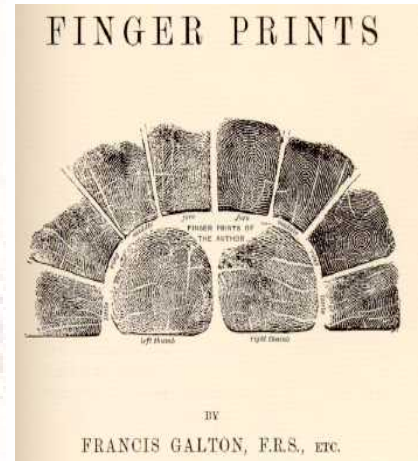
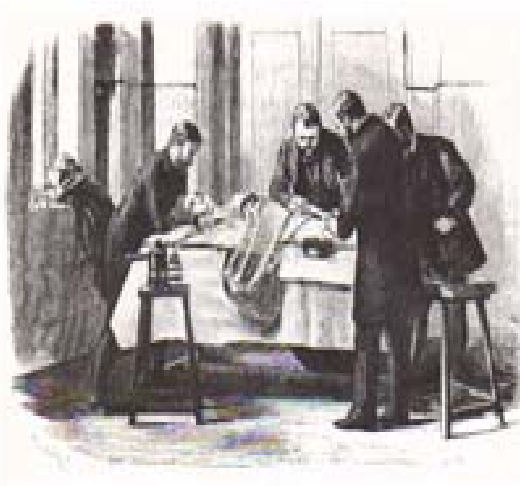
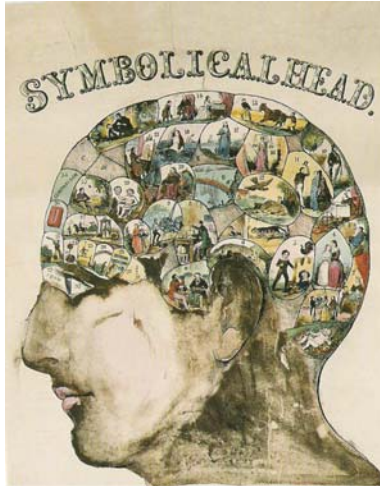


# EN 8543: Studies in English Literature 1832-1900

Dr. Shalyn Claggett

## Victorian Literature and Science



### Texts:

- Charlotte Brontë, *The Professor* (ISBN#: 9780199536672)  
Edward Bulwer-Lytton, *The Coming Race* (ISBN#: 9781551115153)  
Charles Darwin, *On the Origin of Species* (ISBN#: 9780199219223)  
Charles Dickens, *Bleak House* (ISBN#: 9780393093322)  
George Eliot, *Middlemarch* (ISBN#: 9780393974522)  
Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes and the  
Memoirs of Sherlock Holmes* (ISBN#: 9780140437713)\*

**N.B. You are required to use the editions specified (by ISBN#) above.**

### Description:

In the Victorian period, scientists and novelists ran in similar circles, read and considered each other's work, and were mutually inspired by the findings of their extra-disciplinary counterparts. This literature course aims to examine Victorian literature within the context of scientific thought in nineteenth-century Britain. Our study will entail a careful examination of work by Victorian writers interested in evolution, phrenology, medicine, physiology, criminology, and even spontaneous combustion. By examining Victorian literature in its thoroughly interdisciplinary context this course aims at better understanding how the Victorians straddled the emergent gap between the humanities and the sciences, and how we might conceptualize bridging that gap in our own age.

### Course Requirements:

Two exams, an annotated critical bibliography, class presentation, and a long research paper.