

**ENGL 262.1—BRITISH LITERATURE 2—SPRING 2015**  
MWF 11:30 AM–12:20 PM  
317 CLARK HALL

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Office Hours: MT 1:00–2:30 PM + by appointment



### OVERVIEW

In this survey course, we will study selected works of British literature from approximately 1789 to the present, with particular attention to historical and cultural contexts. The course will be organized into three thematic units (Globalization and Empire, Science and Technology, Spirituality and Religion). We will observe chronology within each unit rather than over the course as a whole. You may apply ENGL 262 to the Historical Breadth requirement for the WVU English major, as well as to GEC Objective 3 (The Past and Its Traditions) or 5 (Artistic Expression).

**TEXTS** (available at WVU Bookstore and at Book Exchange)

- Hari Kunzru, *Transmission* (Penguin)
- All other readings are on electronic reserve at <https://reserves.lib.wvu.edu/publicLogin.php> (login using your MyID username and password). You are responsible for downloading the .PDF files, printing them (I recommend multiple pages per sheet) and bringing them to every class.

### 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 two 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 and a list of suggested topics roughly a week before your date. You may deliver your presentation either alone or in collaboration with up to two classmates. 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 regularly devote a portion of the class to some activity other than lecture—group work, a student presentation, directed question-and-answer, etc. Your in-class work, along with your overall attitude, etc. will constitute approx. 15% of your course grade.

### **POLICY ON MOBILE DEVICES**

Put them away. I like mine, too, but we can all do without them for fifty minutes at a stretch. Texting, tweeting, e-mailing, web browsing and like activities during class are disrespectful and disruptive, and will result in your being marked absent for the day. I can see you. For urgent communications, please leave the room. Only hard copies of the assigned readings are permitted in class (see “Texts”, above).

### **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 INCLUSIVITY STATEMENT**

“The West Virginia University community is committed to creating and fostering a positive learning and working environment based on open communication, mutual respect, and inclusion. 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 the Office of Accessibility Services (293-6700). For more information on West Virginia University's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion initiatives, please see <http://diversity.wvu.edu>.”

—Approved by WVU Faculty Senate, 11 February 2013  
<<http://facultysenate.wvu.edu/r/download/155054>>

SCHEDULE OF READINGS (available on electronic reserve; \* denotes separate text)

Week	Day	Date	Assignment DUE
1	M	1/12	Introduction

## Part 1: Globalization and Empire

1	W	1/14	Anna Letitia Barbauld: <i>Eighteen Hundred and Eleven</i>
1	F	1/16	Anna Letitia Barbauld: <i>Eighteen Hundred and Eleven</i>
<b>2</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>1/19</b>	<b>MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY—NO CLASS</b>
2	W	1/21	Anna Letitia Barbauld: <i>Eighteen Hundred and Eleven</i>
2	F	1/23	Anna Letitia Barbauld: <i>Eighteen Hundred and Eleven</i>
3	M	1/26	Rudyard Kipling: “Gunga Din”, “The Widow at Windsor”, “The White Man’s Burden”
3	W	1/28	Rudyard Kipling: “Gunga Din”, “The Widow at Windsor”, “The White Man’s Burden”
3	F	1/30	Joseph Conrad: <i>Heart of Darkness</i>
4	M	2/2	Joseph Conrad: <i>Heart of Darkness</i>
4	W	2/4	Joseph Conrad: <i>Heart of Darkness</i>
4	F	2/6	Joseph Conrad: <i>Heart of Darkness</i>
5	M	2/9	Nuala Ní Dhomhnaill: “Parthenogenesis”, “Why I Choose to Write in Irish”
5	W	2/11	Nuala Ní Dhomhnaill: “Parthenogenesis”, “Why I Choose to Write in Irish”
<b>5</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>2/12</b>	<b>PAPER #1 DUE 4 PM</b>
5	F	2/13	Review, etc.

## Part 2: Science and Technology

6	M	2/16	Erasmus Darwin: from <i>The Botanic Garden</i>
6	W	2/18	Erasmus Darwin: from <i>The Botanic Garden</i>
6	F	2/20	Erasmus Darwin: from <i>The Botanic Garden</i>
7	M	2/23	Charles Darwin: from <i>The Origin of Species, The Descent of Man</i>
7	W	2/25	Charles Darwin: from <i>The Origin of Species, The Descent of Man</i>
7	F	2/27	Charles Darwin: from <i>The Origin of Species, The Descent of Man</i>
<b>8</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>3/2</b>	<b>MIDTERM EXAM</b>
8	W	3/4	Hari Kunzru: <i>Transmission*</i>
8	F	3/6	Hari Kunzru: <i>Transmission*</i>
9	M	3/9	Hari Kunzru: <i>Transmission*</i>

- 9 W 3/11 Hari Kunzru: *Transmission\**  
 9 F 3/13 Hari Kunzru: *Transmission\**  
 10 M 3/16 Review, etc.

## **Part 3: Spirituality and Religion**

- 10 W 3/18 Samuel Taylor Coleridge: *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner*  
 10 F 3/20 Samuel Taylor Coleridge: *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner*  
 M 3/23 **SPRING BREAK—NO CLASS**  
 W 3/25 **SPRING BREAK—NO CLASS**  
 F 3/27 **SPRING BREAK—NO CLASS**
- 11 M 3/30 Samuel Taylor Coleridge: *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner*  
 11 W 4/1 Samuel Taylor Coleridge: *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner*  
**11 R 4/2 PAPER #2 DUE 4 PM**  
**11 F 4/3 GOOD FRIDAY—NO CLASS**
- 12 M 4/6 John Henry Cardinal Newman: from *Apologia Pro Vita Sua*  
 12 W 4/8 John Henry Cardinal Newman: from *Apologia Pro Vita Sua*  
 12 F 4/10 John Henry Cardinal Newman: from *Apologia Pro Vita Sua*
- 13 M 4/13 T.S. Eliot: from *The Waste Land*  
 13 W 4/15 T.S. Eliot: from *The Waste Land*  
 13 F 4/17 T.S. Eliot: from *The Waste Land*
- 14 M 4/20 T.S. Eliot: from *The Waste Land*  
 14 W 4/22 Kazim Ali: from *Sky Ward*  
 14 F 4/24 Kazim Ali: from *Sky Ward*
- 15 M 4/27 Kazim Ali: from *Sky Ward*  
 15 W 4/29 Kazim Ali: from *Sky Ward*  
 15 F 5/1 Review, etc.
- R 5/7 FINAL EXAM 3:00-5:00 PM**