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## ENGL 385-01, the Modern Novel of Development, Spring 2001

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English 385  
The Modern Novel of Development  
Spring 2001

Prof. Shaffer  
319 Palmer  
Phone: \*3976

This course will focus on the modern Bildungsroman, or novel of education, initiation, or development. The course will consider the ways in which the following nine novels engage in a "dialogue" with each other, with their times, and with recognized models of narrating lives in fiction.

TEXTS:

Bronte, Jane Eyre  
Chopin, The Awakening  
Dickens, Great Expectations  
Forster, A Room with a View  
Hardy, Jude the Obscure  
Ishiguro, When we were Orphans  
Joyce, A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man  
Rhys, Wide Sargasso Sea  
Robinson, Housekeeping

CLASS POLICY:

Except in the case of documented illness or emergency, late examinations will not be accepted for credit. Because a premium is placed on class participation and lively discussion, more than two unexcused absences during the semester will result in the lowering of your final grade. Failure to complete one or more major assignments or to attend class on a regular basis will result in a failing grade in the course. All work for this class must be done in strict compliance with the Rhodes Honor Code.

REQUIREMENTS:

Two (5-7-page critical) essays: 40%  
One (10-14-page research) essay: 40%  
Participation, attendance, presentations: 20%

All reading and writing assignments are due on the class dates listed below. Please bring the appropriate text to class each day we meet.

Jan. 10 Course Introduction

THREE VICTORIAN NOVELS OF DEVELOPMENT

12 Bronte, Jane Eyre (The "Vindication" Model)  
15 Martin Luther King Day  
17 Bronte  
19 Bronte  
22 Bronte  
24 Bronte  
26 Dickens, Great Expectations (The "Education" Model)  
29 Dickens  
31 Dickens

Feb. 2 Dickens

5 Dickens  
7 Hardy, Jude the Obscure (The "Dissolution" Model)  
9 Hardy  
12 Hardy  
\*FIRST CRITICAL ESSAY DUE\*

COMPLICATING THE SCHEME: THREE MODERN  
NOVELS OF DEVELOPMENT

14 Joyce, A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man  
16 Joyce  
19 Joyce  
21 Joyce  
23 Joyce  
26 Forster, A Room with a View  
28 Forster

Mar. 2 Midterm Conferences  
5 Spring Recess  
7 Spring Recess  
9 Spring Recess  
12 Forster  
14 Forster + film  
16 Chopin, The Awakening  
19 Chopin  
21 Chopin  
23 Chopin  
\*SECOND CRITICAL ESSAY DUE\*

PARADOXICAL RESOLUTIONS: THREE CONTEMPORARY EXAMPLES

26 Rhys, Wide Sargasso Sea  
28 Rhys  
30 Rhys

Apr. 2 Ishiguro, When we were Orphans  
4 Ishiguro  
6 Ishiguro  
9 Robinson, Housekeeping  
11 Robinson  
13 Easter Recess  
16 Robinson  
18 Robinson + film  
\*RESEARCH ESSAY DUE\*

20 Seminar  
23 Seminar  
25 Seminar  
27 Seminar