

ÇANKAYA UNIVERSITY
FACULTY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE
Spring 2025-2026

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ELL 562 Studies in the Novel
COURSE SYLLABUS

This course deals with the emergence and development of the novel, and with various theoretical approaches that help define the genre. The course provides an overview of some of the structural and thematic subgenres of the novel as well as a sense of their historical contexts. In addition, students are introduced to a range of perspectives on the novel. Course material focuses on the development of the novel in English literature and includes theoretical readings discussing the nature of genre. Through close reading and textual analysis students will be able to scrutinize and interpret the chosen texts.

Primary Texts:

Joseph Andrews (1742) by Henry Fielding
Mansfield Park (1814) by Jane Austen
Hard Times (1854) by Charles Dickens
To The Lighthouse (1927) by Virginia Woolf
A Passage to India (1924) by E. M. Forster

Selected Supplementary Readings

Ian Watt, *The Rise of the Novel: Studies in Defoe, Richardson and Fielding*
Terry Eagleton, *The English Novel*
Nancy Armstrong, *Desire and Domestic Fiction: A Political History of the Novel*
Michael McKeon, *Theory of the Novel: A Historical Approach*
Dorothy Hale, ed. *The Novel: An Anthology of Criticism and Theory*
Malcolm Bradbury, *The Modern British Novel*
David Amigoni, *The English Novel and Prose Narrative*

Course Requirements and Means of Evaluation

a. 20 % Presentation(s)

Each presentation should take 15-20 minutes (7-8 pages of written text* well-organised with a thesis statement and secondary sources). You should also prepare **at least two critical questions** related to that week's readings. Please send a written form of your presentation to the class list/group by **5 p.m. on Tuesday** of the week in which it is due so that others will have time to read it before class on Wednesday. (Ph.D. students should deliver at least **2 presentations**, MA students **one**)

b. 45 % midterm exam

You will be responsible for primary texts, theoretical readings and in-class discussions.

c. 5 % proposal for final project

Prepare one-page proposal that will serve as the basis for feedback and class discussion of the final projects. The proposal should include a working title, a tentative thesis statement, a detailed outline and a working bibliography. (Hand in a hard copy to me and post a copy to the class list.)

d. 30 % final project

Each student needs to turn in the hard copy of an essay about at least one of the novels studied in class (they cannot choose the same novel for presentation and research paper). The paper should be 12-15 pages long, double spaced, typed in 12 inch Times New Roman font. Final Projects are due on the day of final exam assigned for the course to be submitted on webonline.

!!! Please be warned that plagiarism of even one sentence can result in a lowering of your grade or a **direct F** on your assignment. Discrepancy between examples of the student's writing, suspected plagiarism or

unethical use of AI technology will be evaluated by the professor and the department academic board, and measures will be taken accordingly. Plagiarism is a serious offense and will not be tolerated.

You are required to attend **at least 60% of your classes**, otherwise you will not be allowed to take the final examination. Students are responsible for keeping track of their own attendance.

Weekly Schedule (Please note that the schedule is tentative, the professor may make changes if necessary)

Weeks	Topics
1. Feb 18	Introduction to the course Backgrounds of the novel: Epic and Romance Introduction to narrative communication and types of narrators
2. Feb 25	Mikhail Bakhtin "Epic and Novel" Ian Watt, from "Realism and the Novel Form" Terry Eagleton "What is a Novel"
3. March 4	18th Century Novel - <i>Joseph Andrews</i> by Henry Fielding
4. March 11	<i>Joseph Andrews</i> by Fielding
5. March 18	19th Century Novel Georg Lukacs "The Historico-philosophical Conditioning of the Novel and its Significance" Raymond Williams "Introduction" <i>The English Novel</i> Henry James "The Art of Fiction" Nancy Armstrong <i>From Desire and Domestic Fiction: A Political History of the Novel</i>
6. March 25	<i>Mansfield Park</i> by Jane Austen
7. April 1	<i>Mansfield Park</i> <i>Hard Times</i> by Charles Dickens
8. April 8	<i>Hard Times</i>
9. April 15	20th Century Novel Malcolm Bradbury, "The Turn of the Novel" Virginia Woolf, "Modern Fiction" <i>To The Lighthouse</i> by Virginia Woolf
10. April 22	<i>To The Lighthouse</i>
11. April 29	Midterm Exam and Revision
12. May 6	<i>A Passage to India</i> by E. M. Forster
13. May 13	<i>A Passage to India</i>
14. May 20	Discussion of Final Projects