**Course Description**
In this survey course we will read and discuss some of the most influential works in British literature from three major literary periods – Romanticism, Victorianism, and Modernism (and beyond). We will address the stylistic and rhetorical devices of each assigned text, but we will also focus on the political, social, and intellectual concerns that shaped each period. In particular, we will critically consider how British writers have defined and conceptualized what it means to be “British,” both at home and abroad, since the late eighteenth century, and how this national identity, along with ideas of gender, class, race, and ethnicity, has shifted under the pressures of industrialization, urbanization, and globalization.

**Required Texts**


*I will also distribute additional materials electronically (such as poetry and short essays).*