

COURSE NUMBER: English 308

COURSE TITLE: Romantic Prose and Poetry

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COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course provides a general survey of the poetry and prose of the British Romantic period (roughly from 1770 to 1830). You will thus become familiar with the astonishing literary output of Blake, Wordsworth, Coleridge, Byron, Shelley, and Keats, the canonical Romantic poets to whom we owe many of our assumptions about the nature of poetry, the imagination, and artistic creativity. The literature of this period, however, also draws our attention to the revolutions that gave birth to our modern political order, the movement to abolish the slave trade, the advent of feminist thought and the emergence of women writers as a major cultural force, and the radical experiments with form through which numerous writers responded to the literary, social, and political developments of their age. We will explore these aspects of Romantic culture through an intense encounter with both canonical and non-canonical works, written in a wide range of genres and styles.

REQUIRED READING (all texts available at UTM bookstore):

“The Romantics and their Contemporaries.” Volume 2A of The Longman Anthology of British Literature. **3rd Edition**. 2006. Editors: Damrosch et al.

Other Texts TBA

FIRST THREE TEXTS/AUTHORS TO BE STUDIED:

John Locke, Edmund Burke, William Gilpin

METHOD OF INSTRUCTION: Lecture and Discussion

METHOD OF EVALUATION: Tests, Exams, Essays,