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ENG 3806-001: English Romantic Literature

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Course Description and Design: I have designed this course as a survey of the major works of the Romantic Period -- that is, English Literature, 1789 - 1830. Our goal is to read each text carefully in the context of some of the more important philosophical and political ideas and social developments of the period. As responses to the age in which they were produced, the works are diverse, and will challenge not only our reading skills, but our final goal of defining the concept of Romanticism.

Texts:  
Wu, ed. Romanticism: An Anthology  
Shelley, M. Frankenstein: Or, the Modern Prometheus  
Austen, J. Northanger Abbey; Sense and Sensibility  
Radcliffe, The Mysteries of Udolpho  
Shelley, The Cenci

Requirements and grading:
- careful preparation of the readings on the syllabus
- regular participation in class discussions
- regular participation in the course listserv -- 10%
- two short essays (1000 words or so) -- 30%
- mid-term exam -- 30%
- final exam -- 30%
(you must complete all written work to pass the course)

Tentative Schedule
Aug. 26: course intro.; period background
Aug. 28: Blake, Songs of Innocence 54-65
Sept. 2: Blake, Songs of Experience 65-78
Sept. 4: Blake, Book of Thel 51-54; The Marriage of Heaven and Hell 79-88
Sept. 11: The Mysteries of Udolpho vol.2, chpt. VII-XII
Sept. 16: Austen, Northanger Abbey chpt. 1-16
Sept. 18: Northanger Abbey chpt. 17-31
Sept. 23: Wordsworth/Coleridge, Lyrical Ballads 166-201
Sept. 25: Lyrical Ballads 201-244
Sept. 30: Wordsworth, "Resolution and Independence" 270-274; "Ode" 276-281
Oct. 2: Wordsworth, Prelude (Books I and II) 284-310
Oct. 7: Coleridge, "The Eolian Harp" 505; "This Lime Tree Bower My Prison" 511; "Kubla Khan" 514; "Frost at Midnight" 516
Oct. 9: Coleridge, "Christabel" 528-543; paper #1 due
Oct. 14: mid-term exam
Oct. 16: Shelley, "Ode to the West Wind" 870; "England in 1819" 876; "Hymn to Intellectual Beauty" 852
Oct. 21: Shelley, The Cenci
Oct. 23: M. Shelley, Frankenstein vol. 1 (including opening letters)
Oct. 28: Frankenstein vol. 2
Oct. 30: Frankenstein vol. 3
Nov. 4: Byron, "Prometheus" 731; "Darkness" 733
Nov. 6: Byron, Manfred 734
Nov. 11: Byron, Don Juan Canto I 769
Nov. 13: Byron, Don Juan Canto I
Nov. 18: Keats, "The Eve of St. Agnes" 1039
Nov. 20: Keats, letters 1014-1018, 1051, 1053
Nov. 25: no class
Nov. 27: no class
Dec. 2: Keats, "Ode to Psyche" 1054; "Ode to a
Nightingale" 1056

Dec. 4: Keats, "Ode to Melancholy" 1060; "To Autumn" 1063
Dec. 9: review; paper due
Dec. 11: review
Final exam: as scheduled

English Department Policy on Plagiarism

"Any teacher who discovers an act of plagiarism ... has the right and responsibility to impose upon the guilty student an appropriate penalty, up to and including immediate assignment of F for the course."

romantic@eiu.edu listserv

Basically, a listserv is an electronic discussion group, comprised in this case of students in this course -- a forum, that is, for you to say what you think about the material we are reading. Topics for discussion are open, provided that you respond to either the material assigned or material relevant to it that you have discovered during the course of your research. The rules of the forum are few but important: be polite, never ridicule, don't complain without good reason, and post your comments regularly (at least once a week). On some occasions you will want to respond to a posted comment; on other occasions, you will want to start a new topic of discussion; sometimes you will want to ask a question; sometimes you will provide an answer. (Remember that the comments you make go to the e-mail accounts of everyone in the class.) This is your forum, so you all will define its character beyond the simple rules I have listed. Have some fun; take some chances; find out what everyone else is thinking about.

I have included instructions about subscribing to the listserv for the semester; if you have any questions, please ask. I will expect everyone to be subscribed by the end of the second week of classes, but you may begin posting comments immediately. I will keep a log of the number of comments you post every week; in order to earn maximum credit (10% of your final grade) for listserv participation, you must post at least twenty substantive messages during the course of the semester. But once you get accustomed to this type of discussion forum, you will find that you want to participate much more often than the rate I have determined for full credit.
How to subscribe to an EIU Majordomo list.

If you are not familiar with how to give a command to Majordomo, please read the "How to give a command to Majordomo" page first. Then press the "back button" on your browser to return here.

To subscribe to an EIU Majordomo list, you use the "subscribe" command. You need to tell Majordomo which list you want to subscribe to as well.

If you sent majordomo@eiu.edu the following command (the list is fictitious):

```
subscribe eiucampus
```

if there were an EIU Majordomo list named "eiucampus", Majordomo would respond in one of two ways.

WAY ONE -- response from an "open" list

If a list is "open", the list owner allows anyone to subscribe to the list, and subscription and unsubscription is totally automated. So, if "eiucampus" were an open list, you might get an e-mail message that looked something like this:

```
Welcome to the eiucampus mailing list!
Please save this message for future reference. Thank you.
If you ever want to ...
```

and so on. The "introduction" that the list owner wrote would be at the end of your e-mail message. But the important thing is ... you're IN. You will also get a message from Majordomo-Owner@eiu.edu that you can delete right away. It looks something like this:

```
>Succeeded.
>end
>END OF COMMANDS
```

WAY TWO -- response from a "closed" list

If a list is "closed", the list owner doesn't allow automatic subscription. The list owner has to "approve" your subscription, and that means a delay. You will get a message that looks something like this:

```
Your request to Majordomo@uxl.1cts.eiu.edu:
  subscribe eiucampus you (Your name)

has been forwarded to the owner of the "eiucampus" for approval.
```

and it will go on and explain the above in a different way.

If you are approved, you will get the two messages in WAY ONE. If you are not approved, you will receive no further messages from Majordomo. If the list owner is your instructor, you may want to
consider asking about your subscription after some time has passed -- there is always the possibility that something went wrong. Your instructor might ask you to resubscribe.

Sometime you might want to stop the e-mail from a Majordomo list. Hopefully you can guess how to do that, but you might want to click to find out how to unsubscribe from an EIU Majordomo list.

Return to Majordomo Top Level
How to give a "command" to Majordomo.

It is pretty easy to give a command to Majordomo. Let's suppose you want to subscribe to an EIU Majordomo list named "bogus@eiu.edu". The command you need to give to Majordomo is "subscribe bogus". Here is how you give the command:

1. Go into your e-mail program, whether elm, pine, Eudora, Netscape, or EM@iler.
2. Start a new e-mail message.
3. Address the message to: majordomo@eiu.edu
4. Enter something on the subject, or title, line. It doesn't matter what it is -- it could be the word "something". Keep it clean -- the list owner may see the subject line, after all.
5. In the body of the message, enter the following two lines of text:
   subscribe bogus
   end
6. Send the message

That is all there is to it, really. In the section "Majordomo for List Subscribers" you can learn about all the subscriber commands. There are commands to subscribe to an EIU Majordomo list, unsubscribe from a list, find the names of public lists at EIU, get descriptions of those public lists, get a list of the subscribers of the public lists or lists you are subscribed to, find out whether the list has stored any archives or digests, and retrieve any of those archives or digests that you want.

Find out how to apply for an EIU Majordomo list