**Victorian Literature**

Dr. Jarlath Killeen

This module will explore the Victorian period through the close study of important Victorian novels, of some of the poetry, and of some non-fictional prose of the period. It is envisioned that the texts studied will change on a regular basis, and will most likely include writing by Dickens, the Brontës, Trollope, Thackeray, Gaskell, Hardy, Tennyson, Browning, Barrett Browning, Clough, Hopkins, Swinburne, Rossetti, Carlyle, Ruskin, Pater, Wilde, and some popular and children’s writers.

**Learning Outcomes**
To develop an understanding of some important Victorian writing.
To develop awareness of the historical and social context in which this writing was produced.
To explore the development of particular genres and themes.
To acquire knowledge of critical approaches to the material.
To develop ability to focus discussion of particular issues through analysis of particular texts.

**Week One:** Introduction.

**Week Two:** Emily Bronte, *Wuthering Heights* (1847).

**Week Three:** Anonymous, *The String of Pearls* (1846-7).

**Week Four:** Poetry – Alfred Tennyson, *In Memoriam A.H.H.* (1850).

**Week Five:** Charles Dickens, *Hard Times* (1854).

**Week Six:** George Eliot, *Silas Marner* (1861).

**Week Seven:** Reading Week.

**Week Eight:** Poetry – Christina Rossetti, ‘Goblin Market’ (1862).

**Week Nine:** Matthew Arnold, *Culture and Anarchy* (1867-8).

**Week Eleven:** Thomas Hardy, *Tess of the D'Urbervilles* (1891).

**Week Twelve:** Oscar Wilde, *The Importance of Being Earnest* (1895).

**Select Bibliography.**


Gallagher, Catherine, *The Industrial Reformation in English Fiction* (Chicago: Chicago UP, 1985)


*The English Novel from Dickens to Lawrence* (London: 1973)