Department of English  
University of Waterloo  

Professor J. S. North  
January 1997  

English 260 B  
19th & 20th Century British Literature  

Time: MWF 11:30 a.m.  
Place: HH 150  
Office Hours: HH 223, MWF 9:30-11:30; 3:30-5:00  
or by appointment: 888-4567 ex 3743  

Texts: Northon Anthology of English Literature; Vol 2.  
Mary Shelley, Frankenstein.  
C.S. Lewis, 'Till We Have Faces.  

Purpose: This course is a survey of the best literature of  
Great Britain over the past two centuries. We will  
look at the Romantics, the Victorians, and the modern  
writers, chosen primarily from the traditional canon.  
We will spend some time considering standard reference  
works in the field; some time on essay writing methods;  
and most of our time on the poems and stories of the period.  
Lecture and discussion each class.  

Assignments:  
Reading: about 10 pages of poetry or 50 pages of prose per  
class, required to be read beforehand.  
Writing: Essay 1 (7 pages) Jan 31  
Midterm (in class) Feb 14  
Essay 2 (9 pages) Mar 14  
Examination Apr  
Class attendance/participation  

Study Questions:  
1. Why study English?  
2. Why read old books?  
3. Why write essays?  
4. Why write a research essay? Its danger?  
5. Why write a non-research essay? Its danger?  
4. Why read British Literature?  
5. Why study the 'periods' of literature such as the Romantic,  
Victorian, Early Modern, and Contemporary?  
6. What is the value and the risk of classifying literature?  
7. Distinguish between a primary and a secondary bibliography.  
8. What is the difference between poetry and prose?  
9. What can you do with a B.A. in English?  
10. Explain the difference between its, it's, and its'.  

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Class Schedule

Mon Jan 6 Introduction; Housman, "Terence This is Stupid Stuff" (1821); Carroll, "Jabberwocky" & "Humpty Dumpty's Explication of Jabberwocky." (1558)
8 Blake: "Innocence: "The Lamb" (29), "The Chimney Sweeper" (30); Experience: "The Chimney Sweeper" (35), "The Tyger" (37) "A Poison Tree" (40)
10 Wordsworth: "We Are Seven" (132), "She Dwelt Among the Untrodden Ways" (153), "Preface to Lyrical Ballads"(140)

Mon Jan 13 "I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud" (186), "My Heart Leaps Up" (187)
15 "Ode: Intimations of Immortality" (187)
17 "The World Is Too Much With Us" (199), "Surprised by Joy" (200)

Mon Jan 20 Shelley, Frankenstein
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Mon Jan 27 Byron: "She Walks in Beauty" (484), "Darkness" (486)
29 Shelley: "Hymn to Intellectual Beauty" (670), "Ozymandias" (672)
31 "Ode to the West Wind" (676), "To a Sky-Lark" (710)

Mon Feb 3 "A Defence of Poetry"; Keats, "When I have Fears" (776)
5 "Ode to Psyche" (778), "Ode on a Grecian Urn" (792)
7 "Ode to a Nightingale"(790), Leavis, "Revaluation"

Mon Feb 10 Coleridge: "The Rime of the Ancient Mariner" (330), "Kubla Khan" (346)
12 "Dejection: An Ode" (366)
14 Mid-term examination

Mon Feb 17 Mill: "On Liberty" (1003), "The Subjection of Women" (1012)
19 Tennyson: "The Lady of Shalott" (1059), "Tears, Idle Tears" (1081), "Crossing the Bar" (1169)
21 Browning: "Porphyria's Lover" (1187), "Childe Roland to the Dark Tower Came" (1206)

Mon Feb 24 "The Last Ride Together" (1219), "Abt Vogler" (1251)
26 "How Do I Love Thee?" (1032); Meredith, "Lucifer in Starlight" (1459); Ruskin, "Pathetic Fallacy" (1278)
28 Richards, "Practical Criticism" (2402); Newman, "The Idea of a University" (976),

Mon Mar 3 Lewis, 'Till We Have Faces.
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