www.blakearchive.org/>

Ransom Center at UT Austin, Jane Austen archive:

<https://sites.utexas.edu/ransomcentermagazine/2014/04/16/jane-austen-in-austin/>

<https://sites.utexas.edu/ransomcentermagazine/2013/02/05/researching-austen-in-austin-archival-research-reveals-connections-between-jane-austens-characters-and-real-life-celebrities-and-politicians/>

Ransom Center holdings of Byron:

<https://norman.hrc.utexas.edu/fasearch/findingAid.cfm?eadid=00421>

The UT Tyler Honor Code and Academic Honesty. Your reputation as an adult will depend upon your being recognized as an honorable individual. Academic careers depend upon scholarly integrity. For these reasons, UT Tyler has an Honor Code and maintains high standards of academic honesty. When you join our community we ask you to embrace the following Honor Code: *“My honor and integrity will not allow me to lie, cheat, or steal, nor to accept the actions of those who do.”* In this class, you are encouraged to collaborate with your team mates on almost all our projects. However, when an assignment specifies that work should be done by you alone, be sure this is the case. Representing any work product as your own that is not, or any other form of academic dishonesty, will result in appropriate disciplinary action. So you will have no doubts about what is considered academic dishonesty, please carefully review the **UTT Student Standards of Academic Conduct** printed below:

UTT Student Standards of Academic Conduct. *Disciplinary proceedings may be initiated against any student who engages in scholastic dishonesty, including, but not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of*

any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts.

1. *“Cheating” includes, but is not limited to:*
 - *copying from another student’s test paper;*
 - *using, during a test, materials not authorized by the person giving the test;*
 - *failure to comply with instructions given by the person administering the test;*
 - *possession during a test of materials which are not authorized by the person giving the test, such as class notes or specifically designed “crib notes”. The presence of textbooks constitutes a violation if they have been specifically prohibited by the person administering the test;*
 - *using, buying, stealing, transporting, or soliciting in whole or part the contents of an unadministered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program;*
 - *collaborating with or seeking aid from another student during a test or other assignment without authority;*
 - *discussing the contents of an examination with another student who will take the examination;*
 - *divulging the contents of an examination, for the purpose of preserving questions for use by another, when the instructor has designated that the examination is not to be removed from the examination room or not to be returned or to be kept by the student;*
 - *substituting for another person, or permitting another person to substitute for oneself to take a course, a test, or any course-related assignment;*
 - *paying or offering money or other valuable thing to, or coercing another person to obtain an unadministered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program or information about an unadministered test, test key, home solution or computer program;*
 - *falsifying research data, laboratory reports, and/or other academic work offered for credit;*
 - *taking, keeping, misplacing, or damaging the property of The University of Texas at Tyler, or of another, if the student knows or reasonably should know that an unfair academic advantage would be gained by such conduct;*
and
 - *misrepresenting facts, including providing false grades or resumes, for the purpose of obtaining an academic or financial benefit or injuring another student academically or financially.*
2. *“Plagiarism” includes, but is not limited to, the appropriation, buying, receiving as a gift, or obtaining by any means another’s work and the submission of it as one’s own academic work offered for credit.*
3. *“Collusion” includes, but is not limited to, the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing academic assignments offered for credit or collaboration with another person to commit a violation of any section of the rules on scholastic dishonesty.*
4. *All written work that is submitted will be subject to review by SafeAssign™.*

University of Texas at Tyler and UT System-Mandated Statements

Students Rights and Responsibilities. To know and understand the policies that affect your rights and responsibilities as a student at UT Tyler, please follow this link:

<http://www.uttyler.edu/wellness/rightsresponsibilities.php>

Campus Carry. We respect the right and privacy of students 21 and over who are duly licensed to carry concealed weapons in this class. License holders are expected to behave responsibly and keep a handgun secure and concealed. More information is available at <http://www.uttyler.edu/about/campus-carry/index.php>

UT Tyler a Tobacco-Free University. All forms of tobacco will not be permitted on the UT Tyler main campus, branch campuses, and any property owned by UT Tyler. This applies to all members of the University community, including students, faculty, staff, University affiliates, contractors, and visitors. Forms of tobacco not permitted include cigarettes, cigars, pipes, water pipes (hookah), bidis, kreteks, electronic cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, snuff, chewing tobacco, and all other tobacco products. There are several

cessation programs available to students looking to quit smoking, including counseling, quitlines, and group support. For more information on cessation programs please visit www.uttyler.edu/tobacco-free.

Grade Replacement/Forgiveness and Census Date Policies. Students repeating a course for grade forgiveness (grade replacement) must file a Grade Replacement Contract with the Enrollment Services Center (ADM 230) on or before the Census Date of the semester in which the course will be repeated. (For Fall, the Census Date is Sept. 12.) Grade Replacement Contracts are available in the Enrollment Services Center or at <http://www.uttyler.edu/registrar>. Each semester's Census Date can be found on the Contract itself, on the Academic Calendar, or in the information pamphlets published each semester by the Office of the Registrar.

Failure to file a Grade Replacement Contract will result in both the original and repeated grade being used to calculate your overall grade point average. Undergraduates are eligible to exercise grade replacement for only three course repeats during their career at UT Tyler; graduates are eligible for two grade replacements. Full policy details are printed on each Grade Replacement Contract.

The Census Date (Sept. 12th) is the deadline for many forms and enrollment actions of which students need to be aware. These include:

- Submitting Grade Replacement Contracts, Transient Forms, requests to withhold directory information, approvals for taking courses as Audit, Pass/Fail or Credit/No Credit.
- Receiving 100% refunds for partial withdrawals. (There is no refund for these after the Census Date)
- Schedule adjustments (section changes, adding a new class, dropping without a "W" grade)
- Being reinstated or re-enrolled in classes after being dropped for non-payment
- Completing the process for tuition exemptions or waivers through Financial Aid

State-Mandated Course Drop Policy. Texas law prohibits a student who began college for the first time in Fall 2007 or thereafter from dropping more than six courses during their entire undergraduate career. This includes courses dropped at another 2-year or 4-year Texas public college or university. For purposes of this rule, a dropped course is any course that is dropped after the census date (See Academic Calendar for the specific date).

Exceptions to the 6-drop rule may be found in the catalog. Petitions for exemptions must be submitted to the Enrollment Services Center and must be accompanied by documentation of the extenuating circumstance. Please contact the Enrollment Services Center if you have any questions.

Student Accessibility and Resources. In accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the ADA Amendments Act (ADAAA) the University offers accommodations to students with learning, physical and/or psychiatric disabilities. If you have a disability, including non-visible disabilities such as chronic diseases, learning disabilities, head injury, PTSD or ADHD, or you have a history of modifications or accommodations in a previous educational environment you are encouraged to contact the Student Accessibility and Resources (SAR) office and schedule an interview with the Accessibility Case Manager/ADA Coordinator, Cynthia Lowery Staples. If you are unsure if the above criteria applies to you, but have questions or concerns please contact the SAR office. For more information or to set up an appointment please visit the SAR office located in the University Center, Room 3150 or call 903.566.7079. You may also send an email to cstaples@uttyler.edu

Social Security and FERPA Statement

It is the policy of The University of Texas at Tyler to protect the confidential nature of social security numbers. The University has changed its computer programming so that all students have an identification number. The electronic transmission of grades (e.g., via e-mail) risks violation of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act; grades will not be transmitted electronically.

Emergency Exits and Evacuation. Everyone is required to exit the building when a fire alarm goes off. Follow your instructor's directions regarding the appropriate exit. If you require assistance during an evacuation, inform your instructor in the first week of class. Do not re-enter the building unless given permission by University Police, Fire department, or Fire Prevention Services.