**English 2319 British Literature**

**Heroes, Villains, and Monsters in British Literature**

**Instructor:** Rachael Mariboho **Course Information:** MTWTH 10:30-12:30; UH 25

**Office:** 402 Carlisle Hall **Office Hours:** MTW 9:30-10:30

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**Required Texts & Materials:**

Angela Carter “The Bloody Chamber” and “The Tiger’s Bride” (Blackboard)

Jasper Fforde, *The Eyre Affair*

Graham Green, *The Tenth Man*

William Shakespeare, *Richard III* (Folger Shakespeare Library edition)

Mary Shelley, *Frankenstein* (Norton Critical Edition)

Robert Louis Stevenson, *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*

**Course Description:**

This course will examine significant and iconic hero, villain, and monsters in British literature. We will look at the ways the conception of a hero/villain/monster has evolved over time by studying different types of heroes/villains/monsters across several centuries, from Shakespeare’s *Richard III* to V in *V for Vendetta*. Furthermore, the authors we will read and the characters they have created have influenced many facets of literature, film and the arts. Students will be encouraged to explore the literary, artistic, cultural, and historical milieus of the works we will read and to share their discoveries with the other students in the class.

**NOTE:** This is a READING, WRITING & PARTICIPATION **intensive** course. I will, however, provide help to those willing to seek it out, including extended office hours, pre-writing help, comments on drafts, etc. If you are not sure if you can keep up with the workload as presented in the schedule, let me encourage you that it *is* possible; if you are unwilling to keep up with the workload as presented in the schedule, you should consider dropping the course as early as possible, since I cannot drop you.

**Purpose of the Course:**

To help students recognize that literature does not occur as isolated literary events, but as complex dialogue within cultural and historical contexts. Much of our time will be spent speaking to one another about our common experience of reading fiction and wondering about how to make the best sense of it. I want you to view yourselves as **active** readers and participants, and as people committed to improving their skills as readers and as writers. Since much of our time will be spent in active debate and conversation, I will expect each student to behave professionally and respectfully in this setting, as well as in all communications that stem from your involvement in this course (i.e. emails, or study group activities).

**Requirements: Short Answer Exams:** You will take 5 short answer exams over the novel *The Eyre Affair*. The exams will cover your readings and class lectures. You must buy a Blue book for these exams.

**Analytical Essays:** You will write four analytical essays over issues related to the course readings. Essay prompts will be given in class for each analysis paper. Critical analysis is more than an opinion (I liked/didn’t like a reading or agreed/disagreed with a point). To be “critical” requires identifying the criteria that informs your judgment (explaining *why* you had that response). These essays give you a space to explore your reactions to the reading, discuss an element/theme you find intriguing, or ask questions about the text and/or its historical context. Use close textual analysis to illuminate your discussion. This assignment will be graded on the originality of your thought and the depth of analysis used to support your position. Essays should be between three and four pages in length.

***Richard III* Historical Presentation:** You will be assigned one historically relevant issue related to *Richard III* to research and present to the class. This issue will be the subject of your first essay assignment, so you will be able to use information from your paper for your presentation.

**Film Presentation:** You will give a presentation over a film we have not studied in class. The presentation will focus on an analysis of the hero/villain/monster in the film. More details will be given in class.

**Exams**: You will have both a midterm exam (dealing with terms and passages from the first half of the course and an essay section) and a final exam (consisting of terms and passages from the second half of the course and an essay section).

**Class participation:** Class participation includes: attending class, reading all assigned material, and actively engaging in discussion with your fellow students and your instructor.  Students will be assigned small groups and a set of discussion questions to work with each week. Your class participation grade will be partly based on your participation in your small group.

**Grading: Short Answer Exams 5% *Richard III* Presentation 5% Essay #1 10% Essay #2 10% Essay #3 10% Essay #4 10% Mid-Term 15% Final Exam 20% Film Presentation 10% Class Participation 5%**

**Late Papers:** Late Essays will NOT be accepted.

**Attendance:** Class attendance is necessary for reading comprehension, group discussion, and preparation for exams and class assignments. It should also be noted that 5% of your final grade is based on your class participation. Therefore, it is important that you attend every class session regularly. Failure to do so will affect your participation grade. If you are absent, it is your responsibility to contact another student for an explanation of what was covered. I do understand that things come up during a semester. Therefore, you have **3** absences to do with as you like—use them wisely for the inevitable "stuff" that will mess up your semester: illness, traffic, death of a loved one, etc. After 3 absences, you automatically receive a zero for your participation grade.

**Tardiness:** Be on time for class. Two tardies count as an absence.

**Classroom behavior.** Class sessions are short and require your full attention. All cell phones, pagers, iPods, MP3 players, laptops, and other electronic devices should be **turned off and put away when entering the classroom**; all earpieces should be removed. Store newspapers, crosswords, magazines, bulky bags, and other distractions so that you can concentrate on the readings and discussions each day. Bring book(s) and blackboard readings (heavily annotated and carefully read) to every class. Students are expected to participate respectfully in class, to listen to other class members, and to comment appropriately. I also expect consideration and courtesy from students. Professors are to be addressed appropriately and communicated with professionally.

**Odds and Ends**: The university sends all its correspondence to you via your UTA email address and so will I. It is your responsibility to check your UTA email account regularly.

**Drop Policy:** If you choose to withdraw from this course, you must follow university procedures. It is your responsibility to execute these procedures correctly, and within the university’s deadlines.

**Electronic Communication Policy.** All students must have access to a computer with internet capabilities. Students should check email daily for course information and updates. I will send group emails through MyMav. I am happy to communicate with students through email. However, I ask that you be wise in your use of this tool. Make sure you have consulted the syllabus for answers before you send me an email. Remember, I do not monitor my email 24 hours a day. I check it periodically during the school week and occasionally on the weekend.

The University of Texas at Arlington has adopted the University “MavMail” address as the sole official means of communication with students. MavMail is used to remind students of important deadlines, advertise events and activities, and permit the University to conduct official transactions exclusively by electronic means. For example, important information concerning registration, financial aid, payment of bills, and graduation are now sent to students through the MavMail system. All students are assigned a MavMail account. ***Students are responsible for checking their MavMail regularly.*** Information about activating and using MavMail is available at <http://www.uta.edu/oit/email/>. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, and it remains active even after they graduate from UT Arlington.

**Conferences and Questions:** I have three regularly scheduled office hours each week. These times are reserved for students to drop by or to make an appointment to discuss course assignments, grades, or other class-related concerns. I will be happy to make other appointment times for you if your class schedule conflicts with regular conference times or if I am not available on certain days. If you receive a grade on an assignment about which you have questions, please wait twenty-four hours before discussing it with me. This gives you time to process the assignment comments and to think about how your course work meets the requirements set forth for each assignment.

**The Writing** **Center**:The Writing Center, Room 411 in the Central Library, provides tutoring for any UTA student with a writing assignment. Writing Center tutors are carefully chosen and trained, and they can help students at any stage of their writing processes, from understanding an assignment to revising an early draft to polishing a final draft. However, the Writing Center is not an editing service; tutors will not correct students’ errors or rewrite the assignment for them, but tutors will help students become better editors of their own writing. Tutoring sessions last no longer than 30 minutes, and students are limited to one tutoring session a day and two sessions a week. Students can schedule Writing Center appointments by logging in to www.rich37.com/uta. During their first visit to the web site, students must complete a brief registration form. On subsequent visits, they can go directly to the schedule to make their appointments. Students who come to the Writing Center without an appointment are helped on a first-come, first-served basis as tutors become available.

**Americans with Disabilities Act:** The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of federal equal opportunity legislation; reference Public Law 93112 -- The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended. With the passage of new federal legislation entitled Americans With Disabilities Act - (ADA), pursuant to section 504 of The Rehabilitation Act, there is renewed focus on providing this population with the same opportunities enjoyed by all citizens. As faculty members, we are required by law to provide "reasonable accommodation" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Student responsibility primarily rests with informing faculty at the beginning of the semester and in providing authorized documentation through designated administrative channels.

**Academic Dishonesty:** It is the philosophy of The University of Texas at Arlington that academic dishonesty is a completely unacceptable mode of conduct and will not be tolerated in any form. All persons involved in academic dishonesty will be disciplined in accordance with University regulations and procedures. Discipline may include suspension or expulsion from the University.  
 "Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts." (Regents’ Rules and Regulations, Part One, Chapter VI, Section 3, Subsection 3.2, Subdivision 3.22)  
 If you are suspected of academic dishonesty, you may be called before the Vice President of Student Affairs to receive disciplinary action. Forms of academic dishonesty include:

Collusion – lending your work to another person to submit as her/his own Fabrication – deliberately creating false information on a works cited page Plagiarism – the presentation of another person’s work as your own, (intentional or not)

Please acknowledge the source of any words, phrases, or ideas that you use. If you are not sure how to quote or paraphrase a source, please see me, go to the Writing Center, or check your handbook. Make sure that your written work is all your own.

**Course Schedule**

**NOTE:  Have the assigned texts read completely by the first day they are listed. Individual homework assignments and group work will be announced on a daily basis. This syllabus is subject to change; all changes will be announced in class.**

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|  | Today’s Reading | Assignments Due |
| **Week 1** | Heroes and Villains |  |
| Monday June 2 | Course Overview; Introduction to Heroes and Villains in British Literature; Introduction to *Richard III* |  |
| Tuesday June 3 | *Richard III* (Act I and Act II) |  |
| Wednesday June  4 | *Richard III* (Act III) |  |
| Thursday June 5 | *Richard III* (Act IV and Act V) | Essay #1  Historical Presentations |
| **Week 2** |  |  |
| Monday June 9 | *Frankenstein Vol. 1 and II*  (Pg. 5-101) |  |
| Tuesday June 10 | *Frankenstein Vol. III*  (Pg. 103-56) | Essay #2 |
| Wednesday June 11 | *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* |  |
| Thursday June 12 | *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*  Theme readings  Review for Midterm |  |
| **Week 3** | Ambiguous Heroes |  |
| Monday June 16 | Mid-Term |  |
| Tuesday June 17 | *The Tenth Man Part I* |  |
| Wednesday 18 | “Approaches to Analyzing Film”  *Children of Men* |  |
| Thursday 19 | *The Tenth Man Part II, III and IV* |  |
| **Week 4** | Heroines |  |
| Monday June 23 | “The Bloody Chamber”  “The Tiger’s Bride” | Essay #3 |
| Tuesday June 24 | *The Eyre Affair* Ch. 1-4 (pg. 1-43) | Short Answer Exam #1 |
| Wednesday June 25 | *The Eyre Affair* Ch. 5-9 (pg. 44-105) | Short Answer Exam #2 |
| Thursday June 26 | *The Eyre Affair* Ch. 10-15 (pg. 106-161) | Short Answer Exam #3 |
| **Week 5** |  |  |
| Monday June 30 | *The Eyre Affair* Ch. 16-31 (162-317) | Short Answer Exam #4  Film Presentations |
| Tuesday July 1 | *The Eyre Affair* Ch. 32-36 (318-374) | Short Answer Exam #5 |
| Wednesday July 2 | *V for Vendetta* |  |
| Thursday July 3 | *V for Vendetta* | Essay #4 |
| Monday July 7 | Final Exam |  |