University of Waterloo
Department of English
ENGL 200B - Spring 1995

Dr. Robert Irish
Office: HH 266, Ext. 3398
Office Hours: W3-5 or by appointment

Day: Wednesday
Time: 7-10pm
Room: E1 1501

COURSE DESCRIPTION

English 200A and 200B are intended to give an overview of English literature from the
Middle Ages to the present, introducing you to some of the common concerns, forms,
genres, and controversies of literary history. The two courses form the crucial literary
foundation on which our department bases all further education in English literature.
ENGL 200B, the second of the two courses, deals with the three most recent of the major
periods: the Romantic (1798-1832); the Victorian (1832-1901); and the Twentieth
Century (1890- ).

TEXTS

Abrams et al. The Norton Anthology of English Literature (5th ed.), Major Authors
(Norton)
Brontë, Wuthering Heights (Oxford)
Wilde, The Importance of Being Earnest
Shaw, St. Joan (Penguin)
Stoppard, Travesties (Grove Weidenfeld)
Swift, Waterland (McClelland and Stewart)

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Reading requirements are listed in the following section of the Syllabus. Students are
expected to study the assigned literary works and editorial material prior to the classes for
which they are assigned. Written assignments include two essays (one 3-4 pages; one 6-7
pages) and a three hour final scheduled during the exam period. You will also be required
to prepare a question for discussion for each meeting of the discussion group.

DISCUSSION GROUPS: The second half (or last hour) of most classes will be devoted
to discussion in smaller groups in an attempt to create a less formal and more intimate
environment. These groups will meet alternate weeks. In order to “jump-start” the group
discussions, I am asking that you prepare for each session a written question /topic

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concerning something you found of particular interest in the work we are considering. The main aim of these brief assignments is to help focus your thoughts and questions about a particular text; a secondary aspect of this exercise is that it allows us to orient our discussions to your concerns about the text rather than working exclusively from my perspective. (Remember: "Absence makes the heart grow fungus.")

SHORT ESSAY: This assignment is expected to be approximately 1000 words (3-4 typed pages, double-spaced). It will involve a close examination of one or more poems.
Due: June 14, 1995.

MAJOR ESSAY: This assignment will be a formal literary analysis of approximately 1800 words (7-8 double-spaced, typed pages). Topics will be made available midway through term.
Due: July 26, 1995.

EVALUATION AND GRADING

Discussion Group Questions  5%
Short Essay                 20%
Major Essay                40%
Final Examination          35%

Essays must be submitted on time. Since the course only meets once per week, and since I commute, late papers present a significant difficulty. Late papers will lose 10% automatically and then 1% for each weekday they are late.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Lecture Readings</th>
<th>Discussion Group Readings</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>May 3</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>May 10</td>
<td>Wordsworth</td>
<td>A: Keats: “Eve of St. Agnes”</td>
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<td>“Lines Composed ... Tintern Abbey”</td>
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<td>“Ode: Intimations of Immortality”</td>
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<td>“The Prelude: Book First” (lines 269-414)</td>
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<td>“Book Sixth” (lines 323-342)</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>May 17</td>
<td>Coleridge “Eolian Harp”, “Kubla Khan”</td>
<td>B: Keats: “Eve of St. Agnes”</td>
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<td>Keats, “Ode to a Nightingale”</td>
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<td>“Ode on Melancholy”</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>May 24</td>
<td>Brontë, <em>Wuthering Heights</em></td>
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<td>Date</td>
<td>Assignment/Event</td>
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| May 31 | Elizabeth Barrett Browning  
“Aurora Leigh”  
“Sonnets from . . .” 22, 43.  
Tennyson, “Ulysses” |
| June 7 | Robert Browning  
“Soliloquy . . . Spanish Cloister”  
“Fra Lippo Lippi”  
“My Last Duchess”  
Arnold, “Dover Beach” |
| June 14 | Hopkins, “God’s Grandeur”  
“The Windhover”, “Pied Beauty”  
“Carrion Comfort”  
Wilfred Owen (handout)  
First Essay Due. |
| June 21 | Yeats, “The Second Coming”  
“Sailing to Byzantium”  
Woolf, Norton Selections |
| June 28 | Shaw, St. Joan |
| July 5  | T.S. Eliot, “The Wasteland” |
“Journey of the Magi” |
| July 19 | Tom Stoppard, Travesties |
| July 26 | Graham Swift, Waterland  
Final Essay Due. |