

EL 306

The English Romantics

(Spring 2026)



EL 306

The English Romantics

Instructor: Cihan Yurdaün, Ph.D. cihan.yurdaun@bogazici.edu.tr

Class Hours: Tuesday 5,6 (13:00-14:50), Thursday 5 (13:00-13:50)

Office hours: TB 425, Tuesday, 12:00-13:00, Thursday 12:00-13:00

In this course, we are going to read and examine a selection of literary works from some of the canonical **English Romantics**. It is important to remember that the selected texts for this course are **only a portion** of the diverse range of literary texts written in **the Romantic era**. By studying these texts, we aim to explore key ideas, themes, literary styles, genres, and notions that help define the **Romantic movement**.

Class Requirements

- While attendance is **not strictly mandatory**, consistent absence undermines the learning environment. You are **permitted three unexcused absences without penalty**. Beyond this allowance, **each subsequent absence** will result in a **deduction of 4 points** from your final course grade.
- **Participation** is one of the cornerstones of this course. Thoughtful, consistent contributions to class discussions are highly valued and may earn you up to **4% in bonus credit** toward your final grade.
- Read the **assigned material for each week**, including the documents uploaded to **Moodle**, and come to class prepared. You can find all **the primary texts** in your course packet.
- There will be **three quizzes**, and I'll take their average. **Quizzes** will constitute **20%** of your final grade.
- **The midterm is 40%, and the final is 40%**.
- I will maintain an **"open-door" policy** during office hours. You may come to discuss any aspect of the course. You do not need an appointment. If you wish to see me outside those posted hours, please make a prior appointment in advance via email.

Weekly Schedule

Week 1 (February 10, 12) **Historical Context + William Blake**, Intro. & selections from *Songs of Innocence and Experience*

Week 2 (February 17, 19) **William Blake**, *Songs of Innocence and Experience, Marriage of Heaven and Hell*

Week 3 (February 24, 26) **William Wordsworth**, excerpts from "Preface to the Lyrical Ballads," "The Solitary Reaper," "I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud." **Dorothy Wordsworth**, excerpts from *The Grasmere Journals*

Week 4 (March 3, 5) **William Wordsworth**, "Lines Composed a Few Miles Above Tintern Abbey", Selections from the *Prelude*

Week 5 (March 10, 12) **Samuel Taylor Coleridge**, "The Eolian Harp," "Kubla Khan", "Christabel"

Week 6 (March 17, 19 no class) **Samuel Taylor Coleridge**, "The Rime of the Ancient Mariner"

Midterm in Week 7

Week 7 (March 24, 26) **John Keats**, "Ode on a Grecian Urn," "Ode to a Nightingale"

Week 8 (March 31, April 2) **John Keats**, *Lamia*

Week 9 (April 7, 9) **P.B. Shelley**, "Mont Blanc"

Week 10 (April 14, 16) **P.B. Shelley**, "Ozymandias," "Ode to the West Wind"

Week 11 Spring Break

Week 12 (April 28, 30) **Mary Shelley**, "The Mortal Immortal", **Lord Byron**, *Manfred*

Week 13 (May 5, 7) **Lord Byron**, *Manfred*

Week 14 (May 12, 14) **Lord Byron**, *Don Juan* (selected cantos)