

Eat Your Words!

British Literature and the Appetites, 1786–Present
ENGL 262.3—Spring 2010
MWF 11:30 AM–12:20 PM
101 Chitwood Hall

Prof. Adam Komisaruk
Mailbox: 100 Colson Hall
Office: 217 Colson Hall
Office Phone: (304) 293-9724
Cel Phone: (304) 216-7156
E-mail: akomisar@wvu.edu
Office Hours: MT 2:30-4:00 PM + by appointment

I will also be in the English Advising Office (118 Colson, phone [304] 293-9740) at the following times: MW 9:00-10:15 AM, F 9:00-10:30 AM. Please note that my advisees will take precedence during these hours.

Texts (available at Mountainlair Bookstore and Book Exchange unless otherwise noted)

- William Beckford, *Vathek* (Oxford)
- Michèle Roberts, *Impossible Saints* (Harvest)
- Bram Stoker, *Dracula* (Broadview)
- Virginia Woolf, *Mrs. Dalloway* (Harcourt)

- Other readings will be distributed in class. You may also download them from <http://ereserves.lib.wvu.edu> (for “Professor’s Username” enter **komisaruk**; for “Professor’s Password” enter **13**).

Requirements

- Attendance at all class sessions, with readings completed. You may miss three (3) sessions without penalty; thereafter, for each unexcused absence I will deduct 2% of your course grade. Please do not ask me to review material covered in your absence; consult a classmate for missed notes and assignments.
- Two (2) analytical essays on course material, approx. 5 pp. each. I will distribute topics a week or so in advance. Research is not required for these papers and, in fact, is discouraged. You must, however, document all primary and secondary sources you do use; consult a current style manual for formats. Each paper approx. 15% of course grade. You may revise one (1) of your papers for extra credit.
- Midterm exam; in-class, objective (i.e., no essay questions). Approx. 15% of course grade.



- Final exam; objective and essay questions. Approx. 25% of course grade.
- Short quizzes, daily with exceptions, on lectures and readings. Missed quizzes cannot be made up and will count as a “zero” in the event of an unexcused absence. Collectively, approx. 15% of course grade.
- Oral presentation, about 10 minutes, on one of the readings for the course. I will distribute a signup sheet shortly after the semester begins. Approaches might include delineating a theme, doing a character-sketch, explicating a passage, providing outside information about the author or text, relating the assigned text to an unassigned one, etc., etc. If you have interests in other fields, I encourage you to make use of them here. You will also be expected to field questions. Your oral-presentation grade will help determine your class-participation grade (see below).
- While I welcome your remarks every day of the course, I will designate roughly one day per week as a “discussion session”, which I will devote to some activity other than lecture—group work, a student report, directed question-and-answer, etc. Your in-class work, along with your overall attitude, etc. will constitute approx. 15% of your course grade.

WVU Statement on Academic Integrity

“The integrity of the classes offered by any academic institution solidifies the foundation of its mission and cannot be sacrificed to expediency, ignorance, or blatant fraud. Therefore, I will enforce rigorous standards of academic integrity in all aspects and assignments of this course. For the detailed policy of West Virginia University regarding the definitions of acts considered to fall under academic dishonesty and possible ensuing sanctions, please see the Student Conduct Code at <http://www.arc.wvu.edu/rightsa.html>. Should you have any questions about possibly improper research citations or references, or any other activity that may be interpreted as an attempt at academic dishonesty, please see me before the assignment is due to discuss the matter.”

—Approved by WVU Faculty Senate, 11 February 2008
<<http://facultysenate.wvu.edu/08Files/AcademicIntegrityStatement.pdf>>

WVU Statement on Social Justice

“West Virginia University is committed to social justice. I concur with that commitment and expect to foster a nurturing learning environment based upon open communication, mutual respect, and non-discrimination. Our University does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, age, disability, veteran status, religion, sexual orientation, color or national origin. Any suggestions as to how to further such a positive and open environment in this class will be appreciated and given serious consideration. If you are a person with a disability and anticipate needing any type of accommodation in order to participate in this class, please advise me and make appropriate arrangements with Disability Services (293-6700).”

—Approved by WVU Faculty Senate, 8 June 1992
<http://www.wvu.edu/~socjust/syllabus_statement.htm>

Schedule of Assignments (* denotes Xeroxed handout)

1	M	1/11	Introduction
1	W	1/13	Beckford, <i>Vathek</i>
1	F	1/15	Beckford, <i>Vathek</i>
LAST DAY TO ADD A CLASS			
2	M	1/18	MARTIN LUTHER KING'S BIRTHDAY—NO CLASS
2	W	1/20	Beckford, <i>Vathek</i>
2	F	1/22	Beckford, <i>Vathek</i>
3	M	1/25	Beckford, <i>Vathek</i>
3	W	1/27	Shelley, essays on vegetarianism*
3	F	1/29	Shelley, essays on vegetarianism*
4	M	2/1	Shelley, essays on vegetarianism*
4	W	2/3	Shelley, essays on vegetarianism*
4	F	2/5	Lamb, "A Dissertation upon Roast Pig"*
5	M	2/8	Lamb, "A Dissertation upon Roast Pig"*
5	W	2/10	Lamb, "A Dissertation upon Roast Pig"*
5	R	2/11	PAPER #1 DUE 4 PM
5	F	2/12	Review, etc.
6	M	2/15	Poetry of the Irish Potato Famine*
6	W	2/17	Poetry of the Irish Potato Famine*
6	F	2/19	Poetry of the Irish Potato Famine*
7	M	2/22	Poetry of the Irish Potato Famine*
7	W	2/24	MIDTERM EXAM
7	F	2/26	Rossetti, "Goblin-Market"*
8	M	3/1	Rossetti, "Goblin-Market"*
8	W	3/3	Rossetti, "Goblin-Market"*
8	F	3/5	Rossetti, "Goblin-Market"*
9	M	3/8	Rossetti, "Goblin-Market"*
9	W	3/10	Stoker, <i>Dracula</i>
9	F	3/12	Stoker, <i>Dracula</i>
10	M	3/15	Stoker, <i>Dracula</i>
10	W	3/17	Stoker, <i>Dracula</i>
10	F	3/19	Stoker, <i>Dracula</i>
LAST DAY TO DROP A CLASS			
11	M	3/22	Stoker, <i>Dracula</i>
11	W	3/24	Review, etc.
11	R	3/25	PAPER #2 DUE 4 PM
11	F	3/26	NO CLASS

M 3/29 SPRING BREAK—NO CLASS
W 3/31 SPRING BREAK—NO CLASS
F 4/2 SPRING BREAK—NO CLASS

12 M 4/5 Woolf, *Mrs. Dalloway*
12 W 4/7 Woolf, *Mrs. Dalloway*
12 F 4/9 Woolf, *Mrs. Dalloway*

13 M 4/12 Woolf, *Mrs. Dalloway*
13 W 4/14 Woolf, *Mrs. Dalloway*
13 F 4/16 Roberts, *Impossible Saints*

14 M 4/19 Roberts, *Impossible Saints*
14 W 4/21 Roberts, *Impossible Saints*
14 F 4/23 Roberts, *Impossible Saints*

15 M 4/26 Roberts, *Impossible Saints*
15 W 4/28 Roberts, *Impossible Saints*
15 F 4/30 Review, etc.

F 5/7 FINAL EXAM 8:00-10:00 AM