JOIN US
TO EXPLORE THE
WORLD OF DICKENS

on the University of California's
Santa Cruz campus
Presented by the Dickens Project

THE DICKENS UNIVERSE

July 29 - August 4, 2007
LEADING 19TH-CENTURY SCHOLARS WORKSHOPS FOR TEACHERS AFTERNOON VICTORIAN TEAS FILMS & SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

THE DICKENS UNIVERSE

The Dickens Project, begun in 1981, is a multi-campus research unit of the University of California, as well as a consortium of universities from around the world. Faculty and graduate students from the affiliated schools meet each summer for an entire week to discuss a single novel by Charles Dickens.

In addition, members of the general public are invited to participate. You need not be a scholar; the conference is open to anyone who reads and enjoys Dickens. Spend a week with us and discover why the Dickens Universe has been called "California's best-kept literary secret."

"VICTORIAN GENRES: A SYMPOSIUM"

From Thursday evening, August 2, through the afternoon of Saturday, August 4, the Dickens Project will present a scholarly symposium on "Victorian Genres" to which all Dickens Universe participants are invited without additional fee. Focusing on poetry, drama, and the novel, speakers will discuss the variety and fluidity of generic forms during the Victorian period. The keynote speaker will be Herbert Tucker (Univ. of Virginia).

Conference registration for non-Universe participants is $75.

DAILY WORKSHOPS FOR HIGH SCHOOL TEACHERS

These workshops are devoted to presenting innovative and successful ideas for teaching nineteenth-century novels (usually Great Expectations and A Tale of Two Cities) to junior high and high school students. Offered at no extra charge, each workshop will demonstrate practical teaching strategies developed by experienced teachers and tested in the classroom. Special emphasis will be given to cooperative learning techniques and to approaches that recognize differences among student learning and thinking styles.

SEMINARS FOR NON-AFFILIATED FACULTY

The Dickens Universe now includes a new, post-doctoral seminar for Victorianists from non-affiliated colleges and universities. Participants have access to all regular Dickens Universe lectures and programs. In addition, they attend a small seminar, led by Dickens Project faculty, that meets daily during the week. The seminar is designed to encourage intensive examination of the featured novel and to foster peer discussion of lectures, films, and professional issues of interest to the participants. Some secondary reading will be recommended.

SETTING

Our Piewskian adventure takes place far from the English landscape of Dickens. The Santa Cruz campus of the University of California, 75 miles south of San Francisco and 50 miles north of Carmel-by-the-Sea, is perched on a hill high above Monterey Bay and the city of Santa Cruz—a place of open vistas, shady redwood groves, and nearly tame deer. There is quick access to Santa Cruz's many shops, restaurants, and beaches via car or bus. The climate is normally mild, with cool mornings and evenings, and warm afternoons. While we dwell imaginatively in nineteenth-century England, we will simultaneously enjoy the amenities of the most beautiful of the University of California's campuses.

Santa Cruz is best served by San Jose International Airport, just 45 minutes away. Travelers may also use San Francisco International Airport (2 hours away), Amtrak into San Jose, or reach Santa Cruz by car via Highway 1. The Santa Cruz Airporter (800-497-4997) provides shuttle service to and from the San Jose and San Francisco airports.

Since many people summer in Santa Cruz, off-campus housing is usually in short and expensive supply. For this reason, we suggest that you stay on campus at Kresge College, where all conference events are held. Program registration, campus parking, and meals at the dining hall are all included in the room rates. Accommodations at Kresge College feature shared apartments with twin beds. Meals are taken at a nearby dining hall.

Those not wishing to live on campus pay $335 for registration. Parking is an additional $25/week. Meals in the dining hall may be purchased ahead of time. Our web site includes a link for motels within close driving distance to the campus.

Although UCSC has beautiful paths for walking and biking, the campus is hilly and can be very strenuous for those with mobility issues. Please contact us with any questions or concerns.

For more information and links to other helpful web sites, please visit us at http://dickens.ucsc.edu/.

DIRECTIONS

To UCSC:
Take Highway 17 South to Santa Cruz. At the outskirts of Santa Cruz, take Highway 1 North (toward Half Moon Bay). On Business Highway 1 (Mission Street), travel approximately one mile north to Bay Street. Turn right on Bay and proceed up the hill to High Street (UCSC Main Entrance).

To Kresge College:
Do not go in the Main Entrance. At Bay and High, turn left and follow High Street, which becomes Empire Grade, for approximately one mile to the West Entrance (Heller Street) on your right. Follow Heller for another half mile. Turn left at the entrance to Porter College/Kresge College. Follow the road past Porter and look for the signs that say "Dickens Universe Registration." If you arrive before 2:00 or after 4:00 on Sunday, please go directly to the Conference Services Office.
SCHEDULE
(subject to change)

Sunday, July 29
- 2:00-4:00 pm: Registration
- 3:00-5:00: Friends of Dickens Project Board Mtg
- 4:30-5:30: Orientation for First-timers
- 5:45-6:30: Dinner
- 6:30-7:30: Post-Praudial Potations (refreshments)
- 7:30-9:00: Welcome and Lecture
- 9:15-10:45: Film

Monday through Thursday, July 30–August 2
- 7:15-8:30 am: Breakfast
- 8:30-9:30: Faculty/Grad-led discussion groups
- 9:45-11:00: Lectures
- 11:15-12:30: Grad student-led workshops
- 12:45-1:30: Lunch
- 1:30-3:00: Special workshops and repeat of film
- 3:00-3:45: Afternoon Tea offered by the Friends of the Dickens Project
- 3:45-5:00: Talk or workshop
- 5:45-6:30: Dinner
- 6:30-7:30: Post-prandial Potations and Bookfair (no Bookfair Wednesday evening)
- 7:30-9:00: Lecture (*no lecture on Wednesday; see note)
- 9:15-10:45: Film (Thursday night is Grand Party hosted by the Friends)

Friday, August 3
- Morning: Schedule is the same as Monday through Thursday
- 1:30-3:00: "Victorian Genres" panel on Poetry
- 3:00-3:30: Refreshments
- 3:30-5:00: "Victorian Genres" panel on Drama
- 5:45-6:30: Dinner
- 6:30-7:30: Dessert Party
- 7:30-8:30: Auction to benefit Friends, announcements
- 8:30-10:30: Victorian Dance, with Angela Elsey and the Brassworks Band

Saturday, August 4
- 7:15-8:30 am: Breakfast
- 9:00-10:30: "Victorian Genres" panel on the Novel
- 10:30-11:00: Coffee Break
- 11:30-12:30: "Victorian Genres" roundtable discussion led by Catherine Robson

*SPEAKERS*

- John O. Jordan, Director (UCSC)
- James Eli Adams (Cornell Univ.)
- John Bowen (Univ. of York)
- James Buzard (MIT)
- Natalka Freeland (UC Irvine)
- Jonathan Grossman (UCLA)
- X. John Hall (CLNY)
- David Kurnick (Columbia Univ.)
- Charles LaPorte (Univ. of Washington)
- Sally Ledger (Birkbeck College, Univ. of London)
- Tricia Loewens (Univ. of Georgia)
- Meredith McGill (Rutgers Univ.)
- Helena Michie (Rice Univ.)
- Burke Owens (COPIA)
- Robert Patten (Rice Univ.)
- Robert Polhemus (Stanford Univ.)
- Leah Price (Harvard Univ.)
- Catherine Robson (UC Davis)
- Herbert Tucker (Univ. of Virginia)
- Carolyn Williams (Rutgers Univ.)
- Alex Woloch (Stanford Univ.)

*HELPFUL INFORMATION*

You should read *The Pickwick Papers* prior to your arrival and bring the book with you. We recommend the latest Penguin Classics edition, edited by Mark Wormald.

To receive 5 units of credit (quarter system) in Literature through UC Extension, please select this option on the registration form and include an additional $40. The course is approved to be repeated for credit. Transferability of credits is determined by your institution.

Undergraduate credit that transfers to all UC campuses is also available through UCSC Summer Session. This requires a separate registration through AIS. Please contact the Dickens Project or UCSC Summer Session for more information.

Students taking either course for credit are expected to write a paper 5-7 pages in length, which will be due August 31. The topic of the paper will be discussed at the program.

Cancellations received before July 16 will be fully refunded less a $30 service fee. Cancellations after that date will be charged a $100 service fee.
THE BOOK: The Pickwick Papers

Writing in 1840, William Makepeace Thackeray reflected that “a man who, a hundred years hence, should sit down and write the history of our time, would do wrong to put that great contemporary history of Pickwick as a frivolous work.” When we gather together this summer at Santa Cruz, some one hundred and seventy years after the initial publication of The Pickwick Papers, what will we make of Charles Dickens’s first full-length fiction? Will we agree with Thackeray that this is no trivial undertaking, but a consummate chronicle of its times? How will we describe the ways that The Pickwick Papers creates its world, its characters, and its humor? And how might we understand the generic form of a work that stitches together a wealth of stories, scenes and episodes? Exactly what kind of a novel will we decide this could be? Will we even call it a novel at all?

The first installment of The Posthumous Papers of the Pickwick Club: Containing a Faithful Record of the Penurious Adventures, Perils, Travels, Adventures and Sporting Transactions of the Corresponding Members burst upon the world in green-paper wrappers on March 31, 1836. Having been invited by his publishers to write “a monthly something” to accompany a series of illustrations of sporting scenes, the twenty-three-year-old Dickens threw himself into the task with such vigor and ingenuity that the “papers” eventually outgrew the original impetus and began to capture a large and enthusiastic audience for their continuing narrative.

At the center of the society Dickens constructed in the opening numbers stands the kindly, if sometimes irascible, figure of Mr. Samuel Pickwick, “an observer of human nature” and leading light of the Pickwick Club, an enterprise dedicated (just like the Dickens Universe) to the pursuit of knowledge in all its rich and varied forms. Clustered about him are his fellow Pickwickians, always ready to assist andabet their illustrious leader on his adventures: Mr. Nathaniel Winkle, a reluctant sportsman; Mr. Augustus Snodgrass, an amiable poet; and Mr. Tracy Tupman, an ardent admirer of the female form.

A cast of memorable and sharply differentiated comic characters quickly begins to gather around this nexus. Traveling in and out of London, we are thrown into the company of such individuals as the shrewd Mr. Alfred Jingle, with his trademark style of staccato utterance; Mr. Wardle and the merry inhabitants of Dingley Dell Farm; and Joe, the somnolent “fat boy,” who “wants to make your flesh creep.” Most importantly, the appearance of a humble boot-cleaner in the fourth installment of the series elevates The Pickwick Papers from casual comedy to a higher plane of linguistic delight and invention: once Sam Weller, an irrepressible story-teller and font of cockney wit and wisdom, takes up his place at our hero’s side, the stage is set for greatness. In all Mr. Pickwick’s trials and tribulations – most notably the breach of promise case brought against him by his landlady, Mrs. Bardell, and his ensuing incarceration in the Fleet Prison – his relationship with his faithful valet stands firm, and carries him triumphantly through a distinctive and delightful fictional universe.

The Pickwick Papers, the novelist and critic G. K. Chesterton felt, was Dickens’s “first great chance. It was a big commission given in some sense to an untried man, that he might show what he could do.”

Discover what we can do by joining us at the 2007 Dickens Universe.