

- Faculté des lettres et sciences humaines
- [www.unine.ch/lettres](http://www.unine.ch/lettres)

#### Seminar 4: Modern and Contemporary Literature : 19th Century British Fiction (2AN1430)

Filières concernées	Nombre d'heures	Validation	Crédits ECTS
<b>Pilier B A - langue et littérature anglaises</b>	<b>Séminaire: 2 ph</b>	Voir ci-dessous	6
<b>Pilier principal B A - langue et littérature anglaises</b>	<b>Séminaire: 2 ph</b>	Voir ci-dessous	6
<b>Pilier secondaire B A - langue et littérature anglaises</b>	<b>Séminaire: 2 ph</b>	Voir ci-dessous	6

ph=période hebdomadaire, pg=période globale, j=jour, dj=demi-jour, h=heure, min=minute

#### Période d'enseignement:

- Semestre Printemps

#### Equipe enseignante

Prof. Patrick Vincent and William Edwards

#### Contenu

What did it mean to be a woman in nineteenth-century England? How did women's social class, marital status, and geographic situation influence their lives? And how did novelists use both real and imaginary settings to dramatize their struggle for freedom?

This seminar will address the so-called 'woman question' through the perspective of three passionate heroines, Anne Elliot, Catherine Earnshaw, and Tess d'Urbeville, paying attention to three different settings that these novels made famous: Jane Austen's Regency Bath, Emily Brontë's gothic-inspired Yorkshire moors, and Hardy's imaginary Wessex. By imagining their fight to develop as free individuals within a regionally, economically, and socially diverse and divided nation, these texts spanning the century from 1818 to 1891 provide insight into issues of gender, class, religion, and geography.

We will read the novels alongside primary and secondary texts to help better understand their literary and historical contexts, including: debates surrounding women's fiction; the tensions between romanticism and realism; the division between North and South; the importance ascribed to domesticity and education; the clash between Victorian moralism and sexuality; the impact of industrialization on agricultural society; and the effect of science on religion. Beyond introducing students to a literary period and to its major genre, the realist novel, the course aims to show how these books could be both critical and constitutive of the era's ideology of individual autonomy and progress in a nation still attached to a traditional culture of rural community and hierarchy.

#### Forme de l'évaluation

Ev. Interne : One in-class presentation of primary or secondary text (20%); journal (20%) ; research essay (+3000 words) (60%).

Covid-16 guidelines: the class will be taught online.

#### Modalités de rattrapage

Students who get less than a 4 in the essay have one opportunity to revise it. Revised essays need to be returned before the next semester.

#### Documentation

To purchase in Oxford World Classic or similar editions (books will be available at Payot Neuchâtel):

Jane Austen, Persuasion

Emily Brontë, Wuthering Heights

Thomas Hardy, Tess of the D'Urbervilles (make sure you have Clarendon or 1912 edition, not the original 1891 edition)

All other reading will be placed on the Moodle course platform.

#### Pré-requis

First-year courses (PP1-PP3) are required; « Modern and Contemporary Literature » lecture is recommended.

#### Forme de l'enseignement

Seminar (participation is required)