**Department of English and Modern Foreign Languages**

**Jackson State University**

**Course Number and Title:** ENG 438: Special Topics in British Literature After 1800

**Semester and Year:**

**Instructor:**

**Office Location**:

**Office Hours:**

**E-Mail:**

**Telephone:**

**Required Text(s):**

**Required Readings/Resources:**

**Other Requirements:**

**Course Description:** This course includes varying topics in the study of authors, genres, or periods of British literature. Specific course topics will focus on the relationship between the literature and the social, political, and religious contexts that produce that literature. Students will be required to complete a major research project related to the questions posed by the course.

**Course Objectives:** Through various methods of student evaluation, students will demonstrate

* a comprehensive knowledge of the literary works covered in the special topics course,
* an ability to relate the literature of the special topics course to the social, political, and religious contexts that produced the literature covered in the course,
* an ability to apply their knowledge of the literature covered in the special topics course to a central question or set of questions addressed by the course, and
* the ability to synthesize knowledge of the course topic in order to create new questions for study.

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

* Students will demonstrate the ability to comprehend and explain the course readings in their written responses to the assignments.
* Students will demonstrate their ability to remember factual knowledge in their performance on quizzes and exams.
* Students will demonstrate their ability to analyze the relationship between course questions and course content in their group work, presentations, and research essay.
* Students will demonstrate their ability to synthesize their knowledge of the course topics by responding to the course questions in the research essay.

**Course Competencies: Students in this course will be able**

* to write effective analytical essays that are well-structured and demonstrate arguable theses,
* to read critically and analytically by exploring issues, ideas, artifacts, and events as a means to formulate an opinion or draw a conclusion,
* to employ digital resources in the processes of research and knowledge creation to inform and enhance writing,
* to evaluate, examine, and integrate reliable and appropriate secondary sources in original writing,
* to demonstrate effective informal and formal oral communication skills to defend an argument or explore a subject,
* to apply the methodologies of literary criticism to different works of literature,
* to read and interpret written, visual, and oral texts examining the texts from multiple perspectives considering race, gender, class, sexuality.

**Supplemental Instruction:** Course materials provided on Blackboard will serve as supplemental instruction for students interested in completing additional research on the course topics.

**Method of Student Evaluation: (percentage distribution may vary by instructor)**

Written response to reading assignments 10%

Quizzes 10%

Weekly Group Work 15%

Exams 20%

Presentation Assignments 10%

Research Assignments 15%

Research Essay 20%

**Richard Wright Center** (RWC): ***The Richard Wright Center for Writing, Rhetoric, and Research*** provides an environment for intellectual engagement beyond the classroom. At any stage of the creative and research processes, students may interact with trained tutors using technology to develop written, oral, and visual representations of their ideas for an academic audience. Location: H. T. Sampson Library, 1st floor. For hours, workshops, and to make an appointment, go to [www.jsums.edu/wrightcenter](http://www.jsums.edu/wrightcenter), or call [601-979-6094](tel:601-979-6094).

Course Content and Assignment Schedule

Instructional/Pedagogical Strategies:

Student Activities

Grading Scale

Method of Course Evaluation (SIRS, mid-semester evaluation by student, peer , faculty diary)

Special Needs Learners

(If you have a disability for which you are or may be requesting an accommodation, you are encouraged to contact both your instructor and the Office of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Coordinator and Compliance Office, P.O. Box 17999, Jackson, MS 39217; (601) 979-2485 as early as possible in the term.)

Diversity Statement

Jackson State University is committed to creating a community that affirms and welcomes persons from diverse backgrounds and experiences and supports the realization of their human potential. We recognize that there are differences among groups of people and individuals based on ethnicity, race, socioeconomic status, gender, exceptionalities, language, religion, sexual orientation, and geographical area. All persons are encouraged to respect the individual differences of others.

Caveat

Class Attendance Policy

Academic Honesty Statement

Bibliography/References