



UNIVERSITY OF NICOSIA

ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ ΛΕΥΚΩΣΙΑΣ

University of Nicosia, Cyprus

Course Code LALI-235	Course Title Romantic & Victorian Poetry	ECTS Credits 6
Department Languages and Literature	Semester Fall	Prerequisites LALI-150
Type of Course Required	Field English Literature	Language of Instruction English
Level of Course 1 st Cycle	Year of Study 2 nd	Lecturer(s) Dr Paul Stewart
Mode of Delivery Distance Learning	Work Placement N/A	Co-requisites None

Objectives of the Course:

The course will introduce and investigate the major poets and themes of the Romantic (c.1789-c.1830) and Victorian Periods (c.1830-1890). The course studies in-depth such poets as: Blake, Wordsworth, Coleridge, Byron, Shelley and Keats from the Romantics, and Tennyson, Elizabeth Barret and Robert Browning, Christina Rossetti, Hardy and Hopkins from among the Victorians. All the poets studied will be placed in their historical, philosophical, religious and socio-economic contexts. Key thinking concerning poetry from the periods, including Wordsworth's Preface to the *Lyrical Ballads* and Matthew Arnold's *The Study of Poetry*, will also be introduced to the student as will other apposite critical theories and reactions.

Learning Outcomes:

After completion of the course students are expected to be able to:

1. analyse poems from the Romantic and Victorian in terms of form, style and content,
2. evaluate the development of poetry and its major concerns over the periods,
3. incorporate elements of the historical and social aspects of the period into an understanding of the texts,
4. write analytical essays on topics drawn from the texts,
5. analyse, assess and apply secondary critical sources on the subjects and texts studied,
6. apply basic theoretical and philosophical concerns associated with the poetry of the period.

Course Contents:

1. Introduction to Romanticism: Social, political, philosophical and religious contexts.
2. Early Romanticism: Blake, Wordsworth and Coleridge. Individual freedom (personal, political and religious), the sublime, the “common language” of poetry (*The Lyrical Ballads*)
3. Later Romanticism: Byron, Shelley, Keats. Political activism; the role of art; atheism.
4. Tennyson and Browning: the dramatic monologue; reactions against Romanticism; dramatic and lyric poetry.
5. Tennyson: special focus on *In Memoriam*
6. Elizabeth Barrett Browning, Christina Rossetti. Female poetics; the verse novel (*Aurora Leigh*)
7. Poetry and Religious Belief – social changes, the rise of Darwinism and atheism. Thomas Hardy.

Teaching Methods:

Lectures, Discussions with class participation

Assessment Methods:

Homework Assignments; Final Exam; Class Participation.

Required Textbooks:

Authors	Title	Publisher	Year	ISBN
Wu, Duncan (ed)	<i>Romanticism: An Anthology</i>	Blackwell	2005	978-1405120852
Ricks, Christopher, (ed)	<i>The New Oxford Book of Victorian Verse</i>	OUP	2008	978-0199556311

Recommended Textbooks/Reading:

Authors	Title	Publisher	Year	ISBN
Armstrong, Isobel	<i>Victorian Poetry: Poetry, Poetics, Politics</i>	Routledge	1996	978-0415144254
Hughes, Linda K.,	<i>Cambridge Introduction to Victorian Poetry</i>	Cambridge UP	2010	978-0521672245
Chandler, James	<i>Cambridge Companion to British Romantic Poetry</i>	Cambridge UP	2008	978-0521680837
Bloom, Harold	<i>English Romantic Poetry</i>	Chelsea House	2004	9780791076804

