Department of English
University of Waterloo

Professor J.S. Norh
Winter 2006

English 451B: Victorian Novel & Prose

Time: MWF 9.30
Place: ML 349
Office: HH 223. Hours: MF 2.00 – 4.30; Tues/Thurs 10.00-12.00, 2.00-4.30

Texts:
Anne Bronte
The Tenant of Wildfell Hall, Penguin
Charles Dickens
A Tale of Two Cities, Penguin Classics
John Henry Newman
Loss and Gain
George Eliot
Silas Marner,
Matthew Arnold
Culture and Anarchy
Thomas Carlyle
Selected Writings, Penguin Classics
John Stuart Mill
On Liberty, Penguin Classics
The Subjection of Women, Dover Thrift Edition
John Ruskin
Unto This Last.

Assignments
Essay 1 January, 2006 20
Mid-term February 25
Essay 2 March 25
Final Exam April 30

Purpose: We will study the search for freedom in Victorian Britain, perhaps the most successful civilization in world history to that point in terms of combating poverty, factory abuses, political oppression, disease and social disruption. Britain led the nations of the world in geographical exploration, transmitting the strengths of education, science, technology, democratic government, communications commerce, anti-slavery, the status of women and children, and international good will across the Empire. We will also consider the aberrations of this search for freedom both within Britain and abroad. Most of the reading will be in the four novels and four prose works on our reading list, all of them among the masterpieces of English literature.

Schedule.
Jan Wed 04 Introduction
Fri 06 Dickens, A Tale of Two Cities (5)
Mon 16 Carlyle, The French Revolution (pp 113-148) (4)
Sartus Resartus (pp. 87-112)
On Heroes & Hero Worship (pp.233-256)
Past and Present (pp. 257-282)
Fri Jan 27 Bronte, The Tenant of Wildfell Hall (5)
Mon Feb 6 Mill, On Liberty (3)
13 On the Subjection of Women (3)
Mon Feb 27 Eliot, Silas Marner (4)
Mon Mar 06 Arnold, Culture and Anarchy
13 Newman, Loss and Gain
23 Ruskin, Unto This Last (4)