

Veranstalterin	Dr. Julia Boll
Thema	British Romantic Poetry
Art der Veranstaltung	Seminar II [ENG-6, ENG-6a, ENG-12, AA7, AA10, LAA9, LAA12, IAA21, IAA23, IAA24, AA-MA01, AA-MA02, AA-MA04, AA-MA06]
Veranstaltungsnummer	53-548
Zeit	Mi 14-16
Raum	Ü35-01016
Beginn	13 Oct. 2021

The Romantic period is usually defined as roughly from 1780 to 1830. This period of enormous political and social upheaval witnessed the American and French Revolutions, the Revolutionary and Napoleonic Wars, the prosecution and criticism of the transatlantic slave trade, the Industrial Revolution, and the transformation of Britain into a global superpower. It also saw the rise of the first mass audience for poetry, when, for the first time, poets addressed not only a courtly audience, an audience of subscribers, or an elite metropolitan audience, but a great, anonymous, socially diverse and geographically distributed readership.

In this course, we will meet an array of Romantic poets and examine how they responded to the challenges and opportunities offered by this changing social, political and commercial environment, and how Romantic poetry as an art form engaged the changes of its time. We will meet poets fascinated by a renewed relationship to nature, but also displaying a very up-to-date interest in science. We will see how they experimented with aesthetics and explored a new sensibility. We will trace how they imagined the role of the poet in society, discussed social injustice and poverty, and debated the rights of man. We will also learn how to determine various poetic forms, such as lyrical verse and song, ballads, sonnets, and comic verse. We will consider poetic tradition and the question of authenticity, the interplay of medievalism and the gothic, and how gender, ethnicity and class intersect in Romantic poetry's negotiation of the self. And we will read a lot of poetry.

Reading List:

Some primary and secondary reading will be made available via OpenOlat. Students are asked to obtain the following:

- Wordsworth, Jonathan and Jessica Wordsworth (eds.). *The Penguin Book of Romantic Poetry*. Penguin Classics series, 2005. ISBN 978-0140435689 (also available for e-readers, though users have commented on the ebook edition being a bit clumsy and difficult to navigate).
- Williams, Rhian. *The Poetry Toolkit: The Essential Guide to Studying Poetry*. Bloomsbury, 2019. ISBN 978-1350032200 (also available for e-readers).

Note: If you do use an e-reader, make sure you know how to navigate quickly and expertly within the text, how to mark passages (and find them again), how to make annotations, and how to quote properly from an eBook. I advise against working on smartphones for scholarly purposes.

Studienleistung: regular and active participation (also in teamwork), detailed knowledge of assigned texts/material, preparation of discussion questions and discussion leading, preparation of short audio clips.

Prüfungsleistung, in addition to the above:

- annotated bibliography on 7 critical texts (due Friday, 7 January 2022)
- a scholarly essay (due Friday, 11 March 2022)

Note: Registered students who fail to show up for the first session will automatically be set "inactive" on Stine, so that another student may take up their place.



This is one of lino-cut print artist Linda M Farquharson's illustrations for the limited edition stamps for the Royal Mail in 2020, celebrating the Romantic poets and the 250th anniversary of William Wordsworth's birth (linocut.co.uk/romantic-movement-of-british-poetry-stamps/).