

University of Arkansas – Fort Smith
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General Syllabus

ENGL 4243 Victorian Literature

Credit Hours: 3

Lecture Hours: 3

Laboratory Hours: 0

Prerequisite: ENGL 2113 Introduction to Literary and Cultural Studies

Prerequisite or corequisite: RHET 3203 Textual Research Methods

Effective Catalog: 2019-2020

I. Course Information

A. Catalog Description

Acquaints students, through a survey of literary texts, with the traditions, beliefs, motifs, and common themes of the Victorian Period (1837-1901) in English Literature.

B. Additional Information – None

II. Student Learning Outcomes

A. Subject Matter

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Investigate the main themes of Victorian literature and culture.
2. Appraise texts through active class discussions and assignments.
3. Differentiate major authors and works of the Victorian era.

B. University Learning Outcomes (ULOs)

Analytical Skills

Critical Thinking Skills: Students will use critical thinking skills to identify problems/issues and develop solutions/analysis. Students will analyze a variety of texts for their rhetorical and/or literary features, as well as analyze the rhetorical situation to which the texts they produce respond.

Communication Skills (written and oral)

Students will communicate proficiently. Students will practice communication skills through discussions, presentations, and a variety of required written assignments.

Ethical Decision Making

Students will model ethical decision-making processes. Students will practice critical response to the writing of others, responsible use of research materials and intellectual property, and the ethical use of persuasion.

Global & Cultural Perspectives

Students will reflect upon cultural differences and their implications for interacting with people from cultures other than their own. Students will analyze the rhetorical situation, produce texts for a variety of audiences, and avoid the use of biased language.

III. Major Course Topics

- A. Industrialism
- B. Gender issues
- C. Post-Colonialism/Imperialism
- D. Aestheticism and Decadence
- E. The Nursery School Movement
- F. Utilitarianism, Darwinism, Malthusianism
- G. Artistic Expression