ENGLISH 451A
Literature of the Victorian Age I
Fall 2003: TR 11:30-12:50 HH 150

Professor Kate Lawson
Hagey Hall 267
888-4567 ext. 3965
Office Hours: Wednesday 1:00-2:30, Thursday 1:30-2:30, or by appointment

TEXTS:

COURSE OBJECTIVES:
This course will provide a critical, historical, and thematic study of the poets (Robert Browning, Elizabeth Barrett Browning, Alfred, Lord Tennyson, Christina Rossetti, Gerard Manley Hopkins, Matthew Arnold, George Meredith and Michael Field) and literary critics (John Stuart Mill, Matthew Arnold) of the Victorian age.

METHOD OF EVALUATION:
Short essay (in MLA format) 20% October 14
Longer Essay (in MLA format) 35% November 25
Final Test 25% November 27
Group presentation 20%

GROUP PRESENTATION:
This is an informal, oral presentation on the poem(s) listed. As a group, spend approximately 30 minutes teaching the poem(s) to the class; try to engage the class in discussion. You may choose to be evaluated as a group or as an individual; please tell me in advance which you choose. You must hand in your presentation notes for marking.

LATE POLICY:
Essays are due on the dates assigned above. Extensions may be granted for medical reasons; please provide a doctor's note. If you have personal problems, please speak with me, preferably in advance.

PLAGIARISM:
Students are advised to consult the Calendar (Policy #71) for definitions of and penalties for plagiarism and other academic offences. All cases will be reported. If you uncertain what constitutes plagiarism, please discuss it with me. The text of Policy #71 is available at: http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy71.pdf
Department of English Contacts and Resources

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THE FACULTY OF ARTS REQUIRES THAT WE NOTIFY YOU OF THE FOLLOWING:

"Note on avoidance of academic offenses: All students registered in the courses of the Faculty of Arts are expected to know what constitutes an academic offense, to avoid committing academic offenses, and to take responsibility for their academic actions. When the commission of an offense is established, disciplinary penalties will be imposed in accord with Policy #71 (Student Academic Discipline). For information on categories of offenses and types of penalties, students are directed to consult the summary of Policy #71 which is supplied in the Undergraduate Calendar (section 1; on the Web at http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infocul/UW/policy_71.html). If you need help in learning how to avoid offenses such as plagiarism, cheating, and double submission, or if you need clarification of aspects of the discipline policy, ask your course instructor for guidance. Other resources regarding the discipline policy are your academic advisor and the Undergraduate Associate Dean."

Dean of Arts: Robert R. Kerton ML 236, ext. 2217
Associate Dean of Arts, Undergraduate Affairs: Sheila Ager ML 254, ext. 3554
ENGLISH 451A  
Schedule: Fall 2003  
TR 11:30-1:00 HH 150

Professor K. Lawson

September 9: Introduction to the course

September 11: Introduction to the period

September 16-18:  
ROMANTIC TO VICTORIAN

John Stuart Mill: from Chapter 5 of Autobiography (1166);  
Matthew Arnold, “Memorial Verses” (1482)

September 23-October 7:  
GOD, FAITH, RELIGION AND IRRELIGION

Matthew Arnold, “Dover Beach” (1492)  
Christina Rossetti, “A Better Resurrection,” “The Lowest Place,” “Weary in Well Doing,” “Good Friday” (photocopies to be distributed in class)  
Algernon Charles Swinburne, “Hymn to Proserpine” (1625)  
Arthur Hugh Clough, “The Latest Decalogue” (1452), “Say not the struggle nought availeth” (1453)

October 2:  
GROUP 1 Presentation  
Emily Brontë, “I’m happiest when most away” (1419), “No Coward Soul is Mine” (1424)

October 9, 14:  
POETRY AND CRITICISM

J.S. Mill “What is Poetry?” (1139)  
Matthew Arnold, “Preface” to Poems (1504); from “The Function of Criticism at the Present Time” (1514)

October 16-28:  
LOVE, SEX, AND VIOLENCE

Alfred, Lord Tennyson, “Tithonus” (1215), from “Maud” (467)  
George Meredith, from “Modern Love” (1570)  
Matthew Arnold, “Isolation. To Marguerite” (1478); “To Marguerite—Continued” (1479)  
Christina Rossetti, “Goblin Market” (1589)
October 23: GROUP 2 Presentation:
Elizabeth Barrett Browning, “Sonnets from the Portuguese” (1179) [choose 2 sonnets to discuss]

October 30 - November 11: DEATH AND THE BODY
Robert Browning, “My Last Duchess” (1353), “The Bishop Orders his Tomb at St Praxed’s Church” (1359)
Christina Rossetti, “Dead before Death” (1585), “Sleeping at Last” (1604)

November 6: GROUP 3 Presentation:
Christina Rossetti, “When I am Dead my Dearest” (1585), “After Death” (1585)

November 11: GROUP 4 Presentation:
Emily Brontë, “Remembrance” (1421), “Death, that struck when I was most confiding” (http://digital.library.upenn.edu/women/bronte/poems/pbe-death.html)

November 13-20: AGE, DESIRE AND PERVERSITY
Robert Browning, “Childe Roland to the Dark Tower Came” (1367), “Rabbi Ben Ezra” (1413)
Alfred, Lord Tennyson, “Ulysses” (1213), “Locksley Hall” (1219)

November 20: GROUP 5 Presentation:
Matthew Arnold, “The Buried Life” (1480)

November 25: GROUP 6 Presentation: THE 1890’S
Michael Field, poems (1742-45) [choose 2 poems to discuss]

November 27: FINAL TEST