I. Catalog Description and Credit Hours of Course: Studies in Romantic, Victorian, Modern, or Contemporary Literature: issue, period, or genre studies in British literature not addressed in the regular course listings. Topics will be announced when course is offered. (3)

II. Prerequisites: EN 140 and 200-level course

III. Purposes or Objectives of the Course will vary, but may include:

A. To familiarize students with the major critical voices within the field (Romantic, Victorian, Modern, or Contemporary) and to enable students to form their own definitions, questions or issues.
B. To provide experiences in close textual reading.
C. To provide writing experiences which combine close textual reading with individual interpretation and which also provide opportunities for synthesis of both the primary and critical readings.
D. To provide opportunities for original interpretations and research.
E. To provide opportunities for an in-depth reading of critical issues.
F. To offer a range of literature in later British literature not offered in the regular catalog listings which could investigate, study a period, a genre, a single author, a combination of authors, the intersections between text and cultural issues.

IV. Expectations of Students:
A. To come prepared to discuss passages, scenes, and questions that are raised in their readings.
B. To develop definitions of issues based on the primary and secondary readings.
C. To demonstrate the ability to do research and to choose sources wisely.
D. To produce their own reading of texts through substantiated close textual reading.
E. To integrate and synthesize their own interpretations with other critical sources.
F. To present both a close textual reading and a critical or cultural reading to the class as a discussion prompt. (graduate)
G. To attend class regularly and to complete satisfactorily all work in the course.
H. To take a midterm and a final.
I. To produce an original reading of an issue or text in later English literature that could feasibly be presented at a literature conference (graduate)

V. Course Content or Outline: This course will focus on a specialized topic in Romanticism, Victorianism, Modernism, or Postmodernism. Two samples follow.

Sample Outline: Romanticism & the Conflicted Imagination

Nature as Sublime/ transcendence: Wordsworth, Shelley, Coleridge

The dark sublime: The gothic in Wordsworth, Shelley, Byron
Coleridge, Keats, and Mary Shelley, Charlotte Bronte
Woman, muse, and nature: the struggle for gendered authority: Mary Robinson, Mary Shelley, Dorothy Wordsworth, Percy Shelley, William Wordsworth, Emily Bronte

Midterm

Sample Outline for Contemporary (Postcolonial Literature)

The Exploration of Buried Histories


The Question of Culture


The Process of Colonization: negation of identity:


Midterm 3

VI. A. Textbooks and or Other Required Materials or Equipment

Textbooks at Southeast Bookstore: Depending on the focus of the course (Romantic, Victorian, Modern, or Contemporary) the following anthologies may be used for the corresponding period.

Romantic Period

And selected novels to be purchased

Victorian Period:

And selected novels to be purchased
Twentieth Century

And selected novels to be purchased

VII. Basis for Student Evaluation:

A. Essay One: U: 4-5 pages; G: 7-8 pages 10%

B. Essay Two: U 7-8 pages; G: 10-12 pages 20%

C. Reader Response Journal 10%

D. Two discussion prompts: 20%

E. Midterm Examination 15%

F. Final Examination 15%

F. Class Participation 10%

Differences in Assignments

1. Essay One for or undergraduates is a 4-5 page essay and for graduate students it is 7-8 page essay. More than this, though, the two essays are different in scope. The undergraduate essay requires students to incorporate three researched articles or three book chapter and to define an pertinent issue, problem, or theme based on their findings. The graduate students will address the same question by incorporating two books and will, in addition to defining the problem based on their research, will offer their own interpretative analysis.

2. Essay Two for undergraduates will be an 7-8 page essay and for graduate students it will be 10-12 page interpretative analysis. Again the two essays are different in scope. The undergraduate essay for is a researched close reading of literary text a text, but not one that is entirely original. The graduate essay has the same focus, but requires extensive research and an original argument that feasibly could be presented at a major conference.