English 4540
We will focus on the major British poets of the nineteenth century, embracing both the Romantic and Victorian periods. In addition to reading the works carefully in their historical contexts, we will study distinctive characteristics of each period and particularly the continuation and modification of Romanticism in the Victorian period. Poets considered will include Blake, Wordsworth, Coleridge, Byron, Shelley, Keats, Hemans, Tennyson, Robert and Elizabeth Barrett Browning and others.
Requirements: brief class presentation, three short in-class essays, active participation in class discussion. Required text: Masters of British Literature, vol. B (Longman)

Requirements and grading:
1. Attendance and participation: attendance is required: you will be allowed up to 3 unexcused absences, & any further absence will cost half a letter grade from your final grade. To receive full credit for participation, you must speak up an average of at least once per class (30% of final grade)
2. Oral presentation: you will recite at least ten lines of poetry from memory and introduce discussion of your poem. The presentation should take about ten minutes, & not longer than 15. (10%)
3. In-class essays, you will be given a prompt at the beginning of class on January 31, February 21 and March 21, and will have the class period to complete as polished an essay as you can manage. (20% each)

Plagiarism: Don’t do it! Plagiarism is the unacknowledged use of someone else’s words or ideas as your own, and is unproductive because you won’t learn anything (except possibly that cheaters very often get caught). Copying or paraphrasing unacknowledged sources constitutes academic misconduct and will be referred to the authorities.

The Writing Center The OSU Writing Center is a place where students can receive free individual consultations on any piece of writing. For an appointment, call 688-4291 or stop by 485 Mendenhall Labs. Go to http://cstw.osu.edu/writing_center/ for online tutorials.
The office for Disability Services, located in 150 Pomerene Hall (292-3307), offers a variety of services for students with documented disabilities. If you have any disability that will affect your performance in this class, you should consult with this office and with me early in the quarter.

January 8 first class


January 22 MLK reading day

January 24 Wordsworth: “Lines written a few miles above Tintern Abbey,” “Resolution and Independence”


January 31 first in-class essay

February 5 Byron: *Manfred*

February 7 Shelley: “To Wordsworth,” “Hymn to Intellectual Beauty,” “To a Skylark”

February 12 Shelley: “Lift not the Painted Veil,” “England in 1819”

February 14 Keats: “On Sitting Down to Read *King Lear*,” La Belle Dam sans Mercy,” “The Eve of St. Agnes”

February 19 Keats: “Ode to a Nightingale,” “Ode on a Grecian Urn”

February 21 second in-class essay

February 26 E.B., Browning: from *Aurora Leigh*: books 1 & 5

February 28 reading day—no class

March 5 “The Victorian Age,” pp. 567-590

March 7 Tennyson: “Mariana,” “The Lady of Shalott”

March 12, 14 SPRING BREAK

March 19 Tennyson: “Ulysses,” from *In Memoriam*: opening section “Strong Son of God…” & sections 11, 50, 54-56

March 21 third in-class writing

March 26 R. Browning: “Porphyria’s Lover,” “Soliloquy of the Spanish Cloister

March 28 “My Last Duchess,” “the Bishop Orders His Tomb”

April 2 Arnold: “Dover Beach,” “The Buried Life”
April 4 Dante Gabriel Rossetti: all selections

April 9 Christina Rossetti: “Goblin Market”

April 11 Swinburne: “Hymn to Proserpine,” “A Forsaken Garden”

April 16 Hopkins: “God’s Grandeur,” “The Windhover,” “No Worst, There Is None,” “I Wake and Feel the Fell of Dark,” “That Nature is a Heraclinean Fire”

April 18 Hardy: “Hap,” “Neutral Tones,” “The Darkling Thrush”