

COURSE DETAIL

ROMANCE

Country

United Kingdom - England

Host Institution

University of Sussex

Program(s)

University of Sussex

UCEAP Course Level

Upper Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)

English

UCEAP Course Number

125

UCEAP Course Suffix**UCEAP Official Title**

ROMANCE

UCEAP Transcript Title

ROMANCE

UCEAP Quarter Units

6.00

UCEAP Semester Units

4.00

Course Description

The origins of this rich and complicated genre lie in the Middle Ages, when romance was the most popular form of secular literature and the particular narrative form in which women characters developed agency and subjectivity. Medieval romance has a profound influence on later literature, and, as students explore, on the novel, making it one of the most important genres to English literary history. Despite this, romance is a peculiarly discredited genre – a bit of an embarrassment to write, and to be seen reading. The course asks why the discrediting of romance in later periods is bound up with its association with women readers, and, indeed, with women writers. This course introduces students to the history of romance, to feminist scholarship on it, as well as to a history of women as readers and writers, and the ways in which male writers thought about and adapted a genre that was assumed to be feminine.

Language(s) of Instruction

English

Host Institution Course Number

Q3272

Host Institution Course Title

ROMANCE

Host Institution Course Details

<https://www.sussex.ac.uk/study/modules/undergraduate/2026/97882-romance>

Host Institution Campus

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department

English

Course Last Reviewed

2025-2026

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