

English 346
Spring 2012
Tu Th 2:00-3:20
Webster 217

Andrew Parker
Johnson Chapel 17
542-2232 (office)
Hours: W 2-4 & by appt.
acparker@amherst.edu

VICTORIAN NOVEL I

A selection of mid-nineteenth-century British novels approached from various critical, historical, and theoretical perspectives. In spring 2012 we will focus on novels written in and around 1848, a watershed year in the history of civil unrest as well as the history of fiction.

Course requirements include active participation in class and the timely completion of all assigned readings and written work. *N.B.*: This is a *reading* intensive course.

The written work for this course will include 1) weekly pass/fail quizzes – you may fail *one* of these without penalty; 2) two 7-page papers (each roughly 1750-2000 words); and 3) a final self-scheduled bluebook exam (May 7-11). Students will team up in pairs to lead class discussion.

Required Texts:

Emily Brontë, *Wuthering Heights*, ed. P. Nestor (Penguin) 0141439556
Charles Dickens, *Dombey and Son*, ed. A. Sanders (Penguin) 0140435467
Benjamin Disraeli, *Sybil, or the Two Nations*, ed. S. M. Smith (Oxford) 0199539057
George Eliot, *Adam Bede*, ed. M. Reynolds (Penguin) 0140436642
Elizabeth Gaskell, *Mary Barton*, ed. M. Daly (Penguin) 014043464X
Anthony Trollope, *Barchester Towers*, ed. M. Sadlier and F. Page (Oxford) 0199537658

All texts are available at the Amherst Bookshop, 8 Main Street, Amherst (256-1547). *Please use these editions* (their ISBN's are included above), whether you purchase them new or used.

Other materials will be made available on e-reserves (e).

Syllabus

- Tu 1/24 Introduction
Daniel Pool, *What Jane Austen Ate and Charles Dickens Knew: From Fox Hunting to Whist – The Facts of Daily Life in Nineteenth-Century England* (Touchstone 1993) 19-45, 101-106 (e)
- Th 1/26 Antony H. Harrison, “1848” in Herbert F. Tucker, ed., *A Companion to Victorian Literature and Culture* (Blackwell 1999) 19-34 (e)
Nancy Armstrong, *Desire and Domestic Fiction: A Political History of the Novel* (Oxford 1987) 161-186 (e)

- Henry Mayhew, *London Labour and the London Poor* (Griffin, Bohn 1861) Vol. I: 1-12, 40-45 (e)
- Tu 1/31 *Sybil* books 1 and 2
Thomas Carlyle, *Chartism* (Chapman and Hall 1842) 1-8 (e)
- Th 2/02 *Sybil* books 3 and 4
- Tu 2/07 *Sybil* books 5 and 6
Karl Marx and Frederick Engels, "Speeches on Poland (29 November 1847)" in Karl Marx, *The Revolutions of 1848* (Vintage 1974) 99-101 (e)
- Th 2/09 Frederick Engels, *The Condition of the Working Class in England* (1845; rpt. Oxford 1993) 15-31 and 72-86 (e)
E. P. Thompson, *The Making of the English Working Class* (Pantheon 1964) 10-15 and 207-223 (e)
Joan W. Scott, "Women in *The Making of the English Working Class*" in *Gender and the Politics of History* (Columbia 1988) 68-90 (e)
- Tu 2/14 *Mary Barton* chapters 1-8
J. A. Sutherland, *Victorian Novelists and Publishers* (Chicago 1976) 9-40 (e)
- Th 2/16 *Mary Barton* chapters 9-16
- Tu 2/21 *Mary Barton* chapters 17-28
Mary Poovey, "Domesticity and Class Formation: Chadwick's 1842 *Sanitary Report*" in *Making a Social Body: British Cultural Formation, 1830-1864* (Chicago 1995) 115-131 (e)
- Th 2/23 *Mary Barton* chapters 29-38
Raymond Williams, *Culture and Society 1780-1950* (Harper & Row 1958) 87-91 (e)
- Tu 2/28 *Wuthering Heights* "Biographical Notice," "Editor's 1850 Preface," chapters 1-9
Bruce Robbins, "Preface" and "Introduction: The Secret Pressure of a Working Hand" in *The Servant's Hand: English Fiction from Below* (Duke 1993) ix-xii and 1-23 (e)
- We 2/29 Film of *Wuthering Heights* (Wyler 1939, 104 min.): JChpl 21 @ 4:00 and 7:30

- Th 3/01 *Wuthering Heights* chapters 10-21 (= Vol II chapter 7)
- Tu 3/06 *Wuthering Heights* chapters 22-34 (= Vol II chapter 20)
Margaret Morganroth Gullette, "The Puzzling Case of the Deceased Wife's Sister: Nineteenth-Century England Deals with a Second-Chance Plot," *Representations* 31 (Summer 1990) 142-166 (e)
- Th 3/08 Michel Foucault, *The History of Sexuality, Volume I: An Introduction* (Vintage 1980) 103-113 (e)
- Fr 3/09 **Midterm paper due at noon**
- Tu 3/13 *Dombey and Son* chapters 1-10
- Th 3/15 *Dombey and Son* chapters 11-19
- Spring Break
- Tu 3/27 *Dombey and Son* chapters 20-31
Michael Freeman, *Railways and the Victorian Imagination* (Yale 1999) 1-25 (e)
- Th 3/29 *Dombey and Son* chapters 32-41
- Tu 4/03 *Dombey and Son* chapters 42-51
Raymond Williams, "Forms of English Fiction in 1848" in *Writing in Society* (Verso 1991) 150-165 (e)
- Th 4/05 *Dombey and Son* chapters 52-62
M. J. Daunton, "Conclusion" in *Progress and Poverty* (Oxford 1995) 560-565 (e)
- Tu 4/10 *Barchester Towers* volume 1
Kristine L. Krueger, "Clerical" in Herbert F. Tucker, ed., *A Companion to Victorian Literature and Culture* (Blackwell 1999) 141-154 (e)
- Th 4/12 *Barchester Towers* volume 2
- Tu 4/17 *Barchester Towers* volume 3, chapters 1-8

Henry James, "Anthony Trollope" in *The House of Fiction* (1883; rpt. Hart-Davis 1957) 89-113 (e)

- Th 4/19 *Barchester Towers* volume 3, chapters 9-19
D. A. Miller, "The Novel as Usual: Trollope's *Barchester Towers*" in *The Novel and the Police* (California 1988) 107-145 (e)
- Tu 4/24 *Adam Bede* book 1
Henry Mayhew, *London Labour and the London Poor* (Griffin, Bohn 1861) Vol. IV: 1-11, 35-36, and 210-215 (e)
- Th 4/26 *Adam Bede* books 2, 3 and 4
Françoise Barret-Ducrocq, *Love in the Time of Victoria* (Penguin 1991) 148-159 (e)
- Tu 5/01 *Adam Bede* book 5
- Th 5/03 *Adam Bede* book 6
Eve Kosofsky Sedgwick, "Adam Bede and Henry Esmond: Homosocial Desire and the Historicity of the Female" in *Between Men: English Literature and Male Homosocial Desire* (Columbia 1985) 134-146 (e)
- Su 5/05 **Final paper due by 5pm**