ENG 540.01B ("Development of the British Novel")
COURSE SYLLABUS: Spring, 2016
M 4:30-7:10 PM, HL 302

Instructor: M. Hunter Hayes (Associate Professor and Head, Literature and Languages)
Office Location: 140 Hall of Languages
Office Hours: MWF, 9:00-11:00 and by appointment
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COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

Textbook(s) Required
Kingsley Amis, Take a Girl Like You (978159017760)
Martin Amis, The Pregnant Widow (9781400095988)
Jane Austen, Northanger Abbey (9780141439792)
Charles Dickens, David Copperfield (9780140439441)
George Eliot, Middlemarch (9780141439549)
Ian McEwan, Atonement (9780385721790)
Samuel Richardson, Clarissa (ISBN 97801432152)
Virginia Woolf, To the Lighthouse (ISBN 9780156907392)

*Students are welcome to use any non-abridged edition of the above titles.

Course Description
Catalogue description: Development of the British Novel. Three semester hours. A study of the origin and development of the novel in Great Britain from the eighteenth century to the present. Novels by authors such as Fielding, Austen, Dickens, Hardy, Woolf, and Joyce may be included.
This course examines the evolution of the British novel, with special emphasis on the emergence of social and psychological realism, from the eighteenth century to the present. In addition to examining key examples of works from this period, this course will also look cultural and genre changes during this period as they pertain to the novel and discuss selected critical works on the novel’s development as a literary form. Students will read eight novels for the course; write brief critical response papers for each of these assigned novels; read an additional assigned critical text and develop a presentation on that text; and engage meaningfully in weekly discussions (online and in class) and other course activities.

**Student Learning Outcomes**

1. Students will demonstrate their understanding of selected British novels from the 18th-21st centuries as measured by the students’ critical response papers.

2. Students will demonstrate mastery of an assigned critical subject as measured by the students’ performance on an online presentation.

3. Students will demonstrate that their active and engaged members of the course as measured by the quality and quantity of regular course discussions.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

**Instructional / Methods / Activities Assessments**

The student's performance in the following areas will determine the student's grade for this course:

- **Critical response papers** (*50% of course grade; 6.25% for each paper)*: These brief (approximately 5 pp. each) papers should be well-focused analytical responses containing a well-formulated thesis to each of the novels we will discuss. Think of these as “mini essays,” each with a clear focus and substantial attention paid to close readings of selected portions of the novel. Instead of providing a general discussion of the plot, students should examine other elements such as narrative strategies, characterization, and other points of critical interest. Students are encouraged to hone their interpretive skills by using relevant theoretical approaches for all responses. Submit response papers in the eCollege dropbox.

- **Presentation** (*30% of course grade)*: Students will sign up online for a presentation topic from a group of selected critical texts that will be posted on the eCollege course site along with guidelines for the assignment.
• **Class Participation** *(20% of course grade)*

Participation grades require completing all assignments, including readings in a timely fashion; productive use of discussions and thoughtful replies to other discussion posts. Post initial online responses by Wednesday of each week; this will allow other students time to read, consider and respond to your post. All students are expected to engage in thoughtful and courteous discussions online and in-class.

**GRADING**

**Scale used to compute final letter grades:**

- A: 90-100
- B: 80-89
- C: 70-79
- D: 60-69
- F: 59-Below

- *No work submitted late will be accepted. All work not submitted on time will receive a grade of zero (0).*

- *No extra credit work will be assigned.*

**TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS**

- To fully participate in online courses, you will need to use a current, Flash enabled browser. For PC users, the suggested browser is Internet Explorer 9.0 or 10. For Mac users, the most current update of Firefox is suggested.

- You will need regular access to a computer with a broadband Internet connection. The minimum computer requirements are:
  - 512 MB of RAM, 1 GB or more preferred
  - Broadband connection required courses are heavily video intensive
  - Video display capable of high-color 16-bit display 1024 x 768 or higher resolution

- You must have a:
  - sound card, which is usually integrated into your desktop or laptop computer
  - speakers or headphones.

- Depending on your course, you might also need a:
  - webcam
  - microphone
For courses where interactive tools are used, like VoiceThread or ClassLive Pro, headphones are suggested for use with recording and playback. We recommend a webcam with an integrated microphone, such as the Microsoft LifeCam Cinema. All devices should be installed and configured before class begins.

- Both versions of Java (32 bit and 64 bit) must be installed and up to date on your machine. Java can be downloaded at: http://www.java.com/en/download/manual.jsp

- Current anti-virus software must be installed and kept up to date.

- You will need some additional free software for enhanced web browsing. Ensure that you download the free versions of the following software:
  - Adobe Reader
  - Adobe Flash Player

- At a minimum, you must have Microsoft Office 2013, 2010, 2007 or Open Office. Microsoft Office is the standard office productivity software utilized by faculty, students, and staff. Microsoft Word is the standard word processing software, Microsoft Excel is the standard spreadsheet software, and Microsoft PowerPoint is the standard presentation software. Copying and pasting, along with attaching/uploading documents for assignment submission, will also be required. If you do not have Microsoft Office, you can check with the bookstore to see if they have any student copies.

- For additional information about system requirements, please see: https://secure.ecollege.com/tamuc/index.learn?action=technical

**ACCESS AND NAVIGATION**

**Pearson LearningStudio (eCollege) Access and Log in Information**

This course will be facilitated using Pearson LearningStudio, the learning management system used by Texas A&M University-Commerce. To get started with the course, go to: http://www.tamuc.edu/myleo.aspx.

You will need your CWID and password to log in to the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact Technology Services at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu. It is strongly recommended that you perform a “Browser Test” prior to the start of your course. To launch a browser test, login to Pearson LearningStudio, click on the ‘myCourses’ tab, and then select the “Browser Test” link under Support Services.
Pearson LearningStudio Student Technical Support

Texas A&M University-Commerce provides students technical support in the use of Pearson LearningStudio.

Technical assistance is available 24 hours a day/7 days a week.

If at any time you experience technical problems (e.g., you can't log in to the course, you can't see certain material, etc.) please contact the Pearson LearningStudio Help Desk, available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

The student help desk may be reached by the following means 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

- **Chat Support:** Click on 'Live Support' on the tool bar within your course to chat with a Pearson LearningStudio Representative.

- **Phone:** 1-866-656-5511 (Toll Free) to speak with Pearson LearningStudio Technical Support Representative.

- **Email:** helpdesk@online.tamuc.org to initiate a support request with Pearson LearningStudio Technical Support Representative.

**Accessing Help from within Your Course:** Click on the 'Tech Support' icon on the upper left side of the screen inside the course. You will then be able to get assistance via online chat, email or by phone by calling the Help Desk number noted below.

**Note:** Personal computer problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, an Internet cafe, or a bookstore, such as Barnes & Noble, etc.

**Policy for Reporting Problems with Pearson LearningStudio**

Should students encounter Pearson LearningStudio based problems while submitting assignments/discussions/comments/exams, the following procedure **MUST** be followed?

1. Students must report the problem to the help desk. You may reach the helpdesk at helpdesk@online.tamuc.org or 1-866-656-5511
2. Students **MUST** file their problem with the helpdesk and obtain a helpdesk ticket number
3. Once a helpdesk ticket number is in your possession, students should email me to advise me of the problem and to provide me with the helpdesk ticket number
4. At that time, I will call the helpdesk to confirm your problem and follow up with you

**PLEASE NOTE:** Your personal computer/access problems are not a legitimate excuse for filing a ticket with the Pearson LearningStudio Help Desk. You are strongly encouraged to check for compatibility of your browser **BEFORE** the course begins and to take the Pearson LearningStudio tutorial offered for students who may require some extra assistance in navigating the Pearson LearningStudio platform. **ONLY** Pearson LearningStudio based problems are legitimate.

**Internet Access**
An Internet connection is necessary to participate in discussions and assignments, access readings, transfer course work, and receive feedback from your professor. View the requirements as outlined in Technology Requirements above for more information.

**myLeo Support**
Your myLeo email address is required to send and receive all student correspondence. Please email helpdesk@tamuc.edu or call us at 903-468-6000 with any questions about setting up your myLeo email account. You may also access information at https://leo.tamuc.edu.

**Learner Support**
Go to the following link **One Stop Shop**- created to serve you by attempting to provide as many resources as possible in one location.
Go to the following link **Academic Success Center**- focused on providing academic resources to help you achieve academic success.

**COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT**

**Interaction with Instructor Statement**
Students may contact me during the week by email or by meeting in person in my office. I will likely not reply to emails or to questions posed in the virtual office during the evenings or on weekends. Please be aware that all communication in the virtual office is public, available for the entire class to see. As a result I will not respond to questions about a student’s grades in the virtual office in order to protect the privacy of all students.

**COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES**

**Course Specific Procedures**
Because your active participation in discussions is expected, attendance is vital for success in this course. Students must complete all assignments on time, stay current with the readings, and engage in discussions each week. **No late work will be accepted.** Although differing views and debates among class members are encouraged, I expect all students to treat other class members with respect and courtesy. Rudeness and insulting remarks will not be tolerated. Please be considerate of all other members of this class.

*All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment.* (Student’s Guidebook, Policies and Procedures, Conduct)

Some notes on academic integrity: All students are expected to comply with the university’s policies regarding academic honesty. **Academic Honesty Statement:** Instructors in the Department of Literature and Languages do not tolerate plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty. Instructors uphold and support the highest academic standards, and students are expected to do likewise. Penalties for students guilty of academic dishonesty include disciplinary probation, suspension, and expulsion. (Texas A&M University-Commerce Code of Student Conduct 5.b[1,2,3])

Any student who commits any infraction of the academic honesty policy as outlined in University Policy 13.99.99.R0.10 ("Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty") will receive a failing grade for the course. Students should consult the policy and become familiar with the definitions and procedures.

**University Specific Procedures**

**ADA Statement**

**Students with Disabilities**
The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

**Office of Student Disability Resources and Services**
Texas A&M University-Commerce
Gee Library- Room 132
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835
Fax (903) 468-8148
StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu
**Student Conduct**

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See *Code of Student Conduct from Student Guide Handbook*). Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: [http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html](http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html)

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

**Departmental-Specific Procedures**

**Student Grievance Procedure**

Students who have concerns regarding their courses should first address those concerns with the assigned instructor in order to reach a resolution. Students who are unsatisfied with the outcome of that conversation or have not been able to meet individually with their instructor, whether in-person, by email, by telephone, or by another communication medium, should then schedule an appointment with the Department Head or Assistant Department Head by completing a Student Grievance Form (available in the main office, HL 141). In the event that the instructor is the Department Head, the student should schedule a meeting with the Dean of the College of Arts, Sciences, and Humanities after following the steps outlined above; if the instructor is the Assistant Department Head, students should schedule a meeting with the Department Head. Where applicable, students should also consult University Procedure 13.99.99.R0.05 (“Student Appeal of Instructor Evaluation”).

**Collection of Data for Measuring Institutional Effectiveness**

In order to measure the level of compliance with the university’s Institutional Effectiveness guidelines, throughout the semester, I will collect some of the ungraded texts you produce. The texts will be part of a portfolio created on your behalf and will be measured to ensure that our program “promotes practices that result in higher student academic achievement; an enhanced student experience; aligned and transparent decisions; and readily available information for improvement, accountability, and accreditation” (see “Department of Institutional Effectiveness,”)
http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutus/institutionalEffectiveness/default.aspx). This is solely an assessment of program effectiveness and in no way affects students’ course grades or GPAs.
COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

Tentative Course Schedule:

Thursday, February 4th: The spring flex-terms begins

Monday February 8th: Course introduction
Monday, February 15th: Richardson, Clarissa
Monday, February 22nd: Richardson, Clarissa
Monday, February 29th: Austen, Northanger Abbey
Monday, March 7th: Dickens, David Copperfield
Monday, March 14th: Spring Break
Monday, March 21st: Dickens, David Copperfield
Monday, March 28th: Eliot, Middlemarch
Monday, April 4th: Eliot, Middlemarch
Monday, April 11th: Woolf, To the Lighthouse
Monday, April 18th: K. Amis, Take a Girl Like You
Monday, April 25th: McEwan, Atonement
Monday, May 2nd: M. Amis, The Pregnant Widow
Monday, May 9th: Presentations (eCollege)