

Liverpool John Moores University

Title: The Victorians: Realism and Sensation
Status: Definitive
Code: **5504SRCHEL** (128176)
Version Start Date: 01-08-2021

Owning School/Faculty: Humanities and Social Science
Teaching School/Faculty: Southern Regional College

| Team | Leader |
|--------------------|--------|
| Kathryn Walchester | Y |

Academic Level: FHEQ5
Credit Value: 20
Total Delivered Hours: 36
Total Learning Hours: 200
Private Study: 164

Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Semester 2

| Component | Contact Hours |
|-----------|---------------|
| Lecture | 11 |
| Seminar | 22 |
| Workshop | 3 |

Grading Basis: 40 %

Assessment Details

| Category | Short Description | Description | Weighting (%) | Exam Duration |
|----------|-------------------|----------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Essay | AS1 | Short Analysis Essay, 1500 Words | 40 | |
| Essay | AS2 | Research Essay, 2500 Words | 60 | |

Aims

1. To extend students' familiarity with a range of Victorian texts including novels, poetry and essays.
2. To discuss the parallel developments of sensation fiction and realism and how this fed into conceptions of 'high', 'low' and 'middlebrow' literature.
3. To explore how the Victorian age was characterized by rapidly developing scientific

discourses and popular interest in them (popularization)

4. *To understand how contemporary understanding of genre and cultural prestige were inherited from the Victorian period.*

Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Be able to critically analyse Victorian literature against its historical and scientific contexts.
- 2 Demonstrate awareness of how different styles, genres and forms of literature were consumed and perceived in the Victorian period.
- 3 Use online resources to conduct primary research into the Victorian period in support of their written assessments.

Learning Outcomes of Assessments

The assessment item list is assessed via the learning outcomes listed:

| | | | |
|----------------------|---|---|---|
| Short Analysis Essay | 1 | | |
| Research Essay | 1 | 2 | 3 |

Outline Syllabus

Primary Texts:

Thomas Carlyle, 'Signs of the Times'; Alfred, Lord Tennyson, In Memoriam, A. H. H.; Charles Dickens, Hard Times; Mary Elizabeth Braddon, Lady Audley's Secret; George Eliot, The Lifted Veil; Thomas Hardy, Life's Little Ironies; Robert Louis Stevenson, The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde; Sarah Grand, Our Manifold Nature; H. G. Wells, The Island of Dr Moreau.

Learning Activities

Lectures, Seminars and Workshop.

Notes

The first assessment will ask students to close-analyse one of a selection of Victorian poetry, prose or essay writing. The second will encourage them to perform original research using databases like ProQuest's British Periodicals or Gale News Vault. The module will give an overview of new approaches to studying Victorian writing.