

Course Name: Fin de Siècle: Decadence and Sexual Anarchy

Credit: 3

Course Hours: Thursday 3:30~6:10

Grading: Midterm Paper 30% Final Paper 30%
 Reflections 10% Attendance and Participation 30%

Required Reading:

The Decay of Lying by Oscar Wilde
The Picture of Dorian Gray by Oscar Wilde
The Critics as Artist by Oscar Wilde
The Portrait of a Lady by Henry James

Additional Reading:

We “Other Victorians” by Michel Foucault
Paris, the Capital of 19th Century, Walter Benjamin
“The Uncanny” by Sigmund Freud

AI usage: Please do not use any large language models and generative AI to write your midterm or final paper. You may simply use it to collect information or give you a kick start.

Plagiarism is not tolerated in this class

Course Schedule:

9/14 Introduction
 Fin de Siècle and Decadence Art for Art’s Sakes
 The Late Victorian Age The Decline of Empire
 The Fear of Degeneration

9/21 *The Critic as Artist* by Oscar Wilde

10/5 The Dandy and *Flâneur*
 Baudelaire
 Walter Benjamin

The Picture of Dorian Gray

- 10/12 *The Picture of Dorian Gray* **Reflection Paper due**
- 10/19 Aesthetes
The Decay of Lying by Oscar Wilde
- 10/26 *The Decay of Lying* by Oscar Wilde
- 11/2 *The Decay of Lying* by Oscar Wilde
- 11/9 Midterm paper due**
- 11/16 Sexuality, Gender performativity,
Nervous Women (Madwomen)
Married Women Property Act 1882

The Turn of the Screw by Henry James
- 11/23 **Art and Life**
The Portrait of a Lady by Henry James
- 11/30 *The Portrait of a Lady* by Henry James **Reflection paper due**
- 12/7 *The Portrait of a Lady* by Henry James
- 12/14 Gothic and the Uncanny (Paranoia, Neurosis, Psychosis)
“The Uncanny” by Sigmund Freud
- 12/21 Movie: An Ideal Husband
- 12/28 Final Essay Due**