Nineteenth-Century British Literature: Reading List
1/13/06

Romanticism:

Poetry:

**Burns, Robert:** To a Louse, To a Mouse, Scots wha’ hae wi’ Wallace bled, Is there for honest poverty, Comin’ thro the Rye (both versions).

**Smith, Charlotte:** From *Elegaic Sonnets*: #2 “Written at the Close of Spring,,” #8 “To Spring,” #12 “Written on the Sea Shore,” #39 “To Night,,” #44 “Written in the church yard,” #85 “The fairest flowers are gone,” #86 “Written near a port on a dark evening,” *Beachy Head.*

**Williams, Helen Maria:** Sonnet: To Twilight; Sonnet: To Expression; Sonnet: To Hope; An Address to Poetry.

**Barbauld, Anna:** Rights of Women, Washing Day, *Eighteen Hundred and Eleven.*

**Robinson, Mary:** *Sappho and Phaon*, Preface, I-IV, VIII, X, XXV, XLIII, XLIV; The Haunted Beach.

**Blake, William:** *Songs of Innocence and Experience* (1795), *The Book of Thel, Marriage of Heaven and Hell, The Book of Urizen.*

**Scott, Walter:** *The Lay of the Last Minstrel.*

**Wordsworth, William, and Samuel Taylor Coleridge:** *Lyrical Ballads* (1798).

**Wordsworth:** from *1800 LB*: Strange Fits, She Dwelt, A Slumber, I Travelled, Lucy Gray, Nutting, Pref to LB 1800; from *1807*: Resolution and Independence; Ode: Intimations of Immortality; Solitary Reaper; Westminster Bridge; Nuns Fret Not; World Is Too Much with Us; *Ruined Cottage*, 1797 version; *Prelude* 1805 or 1850: 1, 2, 4, 6, 9-11 (French Rev books), 12-13 (recovery, Snowdon [book numbers from 1805]).

**Coleridge, S.T.:** Aeolian Harp (1828 version), Lime Tree Bower, Frost at Midnight, Kubla Khan, Dejection, Christabel; *Biographia Litteraria* 4, 13, 14, 17; sel. from *Statesman’s Manual* in M&M (symbol and allegory).

**Southey, Robert:** The Sailor Who Had Served in the Slave Trade; Review of WW and STC, 1798 *Lyrical Ballads.*

**Byron, George Gordon Lord:** *Don Juan* 1-4; *Childe Harold* III: Manfred; Cain.

**Shelley, Percy Bysshe:** Mont Blanc, Intellectual Beauty, Alastor, Ozymandias, *Prometheus Unbound*, Ode to the West Wind, Adonais, *Triumph of Life; Defense of Poetry.*

**Keats, John:** Chapman’s Homer, La Belle Dame (1848 [i.e. letter] version); Fears, Bright Star, Lear Again, Warm Hand, Eve of St. Agnes, Odes: Psyche, Urn, Nightingale, Melancholy, Autumn; *Fall of Hyperion*; letters: 22 Nov 1817; 21-27 Dec 1817; 1 Feb 1818; 27 Feb 1818; 3 May 1818; 21 Sept 1818; 27 Oct 1818; 19 Feb–21 April 1819; 25 July 1819; 21 Sept 1819; 17-24 Sept 1819.

**Hemans, Felicia:** Properzia Rossi, Indian Woman’s Death Song, Wife of Asdrubal, Image in Lava.
Landon, Letitia E: Sel. From The Improvisatrice: Introduction; Sappho’s Song; The Proud Ladye; Infanticide in Madagascar.

Prose:

Wollstonecraft, Mary: from Vindication of the Rights of Woman: Introduction, Chapters 1-3; rec., sel from M and M or Longman’s.
Burke, Edmund: From On the Sublime and the Beautiful: Part I, sections 6-8; Part II, sections 1,2,3,5,6,6; Part III, section 1, 13-14 (sel in M and M fine); sel. from Reflections on the Revolution in France: [use sel in M and M or Longman].
Williams, Helen Maria: sel. from Letters from France, 1790; sel from Letters Containing a Sketch of the Politics of France (1795): Mme Roland.
Lamb, Charles: Dream Children, Old China, Roast Pig.
Hazlitt, William: On Gusto; The Fight; My First Acquaintance with Poets.
De Quincy, Thomas: sel from Confessions of an English Opium Eater; The English Mail Coach (sel.); Knocking at the Gate in Macbeth; sel from Suspiria De Profundis (see Wu).
Peacock, Thomas Love: The Four Ages of Poetry.
Paine, Thomas: sel from Rights of Man in M&M or Longman’s or Wu.
Prince, Mary: Sel. From The History of Mary Prince, A West Indian Slave Girl.
Equiano, Olaudo: Sel. From Interesting Narrative.
Clarkson, Thomas: Sel from The History of the Rise, Progress, and Accomplishment of the Abolition of the African Slave Trade.

Victorian Literature

Poetry:

Elizabeth Barrett Browning: Grief, On a Portrait of Wordsworth, Irreparableness, Sonnets from the Portuguese, Aurora Leigh (Books 1, 2, 5), A Musical Instrument.
Robert Browning: My Last Duchess, Soliloquy of the Spanish Cloister, Johannes Agricola in Meditation, Porphyria’s Lover, The Lost Leader, The Bishop Orders His Tomb, The Laboratory, Love Among the Ruins, Fra Lippo Lippi, A Toccata of Galuppi’s, An Epistle of Karshish, Childe Roland, The Statue and the Bust, Andrea del Sarto, Two in the Compagna, Abt Vogler, Calaban Upon Setebos.
Arthur Hugh Clough: Duty—That’s to Say Complying, The Latest Decalogue, Epi-Straussium, Easter Day I & II, There is No God, In the Great Metropolis, In a London Square, Natura Naturans.
Christina Rossetti: Goblin Market, A Birthday, After Death, A Triad, Song (She sat and sang alway), An Apple Gathering, No, Thank You, John, Song (When I am dead), Uphill, In an Artist’s Studio, Echo, Remember, Winter: My Secret, The Convent Threshold.
James Thomson: The City of Dreadful Night (#s 1, 12, 14, 20, 21).
Dora Greenwell: To Elizabeth Barrett Browning in 1851, To Elizabeth Barrett Browning in 1861, A Scherzo (A Shy Person’s Wishes).
Augusta Webster: Circe, A Castaway, Mother and Daughter Sonnets.
Francis Thompson: The Hound of Heaven.
Amy Levy: Xantippe, A Minor Poet, Magdalen, Ballade of an Omnibus, In a Minor Key, Sinfonia Eroica, The Old House, A Ballad of Religion and Marriage.
Rudyard Kipling: Gentlemen-Rankers, In the Neolithic Age, Recessional, The White Man’s Burden, If, Tommy.

NOVEL:
Austen, Emma.
Edgeworth, Ennui.
Scott, Waverley.
Dickens, Bleak House.
Thackeray, Vanity Fair.
Trollope, The Warden.
C. Brontë, Jane Eyre.
E. Brontë, Wuthering Heights.
Eliot, Adam Bede.
Eliot, Middlemarch.
Gaskell, *North and South.*
Hardy, *Tess of the D'Urbervilles.*
Hardy, *Jude the Obscure.*
(whichever is on the Novel list)
Shelley, *Frankenstein.*
Wilde, *Picture of Dorian Gray.*

**Victorian Prose Non-Fiction:**

**Thomas Carlyle:** *Sartor Resartus:* (Bk. I ch. 1-3, 8, 11; Bk II ch. 1, 2, 5-9; Bk. III ch. 8, 12);

**John Henry Newman:** *Idea of a University* (Ch. 5-8); *Apologia* (Ch. III).

**John Stuart Mill:** *Autobiography* (Ch. 1, 2, 5); *On Liberty* (Of Individuality); *On the Subjection of Women* (Ch. 1).

**Charles Darwin:** *On the Origin of Species* (Struggle for Existence, Natural Selection, Conclusion).

**Florence Nightingale:** *Cassandra.*


**Matthew Arnold:** The Function of Criticism, Sweetness and Light, Literature and Science, The Study of Poetry.

**Lewis Carroll:** *Alice in Wonderland.*

**Eliza Lynn Linton:** The Girl of the Period.

**Walter Pater:** *The Renaissance* (Preface, Leonardo da Vinci, Conclusion)

**Frances Power Cobbe:** Criminals, Idiots, Women, and Minors.

**Samuel Butler:** *Erewhon* (Ch. 9-11, 15, 23-25).

**Mona Caird:** The Morality of Marriage.

**Sarah Grand:** The New Woman and the Old.

**Oscar Wilde:** *The Importance of Being Earnest;* The Critic as Artist.

**Edmund Gosse:** *Father and Son.*