19th-Century Psychological Fiction and Medicine

D1 Credit  
Tuesday/Thursday 1:00pm-2:15pm  
Classroom: Hanszen 201  
HURC 211 (CRN 25451)

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Description:
The Romantic and Victorian periods saw extended debates among literary and medical authors, over the nature, function, and even location of consciousness. This course explores the substance and structure of these debates in order to: learn the history of a literary and medical movement, critically engage with present-day debates about these texts and the questions they raise, and reflect on the changing relationship between the sciences and the humanities in general. Readings will include works by Immanuel Kant, George Berkeley, Edmund Burke, William Wordsworth, Percy Shelley, Charles Dickens, George Elliot, William and Henry James, Alexander Bain, Alan Richardson, Stephen Kosslyn, Vanessa Ryan, and Elaine Scarry. Students will write two essays, and one final research paper or alternative, independent project.

Novels/Texts  
Charles Dickens, The Old Curiosity-Shop  
George Eliot, The Lifted Veil  
William James, Turn of the Screw  
Edmund Burke, A Philosophical Enquiry

Grade distribution:  
1) Class participation, 10%  
2) 2 essays:  
   a. 3-5 pages, 25%  
   b. 3-5 pages, 25%  
3) Final research project: 40%