

University of Jordan Faculty of Foreign Languages English Department

Course Title: The English Novel Course Code: 2201701

Credit hours: 3 Prerequisite: None

Course Description:

This course looks at the eighteenth, nineteenth and twentieth century English novel in terms of historical context and literary technique. The novels have been selected, not only because they are among the greatest English novels of their time but also because they provide a coherent illustration of the development of the genre itself. Each novel will be subject to close critical appraisal and analysis in its own right. As the course progresses, however, each novel will then be considered in relation to its predecessors. Through comparison and contrast students will become aware of the different fictional techniques and styles, and will become involved in a general consideration of the art and nature of narrative and the changes that the novel has undergone in the past three centuries or more.

Course Objectives:

By the end of the semester the general discussion topics will have included: narrator's voice, point of view, manipulation of reader's response, narrative technique and style, gender, ethnicity, hybridity, assimilation, symbolism, realism, modernism, postmodernism, and postcolonialism. Literary style and form will be seen in relation to social and historical conditions including: the Industrial Revolution, the Two Great Wars, and changes in the class system and the role of women.

Teaching System:

Teaching will be conducted mainly through seminar discussion. It is expected that everyone will participate fully. There will be short introductory lectures throughout

the semester in order to provide the social, historical, literary and biographical background to each text.

Grading Policy:

Midterm exam: 30 points; class presentation and attendance: 10 points; term paper: 20 points; final exam: 40 points.

Course Outline:

Week 1: Orientation

Week 2: 18th century novel: history of the novel; social and historical background.

Week 3: Henry Fielding's *Joseph Andrews*

Week 4: Henry Fielding's *Joseph Andrews*

Week 5: Charlotte Bronte's *Jane Eyre*

Week 6: Charlotte Bronte's *Jane Eyre*

Week 7: Charles Dickens's *Great Expectations*

Week 8: Charles Dickens's *Great Expectations*

Week 9: Joseph Conrad's *Heart of Darkness*

Week 10: Midterm Exam

Week 11: Virginia Woolf's *To the Lighthouse*

Week 12: William Golding's *Lord of the Flies*

Week 13: Chinua Achebe's *Things Fall Apart*

Week 14: Salman Rushdi's *Midnight's Children*

Week 16: Salman Rushdi's *Midnight's Children*

Week 16: Final exam

Bibliography:

Baker, E.A. *The History of the English Novel*, 1950.

Burgess, A. *The Novel Now: A Guide to Contemporary Fiction*, 1967.

Forster, E. M. *Aspects of the Novel*, 1926. Repr. 1966.

James, H. *The Future of the Novel*. Ed. L Edel, 1968.

Kettle, A. *An Introduction to the English Novel*, rev. Ed. 1968.

Luckas, G. *The Theory of the Novel*, tr. 1973.

Magill, F.N. *Critical Survey of Long Fiction*, 1983.

Muir, E. *The Structure of the Novel*, 1929. Rep. 1969.