

Home work scheduler

English 206—British Literature from 1800 to the Present (sections 006 and 007)
Fall 2020 (Online) Dr. Murphy

Greetings:

Dear 206 students, **welcome** to our Fall English 206 class. This class is entirely online. So you will have deadlines for submitting materials but we will not use Zoom or any other AV interfaces. **We are online the whole way.**

My name is John Murphy and I have been teaching literature for a few decades, here at UA and elsewhere. I look forward to communicating with you regularly throughout the course of the semester, whether it is material I share with you to frame our discussion and analysis of the texts we will be reading or feedback I may provide on writing you share with me or questions you may have.

And I definitely look forward to hearing your thoughts, ideas, opinion, analysis, and any other connections you may make to the texts we are reading (Ps: **don't be shy—ask questions as we proceed**).

A Preliminary Overview:

Please note that **the course syllabus has been posted on our Blackboard page below this introductory file**. I ask that you **review it to get a big picture of what we will be doing in the course**. Please **ask me any questions you may have about what we will be doing—especially in terms of the schedule, assignments, and policies**. Do read this separate syllabus document from start to end. Four elements I would like to highlight from it are the following:

1)**Weekly Schedule:** you will note when you enter in the unit folders that every week we will follow the same basic schedule (with occasional variation for essay writing weeks):

- a) you will be asked to **read the week's materials** (both relevant framing powerpoints/videos and the actual literary texts for that week)
- b) then you will be asked to **compose and submit a journal entry** (one paragraph) by the end of Tuesday
- c) then you will be asked to **contribute an original post (approximately three sentences) and a response to another student's post** (one or two sentences) by the end of Thursday.

2)**Assignments and Grade Breakdown:** You will write two essays (about 3-4 pages): 25% each; a final take-home exam essay ((about 3-4 pages): 25%; and classwork (weekly journal entries and discussion thread posts): 25%. **Late work will be accepted but points will be deducted—see syllabus for specifics.**



Stephanie (Steph) Martin <sdmartin2@crimson.ua.edu>

202040-EN-206-007: Important Announcement: Schedule and Assignments for Week 2--please read

1 message

John Murphy - jfmurphy@ua.edu <do-not-reply@blackboard.com>
Reply-To: "John Murphy - jfmurphy@ua.edu" <jfmurphy@ua.edu>

Fri, Aug 21, 2020 at 3:50 PM

Hi Folks:

--This Coming Week: I have created a folder for our upcoming 'Unit 1 Romantic and Victorian Poetry' (five weeks). Inside this folder so far is a single word document (Week Two: Blake . . .) that has all you should need for the upcoming week. This document begins by listing the 5 things you need to do in our course during the upcoming week. Then each of these 5 things is explained in some depth with detailed directions (and embedded hyperlinks). Do check it out; it is **your essential guide for the next week**.

---Due Dates: as you peruse the five parts of the Week 2 document before beginning to work through these parts at your own pace you will note that the first assignment's due date is a **journal entry (see directions) that is due by the end of the day this Tuesday August 25th**. Then you will need to make three discussion thread posts (see directions) by noon this Thursday Aug 27th. Those are the two tangible things you will need to submit this coming this week.

--Pace: feel free to work through these materials at whatever pace you wish--you need not try to do all the steps at once, and in fact it might make sense to spread them out a bit though you can do what works best for you. Additionally, this schedule of activities will be largely the model we repeat for subsequent weeks in the course, so once you get a feel for it, you should be able to establish a routine.

---Evaluation of Early Assignments: in the next few days I will post near the top of our general class page an explanation of how the grading will work for the journal entries and posts (it is pretty basic: one hundred points per week for the journal entry and posts, which will accumulate to 25% of your grade over the course of the semester). Also, I have not yet created the journal and discussion thread assignments in Turnitin but I will set them up in the next two days.

--Textbooks: I have already sent an announcement suggesting that you may buy/rent the Norton anthology (hard copy or electronic) or that you might simply find the anthology literature on the web; a bit more explanation of how this might work can be found in the new 'Week 2' document as well. In any event I certainly suggest you buy the Coetzee novel as it is not available for free on the web.

More to come, but for now we are off and running--stay safe--

Dr. Murphy



Stephanie (Steph) Martin <sdmartin2@crimson.ua.edu>

202040-EN-206-007: Hi Folks: Update on Journal and Discussion Posts

1 message

John Murphy - jfmurphy@ua.edu <do-not-reply@blackboard.com>

Sun, Aug 23, 2020 at 1:20 PM

Reply-To: "John Murphy - jfmurphy@ua.edu" <jfmurphy@ua.edu>

Hey Folks:

--As a reminder, **look at the Week 2 word document in our Unit 1 folder** that is now available (see last announcement): it will provide you with all you need for this week.

--I am having a little bit of trouble setting up **the discussion board/thread, and it probably won't go up until tomorrow afternoon** (the journal post is not due until the end of the day Tuesday). If you do compose your journal entry before that, just save it somewhere and cut and paste it into the discussion board when it becomes available (I will notify you of this availability tomorrow).

--I **hope you enjoy the Blake poems**. Poetry can be challenging, but these are short gems that really hit the target in terms of thinking about being a child, being connected to nature, and also alas how such things can become corrupted as we grow up.

I will check in tomorrow--best,

Dr. Murphy

3)Textbooks: we will be using a single volume Norton anthology [*English Literature 10th edition The Major Authors Volume 2*] and two novels (*Frankenstein* and *The Life and Times of Michael K*). You can get hard or electronic copies of these texts, whatever works. Also much of the literature we will be reading through the modernist period (up until 1930) can be found for free on the internet. In any event, look at the textbook options listed on the separate class syllabus attached here on Blackboard.

4)Course Organization: the course will be organized sequentially into four units that reflect the development of the British literary tradition during the past two centuries. While you will need to access specific unit schedules to see exactly what readings we will consider, below here is a general outline of where we are headed:

Course Introduction (8/19-8/21):

Week 1: Course Introduction

Unit 1: Romantic and Victorian Poetry (8/24-10/4):

Week 2: Romantic Poetry—Innocence vs Experience (Blake)

Week 3: Romantic Poetry—The Power of Nature (Wordsworth, Shelley)

Week 4: Romantic Poetry—The Power of the Imagination (Keats, Coleridge)

Week 5: Romantic Poetry—The Power of the Supernatural (Coleridge and Wordsworth)

Week 6: Victorian Poetry—The Value and Limitations of Self-Examination (Tennyson, Browning)

Week 7: Essay 1 Drafting (Essay due 10/4)

Unit 2: Romantic and Victorian Fiction (10/5-10/16):

Week 8: Science, the Imagination, and Ethics (Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*)

Week 9: Science, the Imagination, and Ethics (Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*)

Unit 3: Modernist Poetry and Fiction (10/19—11/8):

Week 10: Modernist Poetry—Modern Skepticism and the Power of Art (Yeats and Eliot)

Week 11: Modernist Fiction—Modernist Stream of Consciousness and Psychological Depth (Joyce)

Week 12: Essay 2 Drafting (Essay 2 due 11/8)

Unit 4: Postmodernism Fiction and Poetry (11/9-12/9):

Week 13: Postmodernist Fiction—The Dystopian World (Coetzee's *Life and Times of Michael K*)

Week 14: Postmodernist Fiction—The Dystopian World (Coetzee's *Life and Times of Michael K*)

Week 15: Postmodernist Poetry—Family and Faith (Heaney and Larkin)

Week 16 (Finals Week): Take-home Final Essay (due 12/9)