

# EN 6653/4653: The Nineteenth-Century British Novel

12:30-1:45 Monday/Wednesdays

**Dr. Shalyn Claggett**

Nineteenth-century Britain was marked by the development of the rise of individualism and the continued rise of the novel. Reflecting the interests of a growing middle class, the nineteenth-century novel addressed such issues as poverty, crime, romance, new technology, fashion, morality, and madness. In this class, we will trace the development of the nineteenth-century novel in works by Charles Dickens, Lewis Carroll, Charlotte Brontë, Mary Elizabeth Braddon, and Oscar Wilde. Our investigation will center on the question of how the Victorians defined themselves through considerations of gender, class, religion, science, and culture.



## **Texts:**

Charles Dickens's *Our Mutual Friend*, Lewis Carroll's *Alice in Wonderland* and *Through the Looking Glass*, Charlotte Brontë's *Villette*, Mary Elizabeth Braddon's *Lady Audley's Secret*, George Gissing's *The Odd Women*, and Oscar Wilde's *The Picture of Dorian Gray*.

## **Course Requirements:**

Two exams, one short essay, a paper proposal, and a long research paper.