



The Romantic Imagination

*6 credits,
2nd semester*



Universidad de Valladolid

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Aims and Objectives

The aim of this course is an in-depth study of British, American, and Spanish Romanticism. Thus students are expected. There is an emphasis on the international facet of British Romanticism because of its role as a catalyst in American and European literatures and in the development of these literatures during the romantic period. In a period of transformative crisis in Europe –social, political, cultural and artistic– Britain becomes the ideological and cultural centre.

The course also aims to understand the causes that made possible the transatlantic move of the British model both into America and Spain, as well as the analysis of the consequences that it had in the transformation and renewal of cultural and aesthetic standards in both American and Hispanic cultures.

Course Program

Module 1: British Romanticism

Unit 1. The poetic revolution in English Romanticism: William Wordsworth and Samuel Taylor Coleridge.

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Unit 2. Wordsworth and Coleridge in nineteenth-century Spain.

Unit 3. Wordsworth and Coleridge in twentieth-century Spain.

Module 2: American Romanticism

Unit 1. The Reception of British Romanticism in America.

Unit 2. Ralph Waldo Emerson: His works and his role as a Romantic Intellectual.

Unit 3. Walt Whitman: The American Poet.

Methodology

Class meetings will consist of lectures and seminars. Lectures will provide basic information about the main trends, forms and authors in the period. Seminars will focus on the analysis and discussion of selected works. They will require the regular participation of the students, who are expected to provide a critical reading of the texts.

The course will be taught in English, which means that students are expected to have an advanced level of this language.

Assessment

The assessment of this course is based on the following criteria:

- Participation and engagement in class discussions and activities in both oral and written form: 60%.
- Additionally, they can write an essay in class for each module. These essays are optional and will be 40% of the total grade.

Bibliography and Resources

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- Bello Vázquez, Félix. *Gustavo Adolfo Bécquer: Precursor del simbolismo en España*. Madrid: Editorial Fundamentos, 2005.
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- Harris, Kenneth Marc, *Carlyle and Emerson: Their Long Debate*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1978.
- Holub, Robert C. *Reception Theory: A Critical Introduction*. London: Methuen, 1984.
- Iser, Wolfgang. *The Act of Reading: A Theory of Aesthetic Response*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins UP, 1978.
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- Jiménez Heffernan, Julián. *La palabra emplazada: Meditación y contemplación de Herbert a Valente*, Córdoba: Servicio de Publicaciones de la Universidad de Córdoba, 1998.
- Llorens, Vicente. *El romanticismo español*, Madrid: Castalia, 1989.
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- Mason, Emma. *The Cambridge Introduction to William Wordsworth*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2010.
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Schedule

The course meets twice a week. It will be distributed in five weeks in the second semester.