Spring 1-15-2008

ENG 3010G-001: Victorian Literacy masterworks: At home and abroad

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Queen Victoria, Britain’s longest reigning monarch ruled England and its colonies from 1837-1901 and gave the era her name. This period is known for rapid change and industrial progress at “home” and its imperial expansion abroad. It has also been considered the golden age of the novel. In this class we will be looking six novels (one of them written in blank verse) that deal with characters at “home”, that is in England, and out in the wider world in order to see the ways writers represent the complex processes of modernization as they impact individuals. In addition to familiarizing students with nineteenth-century cultural contexts and important literary masterworks, this course aims to extend skills in critical reading, writing and speaking about literature in general.

Course Requirements: To fulfill the above goals requires a joint effort. Your part is to keep up with the class reading and to carefully prepare to join in class discussions. Assignments are designed to foster active and informed participation in class discussion and small groups. Furthermore, students will be asked to participate as “discussion partners,” that is, students will provide a question or questions, or a specific topic that will generate class discussion on the required readings for that day that will last twenty minutes to a half an hour.

Required Texts:

Dickens: *David Copperfield* (1850)
Barrett-Browning *Aurora Leigh* (1856)
Eliot: *Mill on the Floss* (1860, 1862)
Haggard’s *King Solomon’s Mines* (1885)
Kipling’s *Kim* (1901)
Stoker’s *Dracula* (1881)

Class Reading Schedule:
Week One:
1/9 Introduction to course content, themes, objectives.
   - Major events during The Reign of Queen Victoria
   - Strategies for reading *David Copperfield*
   - Watch George Cukor’s 1935 version of the film *David Copperfield*
   - HMWK: Read up to and including chapter 21 (XXI)
   - Response paper: Choose a character and make a prediction based on a careful reading of the text.
Week Two:
1/16 Discussion of assignment
Recap of events/sections
Turn in Response papers
Watch the rest of film
HMWK: Read up to and including chapter 42 (XLII)

Week Three:
1/23 Discussion of reading
Recap of events/sections
HMWK: Read up and including chapter 64 (LXIV)

Week Four:
1/30 Finish discussion of DC
Intro: *Mill on the Floss*
HMWK: Book First

Week Five:
2/6 *Mill on the Floss* Books Second, Third and Fourth

Week Six
2/13 *Mill on the Floss* Books Fifth and Sixth
Introduce First Paper

Week Seven
2/20 *Mill on the Floss*
**FIRST PAPER DUE: Friday, February 22nd 4pm**
Introduction to *Aurora Leigh*

Week Eight:
2/27 Midterm
*Aurora Leigh*

Week Nine:
3/5 *Aurora Leigh*
Intro to Haggard's *King's Solomon's Mines*
HMWK: Read all of *King Solomon's Mines* for March 19th class

Spring Recess March 10-14th

Week Ten:
3/19 *KSM*
Intro to Rudyard Kipling's *Kim*
HMWK: Chapters One through Eight

Week Eleven:
3/26 *Kim*
HMWK: Chapters Nine through Fifteen
Week Twelve:
4/2  Kim intro to Dracula
    HMWK: Read Chapters I-XIII

Week Thirteen:
4/9  Dracula
    HMWK: Read Chapters XIV-XXVII

Week Fourteen:
4/16  Dracula
    HMWK: SECOND PAPER due in class

Week Fifteen
4/23  TURN IN PAPER/ Readaround
    COURSE WRAP-UP and Evaluations

Final Exam:  Wednesday, April 30, 2008 5:15-7:15 pm