

**Survey of British Literature and Culture
(1880-1927)
WS 2009/2010
Thursdays, 10 -12
A 2
Prof. Dr. Greta Olson**

Exam for Students in the Cultural Studies Module: February 4, 12:00 – 14:00

Please answer one of the following questions in essay form. Kindly take your time to read through the exam carefully and to make notes before you begin to compose your answer. Please also leave at least a half hour of time to go over your essay and to check for mistakes before turning it in. Good luck!

1) What major historical and cultural events contributed to changes in literature during the fin de siècle and Modernist periods? What particular literary works document these changes?

2) What are the major features of literary Modernism? How did Modernist works contribute to and comment on the social changes which were taking place at the time they were written and first read?

3) Describe the major features of fin de siècle literature. What were its major themes? How did it differ from literature of the Victorian period? Kindly mention concrete examples.

4) Please identify the following text. Kindly state how this text reflects on literary and cultural changes of its time:

no thats no way for him has he no manners nor no refinement nor no nothing in his nature slapping us behind like that on my bottom because I didnt call him Hugh the ignoramus that doesnt know poetry from a cabbage thats what you get for not keeping them in their proper place pulling off his shoes and trousers there on the chair before me so barefaced without even asking permission and standing out that vulgar way in the half of a shirt they wear to be admired like a priest or a butcher or those old hypocrites in the time of Julius Caesar of course hes right enough in his way to pass the time as a joke sure you might as well be in bed with what with a lion God Im sure hed have something better to say for himself an old Lion would O well I suppose its because they were so plump and tempting in my short petticoat he couldnt resist they excite myself sometimes its well for men all the amount of pleasure they get off a womans body were so round and white for them always I wished I was one myself for a change just to try with that thing they have swelling up on you so hard and at the same time so soft when you touch it my uncle John has a thing long I heard those cornerboys saying passing the corner of Marrowbone lane my aunt Mary has a thing hairy because it was dark and they knew a girl was passing it didnt make me blush why should it either its only nature and he puts his thing long into my aunt Marys hairy etcetera and turns out to be you put the handle in a sweepingbrush men again all over they can pick and choose what they please a married woman or a fast widow or a girl for their different tastes like those houses round behind Irish street no but were to be always chained up theyre not going to be chaining me up no damn fear once I start I tell you for their stupid husbands jealousy why cant we all remain friends over it instead of quarrelling her husband found it out what they did together well naturally and if he did can he undo it hes coronado anyway whatever he does and then he going to the other mad extreme about the wife in Fair Tyrants of course the man never even casts a 2nd thought on the husband or wife either its the woman he wants and he gets her what else were we given all those desires for Id like to know I cant help it if Im young still can I its a wonder Im not an old shrivelled hag before my time living with him so cold never embracing me except sometimes when hes asleep the wrong end of me not knowing I suppose who he has any man thatd kiss a womans bottom Id throw my hat at him after that hed kiss anything unnatural where we havent I atom of any kind of expression in us all of us the same [...]