

FW 2022-23

AP/EN 3560 6.0A (Y)	The English Romantics
Course Director:	Natalie Neill 724 Atkinson nneill@yorku.ca
Time:	Lecture time/location: Wednesdays, 11:30–2:30 (VC 104)
Delivery Format:	LECTURE
Description:	<p>This course explores the writings and cultural legacy of the English Romantics—a group of poets, novelists, and radicals active between 1780 and 1830, whose new ways of thinking about themselves and the world around them gave rise to some of the most compelling texts in the history of English literature. Throughout the year, we will trace Romantic themes, figures, and preoccupations while considering the important literary innovations made by the Romantics in a variety of genres. In addition, we will consider how their poetry, fiction, and polemical writings engage late-eighteenth- and early-nineteenth-century debates. Key contexts will include the American and French Revolutions, the Industrial Revolution, slavery and abolitionism, British imperialism and colonialism, and nascent feminism.</p> <p>Learning outcomes: The aim of the course is to familiarize students with the major English Romantic writers (their influences, writing styles, literary innovations, and social contexts). By the end of the year, students will be able to a) identify and analyze literary, thematic, and rhetorical connections among course texts; b) recognize the conventions of important Romantic genres and subgenres (e.g., types of lyric poetry, ballads, Gothic fiction, sentimental novels, epistolary novels, slave narratives, the confession, and polemical pamphlets); c) define and discuss important aesthetic categories (e.g., the sublime, beautiful, and picturesque); and d) articulate persuasive arguments about the texts in the context of major social debates of the period.</p>
Category:	C
Historical Requirement:	Time Period II
Requirements:	<p>Short Essay (3–4 pages): 15% (can be written in the fall or winter term)</p> <p>Fall-Term Comparative Essay (5–6 pages): 25%</p> <p>Winter-Term Research Essay (7–8 pages) <i>or</i> Unessay* Option: 30%</p> <p>Two Tests (2 x 10%): 20%</p> <p>Participation: 10%</p>

	(*If you choose the Unessay option, you will demonstrate your knowledge and critical skills in a form other than a traditional essay [e.g., podcast, website, video, poster, creative writing].)
Reading List:	<p><i>English Romantic Poetry: An Anthology</i> (Dover)</p> <p>Dacre, <i>Zofloya; or the Moor</i> (Oxford)</p> <p>Austen, <i>Northanger Abbey</i> (Penguin)</p> <p>Anonymous, <i>The Woman of Colour: A Tale</i> (Broadview)</p> <p>De Quincey, <i>Confessions of an English Opium Eater</i> (Dover)</p> <p>Mary Prince, <i>History of Mary Prince</i> (Penguin)</p> <p>M. NourbeSe Philip, <i>Zong!</i> (Wesleyan)</p> <p>Other required readings (excerpts, poems, manifestos, and defenses) will be posted on the Moodle site.</p>
Open To:	Year 3,4