

## Course: Romantic & Victorian Poetry

Semester: 4<sup>th</sup>

Course Code: ELL 204

### Course Description

This course analyzes representative examples of British poetry of the nineteenth century, that is, from the French Revolution to the first stirrings of modernism in the early 1900s. It comprises the poetry of two eras which came one after each other, namely Romantic and Victorian age. The first half of this module extends from the mid-1770s to the

1830s, a period marked by what Wordsworth referred to as those 'great national events' which were 'almost daily taking place': the American and French revolutions, the Napoleonic wars, imperial expansion, industrialization, and the growth of the political reform movement. The production and consumption of books took on a heightened political significance in these decades and this selection includes selection from the 'big six' Romantics (Blake, Wordsworth, Coleridge, Keats, P.B. Shelley, Byron). The second half of this course includes the poetry of the poets who are called as 'cunning terminators of Romanticism' by some critics. This era, marked by the coronation of Queen Victoria in 1837, known as Victorian age, spans till her death in 1901. The Victorians saw the virtues attendant upon a strong will as central to themselves and to their culture, and Victorian poetry strove to find an aesthetic form to represent this sense of the human will. Through close study of the metre, rhyme and rhythm of a wide range of poems - including monologue, lyric and elegy - the technical questions of poetics are related, in the work of these poets, to issues of psychology, ethics and social change.

### Learning Outcomes

The aim of this module is to introduce students to the literary culture of this rich and exciting period, which, in the first half, begins in the year of America's declaration of independence and ends with the British reform act of 1832 and from there onwards till the first decade of the twentieth century.

### Course Content

#### Unit-I

#### 1.1 The Longmans Anthology of British Literature vol 2A ,2B

#### 1.2 William Blake :-

i) *The Sick Rose*

ii) *The Tygre*

#### 1.3 William Wordsworth:-

i.) *Ode to Intimation of Immortality*

ii.) *We Are Seven*

#### 1.4 S.T . Coleridge:-

i.) *Dejection: An Ode*

ii.) *Kubla Khan*

#### 1.5 John Keats:-

i.) *La Belle Dame Sans Mercy*

ii.) *Ode on Melancholy*

#### 1.6 Lord Byron:-

i.) *She Walks in Beauty*

ii.) *When We Two Parted*

#### 1.7 P.B. Shelly:-

i.) *Ode To The West Wind*

#### 1.8 Ode To A Sky Lark Alfred Lord Tennyson:-

i.) *The Lotus Eaters*

#### 1.9 Robert Browning :

i.) *My Last Duchess*

#### 1.10 Mathew Arnold :-

i.) *Dover Beach*

**Teaching and Learning Strategies:**

Following teaching strategies to be adopted:

1. Class Discussion
2. Reading and analyzing the text through interactive sessions.
3. Class presentations.
4. Group Discussions
5. Lectures, seminars and tutorials.

**Assignments:**

Two assignments, one before midterms and one after midterm, to be submitted. The students are advised to get their topics approved by the teacher. And there is a zero tolerance policy for plagiarism. (Please consult HEC policy on Plagiarism).

**Assessment and Examination:**

Sr. No.	Elements	Weightage	Details
70.	Midterm Assessment		It takes place at the mid-point of the semester.
71.	Formative Assessment		It is continuous assessment. It includes: classroom participation, attendance, assignments and presentations, homework, attitude and behavior, hands-on-activities, short tests, quizzes etc.
72.	Final Assessment		It takes place at the end of the semester. It is mostly in the form of a test, but owing to the nature of the course the teacher may assess their students based on term paper, research proposal development, field work and report writing etc.

**Recommended Readings**

- Aidan Day, *Romanticism* (1995)
- Anne Mellor, *Romanticism and Gender* (1993)
- Cynthia Chase, ed., *Romanticism* (1993)
- Harold Bloom, *The Visionary Company: A Reading of English Romantic Poetry* (1961)
- Iain McCalman, *An Oxford Companion to the Romantic Age* (1999)
- Isobel Armstrong, *Victorian Poetry: Poetry, Poetics, and Politics* (1993)
- Joseph Bristow, ed., *The Cambridge Companion to Victorian Poetry* (2002)
- Linda K. Hughes, *The Cambridge Introduction to Victorian Poetry* (2010)
- M. H. Abrams, *The Mirror and the Lamp: Romantic theory and the Critical Tradition* (1958)
- Margaret Homans, *Women Writers and Poetic Identity* (1980)
- Marilyn Butler, *Romantics, Rebels and Reactionaries* (1982)
- Paula Feldman and Theresa Kelley, ed., *Romantic Women Writers* (1995)
- Richard Cronin et al, ed., *A Companion to Victorian Poetry* (2002)
- Stephen Copley and John Whale, eds. *Beyond Romanticism: New Approaches to Texts and Contexts 1780-1832* (1992)
- Stuart Curran, *Poetic Form and British Romanticism* (1986)