

Preliminary Web Course Description

*Please note: This is a preliminary web course description only. The department reserves the right to change without notice any information in this description. The final, binding course outline will be distributed in the first class of the semester.

School of English and Theatre Studies

Course Code: ENGL*3320	Course Title: Romanticism to Victorianism: Writing British Environments	Date of Offering: F23
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Course Instructor:	Course Format:
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Brief Course Synopsis:

During the long nineteenth century British understandings of the human and the environment, both natural and built, underwent radical shifts. Developments in geology, industrialisation, empire, urbanisation, evolutionary theory, and taxonomies of the botanical, zoological and human altered how worlds were conceived and experienced. The period therefore offers a climacteric or watershed that marks one origin point of current environmental concerns. This course will examine British and colonial literature from 1780-1910 in order to examine the role of textuality in negotiations of the environment and to historicize the dynamics of our current environmental crisis. Readings are still being finalised but are likely to include: poetry by James Montgomery, Charlotte Smith, Samuel Taylor Coleridge, William Wordsworth, Alfred Tennyson and Gerard Manley Hopkins; Robert Louis Stevenson's short story "The Beach of Falesá"; Thomas Hardy's *The Woodlanders* and H. G. Wells's *The Island of Doctor Moreau*; secondary criticism on the environment.

Methods of Evaluation and Weight:

- Environmental Encounter assignment: 30%
 - Proposal: 5%
 - Creative work: 10%
 - Reflection: 15%
- Midterm x 2 (20% each): 40%
- Final exam: 30%

Texts and/or Resources Required (e.g. Internet access, specific textbook title, lab kit, etc.)

You will need to buy, borrow, or be able to access the following texts. You are welcome to use different editions but I'll be using the page numbers from these editions in lectures:

- Thomas Hardy, *The Woodlanders* (Oxford UP)
- H. G. Wells, *The Island of Doctor Moreau* (Oxford UP)

All other texts will be available online or through ARES

This course counts towards the following distribution requirement(s) for students who registered at the University prior to the Fall of 2018:

18th- and 19th-century literature (or for current students, the pre-1900 English distribution requirements)

Information about mode of delivery (synchronous/asynchronous/other details):

*Students who registered at the University of Guelph after Fall 2018 must fulfill the “new” major and minor requirements. Students who registered at the University of Guelph prior to Fall 2018 must fulfill the requirements of the Calendar in effect when they first enrolled unless they have filed a Schedule of Studies Change Request to change to the 2018-2019 calendar. For more information, please consult the major and minor checklists at <https://www.uoguelph.ca/arts/sets/undergraduate/english/current-student-information>.