ENG 222: Second British Survey
Project 1 Assignment Sheet

turn in through GoogleDrive: share your document to: shawnaross1@gmail.com
due date: Thursday, February 20 night (by 11:59 PM)
25% of your final grade

Description

For your first project, you will select one poem by a poet we have read so far (William Blake, Samuel Taylor Coleridge, William Wordsworth, John Keats, Alfred Lord Tennyson, Robert Browning, Christina Rossetti, or Elizabeth Barrett Browning). You may choose either a poem we have read for the class or one we have not read; the primary criterion here is whether or not the poem is rich enough to reward your labors. If you like, you may also choose three consecutive chapters of *The Mill on the Floss*, but I do not recommend doing so, as you will not end up with a unified, completed product.

You will then create an annotated edition of the poem ready for online publication. To elevate a mere copy-and-paste of the text into a full-blown edition, you must include

1) **a transcription of the text** that you have carefully chosen and proofread for accuracy and completeness (perhaps by comparing online texts to *paper* versions found at the library)

2) **a 600-word author biography** (birth-to-death, plus a little about his/her artistic legacy)

3) **a critical bibliography of at least 5 sources** consisting of MLA-form citations of scholarly journal articles found through J-STOR, Project MUSE, or another scholarly database

4) **an 800-word introduction to the poem's cultural and historical contex**ts (for "Goblin Market," for example, it could be about advertising, the Biblical account of Eve and the forbidden fruit, and Victorian concepts of femininity, whereas for "London" it would be about the urbanization of London, the use of the army within London against British citizen, STDs during the Romantic period, and the use of chimney-sweepers)

5) **links within the poem, at least 15** (a word in the poem becomes a clickable link) to other websites (not necessarily scholarly) to explain confusing, archaic, or interesting phrases used by the author. Links will illuminate the poem's cultural, historical, and biographical context. (Hint: these links can be the same sites you looked up when you were researching parts 2 and 4!) Do not use more than 5 images/videos, or more than 5 encyclopedia/dictionary entries.

To make this online edition, you will learn how to write in Markdown within the Dillinger editor to create a file you will share with me through GoogleDrive. You should be able to log in to GoogleDrive (drive.google.com) through your ASU gmail account. Dillinger (http://dillinger.io/) is basically an online word processor. Markdown is a computer language, a particular way of writing (like HTML or Javascript) that can be easily shared online. For example, instead of pressing a button in Microsoft Word that says "I" to put a word in italics, you would put an asterisk or underscore at the beginning and end of the word. Instead of choosing a drop-down menu in Microsoft Word and selecting "Add Hyperlink," you will place parenthesis around the URL. Markdown is extremely simple, certainly the easiest way to write online content. You will very quickly get the hang of Markup as long as you keep a level head!

Dillinger is a program that you open in your browser window. This program is really nifty. When you open the website, you will see two panels. On your left is a box where you type in your text (your input) in the Markdown language. On the right is a box that shows the rendered text (the output, which is exactly what your text will look like). That way, you can see "in real time" what you are actually creating. As you work, you will save it to GoogleDrive. When you are done, you will share the document (your .md file) with shawnaross1@gmail.com, and I will then process your Markdown file into a webpage that I will then share with you.

But why?

This project *will* be challenging. Expect to feel confused or overwhelmed at some point. When we get through this, I will make you cookies or brownies or something. But before that, why should you do this?

Understanding a piece of literature requires more than merely listening to me yammer on about what I believe the poem to be about. No matter how much research I have done or how much thinking I have done, I cannot ultimately tell you what to think. You must be an *active learner* if you want to exceed the sterile "student-consumer" model of education. By creating an online text, you will find yourself making decisions about what the poem means to you.

Additionally, by creating an online edition of the poem instead of an essay (that only I could possibly read), you will recreate the poem *in the context of what you think of people should know*. Having a sense of responsibility to an audience will make you aware that you need to transcend your personal "likes" and "dislikes" by connecting your reactions to history, culture, and scholarly analysis. You will identify, question, and refine your perspective on the poem, elevating your understanding of the text into a more objective, but still unique, position.

And finally, you will gain some skills and knowledge regarding online publishing. You will hopefully feel more confident about doing so in the future, in various other contexts, as well as become more critical about the texts you find online. Cultivating a critical awareness of how internet texts come to be is crucial to your education.

Procedure

1) **Think about your poem for awhile** and begin to decide your online edition's content
    1) What poem are you choosing? Print out the poem and begin marking it up (note potential historical, cultural, biographical links, words that need defining, events or people your readers might not know about, etc)
    2) Where are you going to find author biographical information?
    3) What will your five scholarly articles be?
    4) What kinds of cultural context and historical context are relevant for your poem? Begin compiling your data (in order words, start doing your research!)
    5) Do you have a specific interest in the poem that you would like to pursue? Do you have a specific theory about the poem? Think about how you can approach your project to pursue your individual agenda.
2) **Complete this tutorial**: http://www.markdowntutorial.com/
    1) It took me just over half an hour to go through the seven short lessons, but you may take longer if you are not familiar at all with computer languages.
    2) You can take breaks between lessons of the tutorial.
    3) Note: the end of Lesson 6 seems to have a bug in it. If you get stuck at the cheese-slicing part, just jump to here: http://www.markdowntutorial.com/lesson/7
        1) It's necessary to get past that bug to get to Lesson 7 because it covers poetry!
3) **Start thinking about how your online edition will look**, and how the lessons you learned in the tutorial will help you create it.
    1) Choose the organization of your document. Will you place the author biography first? The poem first? The scholarly links last? The poem last? Where does the cultural/historical information go? Each decision you make will influence how the reader encounters your edition.
    2) You may want to sketch out a map of your edition on notebook paper. You could break up a sheet of paper into pieces, labeling each piece with one part of the edition, and practice playing around with the order.
4) **Open up Dillinger to begin composing your edition**: http://dillinger.io/
    1) You can play around on Dillinger before seriously starting your project. This way, you can check whether you remember what you learned from the tutorial.
    2) Though you may want to save your *research* on a Word document or a GoogleDrive document, resist the urge to draft the *edition* using anything other than Dillinger. The whole point is to think beyond the word processor!
5) **Periodically save your document using GoogleDrive**. There is a button at the top of Dillinger that will let you do so.
    1) If you would like to me to look over "rough drafts" of your project, you must send an early version to me by February 15th at the latest! Only then will I definitely have enough time to give you substantive feedback in time for you to respond to that feedback.
6) **When you are done, send it through GoogleDrive.** Select .md file in Google Drive, press Share to shawnaross1@gmail.com. (It won't work if you use my .edu email address!)

Grading Standards

Criterion	Comments	Points
Professionalism: turned in on time in requested format with minimum of errors		
Structure: order of information reflects characteristics of the specific text at hand		
Textual Accuracy: is the transcribed text accurate to the original text?		
Biographical, Historical, Contextual Accuracy: is the information contained true?		
Biographical, Historical, Contextual Efficiency: does the author fit in as much information as possible?		
Biographical, Historical, Contextual Helpfulness: does info truly illuminate the text?		
Critical Bibliography: contains at least 5 sources; sources are scholarly; cited in MLA format		
Basic Requirements for Links: Minimum number of links; links lead to trustworthy information; uses variety of link types		
Quality of Links: Answer most questions a reader has; enhances reading experience		
Quality of writing and care taken to create Markdown document		

You may receive extra points if you go "above and beyond" the assignment requirements. What can be considered going above and beyond?

* Providing an additional 500-word explanation of your process of creating the document telling why you made the choices you did
* Checking out a couple of different paper copies from the library to verify the accuracy of your online text
* Exceeding the minimum numbers of links or scholarly articles
* Providing 3-5 sentence summaries of the scholarly articles
* Revising and strengthening this online edition later on in the semester

Links to Help You

Oxford English Dictionary (to define words): http://oed.com.ezproxy1.lib.asu.edu/
JSTOR: http://jstor.org.ezproxy1.lib.asu.edu/
Project MUSE: http://muse.jhu.edu.ezproxy1.lib.asu.edu/
ASU catalog: http://lib.asu.edu/

Dillinger: http://dillinger.io/
Google Drive: http://drive.google.com
Markdown Tutorial: http://www.markdowntutorial.com/