

English 220: British Romantic Literature  
Fall, 2008

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Office hours: Tuesday 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. and by appointment

Text:

**The Norton Anthology of English Literature, The Romantic Period, Vol. D,**  
Eighth Edition.

Mary Shelley, **Frankenstein**, ed. Paul Hunter. Norton Critical edition.

Class Schedule:

Week of

*"One impulse from a vernal wood:" The Romantics and 'Nature'*

September 1            Norton, 1-25  
At the Allen Art Museum exhibition "Out of Albion" in the  
Stern Gallery compare Hogarth's  
**Portrait of Theodore Jacobsen** (1742), Reynolds'  
**The Strawberry Girl** (1773), with paintings in the Willard-  
Newell gallery: West's **General**  
**Thaddeus Kosciusko** (1797) and Lawrence, **Portrait of**  
**Eleanor, Lady Wigram** (1815-1816). Look at all the 18<sup>th</sup> and  
19<sup>th</sup> century works in the "Out of Albion" exhibition but pay  
particular attention to Blake's **The Book of Job** (1825),  
Bartolozzi after West, **The Genius of Light Awakens**  
**Science and Art** (1789), John Martin's engravings of his  
**Belshazzar's Feast** (1832), and **The Fall of Babylon** (1831),  
and Turner's **View of Venice** (1841).

September 8            Wordsworth, 243-252, 274-279  
Dorothy Wordsworth, 389-402  
Blake, 76-79, 81-97

*"The Bones of the Dead:" Politics and Imagination*

September 15 Norton, 148-167  
Blake, 110-129  
Wordsworth, 262-274, 322-324, 371-389  
PAPER DUE September 18

September 22 Coleridge, 446-448, 474-488  
Keats, 878-880, 888-900

September 29 Keats, 903-906, 940-955  
Shelley, 770-772, 837-850

*"A bright deformity on high:" Romantic Transgression*

October 6 Coleridge, 430-446  
Byron, 607-635  
Thursday Yom Kippur- no classes

October 13 The Gothic and the Development of a Mass Readership,  
Norton, 577-607  
**Mid-term exam, October 16**

October 20 FALL BREAK

October 27 DeQuincey, 554-569  
Shelley, 821-835

*"Alas, the love of women:" Women and the Romantics*

November 3 Barbauld, 32-38  
Wollstonecraft, 167-212  
Coleridge, 449-464

November 10 Keats, 899-902, 909-925  
Byron, 669-735  
PAPER DUE November 13

November 17 Shelley, **Frankenstein**

November 24 The Monster and the Critics, essays in the Norton  
**Frankenstein**

December 1  
and December 8 Romantic Art and Architecture

FINAL PAPER DUE December 11

*Participants in this class are required to attend all classes, come to class on time, take an active part in discussion, and hand in assigned work when it is due. Late papers will be penalized.*

*Two papers, each 5 to 6 pages in length, a mid-term exam, and a 12 to 14 page final paper will be required.*

*All papers should be delivered in printed form only.*

### **Sources for Research in the Library Collection**

The best place to start any search is the **Oberlin College Library Web Site** <http://www.oberlin.edu/library/> where you can find out more about general internet research tools.

The "Selected Bibliographies" in **The Norton Anthology of English Literature**, Volume D, **The Romantic Period**, pages A25-A36, provide accurate and up-to-date citations of books and journal articles which treat British Romanticism. The bibliography begins with suggested general readings on English history and literature, then provides an introduction to the most important printed reference works for the study of English literature. Next, general introductions to literary criticism and theory are cited, followed by specific bibliographies of the Romantic period and studies which trace the political, social and intellectual background. Following this you will find entries on each of the major figures we will study together listing the best scholarly editions and a selection of the most important books and articles on each writer's work.

Also included in appendices to **The Romantic Period** are articles on British money, a time line, and a useful introduction to poetic forms and literary terminology.

### **Research Materials on Line**

Here are some of the best online sites treating the Romantic Period:

**Voice of the Shuttle: Romantics** – the best general source on the period  
<http://vos.ucsb.edu/browse.asp?id=2750>

**Literary Resource: Romantic** – a fine overview of the period with many sites evaluated and described  
<http://andromeda.rutgers.edu/~jlynch/Lit/romantic.html>

**Romantic Circles** – new editions of Romantic works and a wealth of scholarly resources  
<http://www.rc.umd.edu/hpfiles/index1.html>