

# Course Syllabus

## Professor Pamela Gilbert

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Spring '16 W E1-E3 (720-101 Opm)

### Victorian Genders and the Novel: Masculinities

This course will focus on Victorian genders with a special emphasis on masculinities, especially as manifested at mid century (mostly the 1840s-1870s) in the novel. Additionally, we will spend time reading and thinking about secondary works which interrogate and historicize our principal terms.

By the end of the course, you will have read a substantial amount of important secondary work regarding mid-century masculinities, as well as a good selection of both canonical and less-known Victorian novels.

### Reading:

**Note: there may be some additions and changes as we go, as I shape the course to the interests of the group.**

Carlyle *Heroes and Hero Worship* (skip Intro., read Ch 1, 4 and 5); from Sartor Resartus, Ch X The Dandiacal Body <http://melbecon.unimelb.edu.au/het/carlyle/sartor.html> (online) or under "Files"

Gaskell *North and South*

Hughes *Tom Brown's Schooldays*

Meredith *Ordeal of Richard Feverel* (out of print—find used copy online or Gutenberg)

Ouida *Under Two Flags*

Collins *Man and Wife*

Kingsley *Westward Ho* (out of print—find used copy or Gutenberg)

Pater "Diaphaneite" (1864) and "Winckelmann" (1867) [two short essays-  
<http://www.laits.utexas.edu/farrell/documents/DIAPHANEITI.pdf> (Links to an external site.)

<http://www.gutenberg.org/files/2398/2398-h/2398-h.htm#winkelmann> (Links to an external site.)

Darwin From *Selection in Relation to Sex* (vii, Part II, Chapters XIX-XXI: "Secondary Sexual Characters of Man" (two chapters) and "General Summary and Conclusion" 1871

<http://www.literature.org/authors/darwin-charles/the-descent-of-man> (Links to an external site.)

Haggard *She* or? we will vote on a reading when I have a better sense of your interests

Tennyson "Maud"  
<http://www.bartleby.com/42/6491.html> (Links to an external site.)  
 Radclyffe Hall "Miss Ogilvy Finds Herself (under Files)  
 Sedgwick *Between Men* Intro, and Chapter 1 (on reserve, but you will need to copy it)  
 Deane "Imperial Boyhood" under Files  
 Adams *Dandies and Desert Saints* Intro, Ch. 1, 2, 3, 4 \*\*purchase this book  
 Dowling *Hellenism and Homosexuality in Victorian Oxford* (ppxi-66) \*\*purchase this book  
 Davidoff and Hall *Family Fortunes* Ch 2,3,4 and 7 \*\* purchase this book  
 Hall, ed. *Muscular Christianity* (pp17-44 [Rosen], 66-88 [Wee])  
 Sussman *Victorian Masculinities* (pp. 1-72)  
 Foucault *History of Sexuality, VI* (read on your own if you have not yet read it. pp. 3-49 in 1990  
 Vintage edition, or Parts 1 and 2 in other editions)

## Readings

Readings will be available online or on reserve in the library, except in those cases where I have marked that you should purchase the book, in which case, you should look on amazon, alibris or similar. They are usually available in a used paperback for under 15 dollars.

Most of these readings will be critical and historical, rather than theoretical in the strict sense, and so you should either be familiar with basic concepts in gender theory or be prepared to do a little extra reading on your own. However, the class discussion will be tailored to (and by) the class members, so you if need to know more about something, please ask. I would also like to emphasize that, although the course will focus on the construction of masculinity in the period, that topic cannot be discussed without reference to female identity, class, and sexuality, among other issues. The use of the plural in the course title is not simply a convention; it reflects the imbrication of gender with other identity categories, despite the increasing sense of a widely shared masculine "essence" which marks the period and which it left as a legacy. In short, I expect seminar conversation to be rather wide-ranging.

## Requirements:

Requirements include regular attendance and participation, eight short (1 -2 page) responses to the reading, posted to the class email list, substantial contributions to discussion of over email and in class, one full length paper (approx. 20-25 pages) of which a preliminary 10 page draft is due in advance, one turn preparing three discussion questions for a week which you will be assigned.

Response papers are due each week. You may choose which eight weeks you will turn something in, but please do not turn them in late. Response papers should be circulated and shared; you must post them

electronically *at least 48 hours before class*. (There is an email list for the class, separate from Canvas, to which you may post papers, responses, questions, etc.) Response papers should be short (one to two pages), focused essays which engage the reading (primary, secondary or both) directly.

You are also expected to contribute substantively to discussion on the list, as well as, of course, in class. The class will be conducted as a seminar; each member will be expected to speak during each class meeting and to discuss collegially with other class members. I will contribute as a discussion facilitator and resource person, but not, generally, as a lecturer. You should plan to use the class to explore and expand your own research interests wherever possible. If you would like to tailor your final project for a particular purpose (dissertation chapter, for example), please let me know.

## Late and Absence Policy

Absences in a graduate course are generally unacceptable. The only reasons to be absent are illness or attendance at a professional conference at which you are a speaker on the day of class. More than one absence (each of which represents a week of class) will of course affect the course grade.

## Grading

Grading will take into account class participation, response papers, and the final paper. We will follow university and college policy. The college stipulates that Incompletes are to be awarded only when a student has completed most of the course work with a passing grade, and through no fault of his/her own is prevented late in the term from completing on time, because of severe illness, accident, etc. Incompletes awarded for any other reason will result in a lowered course grade.

## Tentative Course Schedule

Jan 6 Course Intro.

13 Gaskell *North and South*

20 Carlyle, from *On Heroes*, Davidoff and Hall, from *Family Fortunes*

27 Adams, from *Dandies and Desert Saints*, Intro through Ch 4

- Feb. 3 Hughes *Tom Brown's Schooldays*
- 10 Hall, ed., from *Muscular Christianity*, Sussman, from *Victorian Masculinities*
- 17 Kingsley *Westward Ho*
- 24 Sedgwick from *Between Men, Pater, essays (Diapheneite and Winckelman)*, Deane "Imperial Boyhood"
- Mar. 2 SPRING BREAK—No Class
- 9 Meredith *The Ordeal of Richard Feverel*
- 16 Dowling, from *Hellenism and Homosexuality*
- DRAFTS DUE THIS WEEK: Mar 18 11 pm**
- 23 Darwin, from *Descent*, Tennyson, "Maud"
- 30 Ouida *Under Two Flags*
- April 6 Collins *Man and Wife*
- 13 Haggard. *She* or? we will vote...
- 20 Last Day. Radclyffe Hall "Miss Ogilvy Finds Herself"

**Paper Due Friday, April 22th**