

Two Autobiographical Novels

- Mon. Jan. 11 - Introductory
Wed. Jan. 13 - Extracts from Forster, *Life of Dickens* (in Penguin ed.)
Fri. Jan 15 - Dickens, *David Copperfield*, chs. 1-3
Mon. Jan. 18 - MLK
Wed. Jan. 20 - *David Copperfield*, chs. 4-6
Fri. Jan. 22 - *David Copperfield*, chs. 7-9
Mon. Jan. 25 - *David Copperfield*, chs. 10-12
Wed. Jan. 27 - *David Copperfield*, chs. 13-15
Fri. Jan. 29 - *David Copperfield*, chs. 16-18
Mon. Feb. 1 - *David Copperfield*, chs. 19-21
Wed. Feb. 3 - *David Copperfield*, chs. 22-24
Fri. Feb. 5 - *David Copperfield*, chs. 25-27
Mon. Feb. 8 - *David Copperfield*, chs. 28-31
Wed. Feb. 10 - *David Copperfield*, chs. 32-34
Fri. Feb. 12 - *David Copperfield*, chs. 35-37
Mon. Feb. 15 - *David Copperfield*, chs. 38-40
Wed. Feb. 17 - *David Copperfield*, chs. 41-43
Fri. Feb. 19 - *David Copperfield*, chs. 44-46
Mon. Feb. 22 - *David Copperfield*, chs. 47-50
Wed. Feb. 24 - *David Copperfield*, chs. 51-53
Fri. Feb. 26 - *David Copperfield*, chs. 54-57
Mon. March 1 - *David Copperfield*, chs. 58-60
Wed. March 3 - *David Copperfield*, chs. 61-64
Fri. March 5 - Smiley, *Charles Dickens*, Preface & chs. 1-3
Mon. March 8 - Smiley, *Charles Dickens*, chs. 4-6 & Afterword
Wed. March 10 - Dickens, review
Fri. March 12 - MIDTERM EXAM emailed
Sun. March 14 - MIDTERM EXAM DUE, 12:00 midnight
Mon. March 15 - George Eliot, *The Mill on the Floss*, Book I, chs. 1-6
Wed. March 17, *The Mill on the Floss*, Book I, chs. 7-13
Fri. March 19, *The Mill on the Floss*, Book II
Mon. March 22, *The Mill on the Floss*, Book III, chs. 1-5
Wed. March 24 - no class
Fri. March 26 - *The Mill on the Floss*, Book IV
Mon. March 29 - *The Mill on the Floss*, Book V; EARLY PAPER TOPICS DUE 3:00 p.m.
Wed. March 31, *The Mill on the Floss*, Book VI, chs. 1-7
Fri. April 2 - *The Mill on the Floss*, Book VI, chs. 8-14

Mon. April 5 - *The Mill on the Floss*, Book VII; ALL PAPER TOPICS DUE; EARLY PAPERS DUE 3:00 p.m.
Wed. April 7 - Ashton, "The Mill on the Floss and the Difficulties of Relationships"
Fri. April 9 - Eliot, "Brother and Sister"
Mon. April 12 - Eliot, review
Wed. April 14 - Eliot, review
Fri. April 16 - Eliot, review
Mon. April 19 - FINAL EXAM emailed; ALL PAPERS DUE 3:00 p.m.
Wed. April 21 - FINAL EXAM DUE 12:00 MIDNIGHT
Thurs. April 23 - EARLY PAPER REWRITES DUE 3:00 p.m.

Course Objectives

The course will consider the most autobiographical novels by the two most important nineteenth-century English novelists. We will read *David Copperfield* and *The Mill on the Floss* both as free-standing fictions and as imaginative transformations of the lives of their authors. Our approach will be primarily psychoanalytic and feminist, but the primary objective is to enhance students' appreciation of the literary art of Dickens and George Eliot by cultivating skills of close reading and critical thinking. The two examinations and required term paper provide occasions for students to demonstrate analytic and writing skills commensurate with an upper-division English course.

Course Requirements & Evaluation Criteria

Your course grade will be based on the following criteria: midterm (25%), final exam (25%), one five-page paper (40%), and class participation (10%). I reserve the right to be more lenient, but these percentages are the norm. The midterm and noncumulative final will be in three parts, consisting of a commentary on five short passages, a close reading of a longer passage, and an essay question on a choice of topics. *Papers must follow the guidelines of the Style Sheet.* At least one week before the papers are due, you must send me an email (*not* an attachment) with a one-paragraph proposal for your topic and setting forth your thesis. I will respond and tell you either to go ahead or ask for further clarification before you proceed. *No outside sources may be used without being specified ahead of time and receiving my permission.* Early papers will be returned with my comments and a grade, and may then be rewritten for a new grade. Each absence over five may result in a lowering of your course grade by one-half a letter. Copies of the required Penguin editions of *David Copperfield* and *The Mill on the Floss*, as well as of Jane Smiley's *Charles Dickens*, have been ordered at the UF Bookstore or may be purchased online.

Students with Disabilities

The Disability Resource Center in the Dean of Students Office provides information and support regarding accommodations for students with disabilities in the classroom. Staff will assist any student who registers as having a disability. Official documentation is required to determine

eligibility for appropriate classroom accommodations. For more information about Student Disability Services, see: <http://www.ufl.edu/disability/>

Policy on Zoom Presence

The participation portion of your grade for this class will be calculated on the basis of your attendance and your participation in class activities. Since the pedagogical approach of this course depends on student engagement and interaction, you are required, at a minimum, to attend through the audio function of Zoom, and your video presence is strongly encouraged.