

O.P. Jindal Global University
Jindal School of Languages and Literature
Fall 2026

LLFA05-BLL-ENGL-1126/ Writing Rebellion: Gender and Sexuality in Nineteenth-Century
British Literature and Culture

Instructor: Dr. Turni Chakrabarti (turni.chakrabarti@jgu.edu.in)

This undergraduate programme elective and cross-elective course of 4 credits.

Course Description:

This course will explore the depiction of gender and sexuality in selected poetry, novels, and art from nineteenth-century Britain. How does literature propagate norms as well as subvert them? What does the literature of this time period tell us about the fast-changing ideas about ideal British femininity and masculinity, and how were these ideals challenged? The course covers a broad range of texts, both canonical and non-canonical, which deal with issues of gender, class, sexuality, and empire. We will pay special attention to the ways in which these texts engage with rebellious figures and non-normative ways of being. Texts we will engage with include *Lady Susan* by Jane Austen and *The Picture of Dorian Gray* by Oscar Wilde.

Learning Objectives:

By the end of this course, students will

1. Be able to do close readings of the cultural texts while connecting them to their historical, economic, and socio-cultural contexts;
2. Be able to evaluate, interpret, and critically analyze the evolution of the representations of gender and sexuality in nineteenth-century British literature and culture
3. Be able to write clearly and persuasively about the topics that we have engaged with over the semester.

Indicative List of Learning Resources:

Novels: *Lady Susan* by Jane Austen; *Frankenstein* by Mary Shelley; *The Picture of Dorian Gray* by Oscar Wilde.

Poetry: *Don Juan* by Lord Byron (excerpts); *My Last Duchess* by Robert Browning, *Aurora Leigh* by Elizabeth Barrett Browning (excerpts); *No Coward Soul is Mine* by Emily Brontë

Art History: The Pre-Raphaelite Movement, the Arts and Crafts Movement

Assessment Pattern:

2 Response Sheets: 2x20=40

Midterm Exam: 30

Final Exam: 30.