



JULY 30–AUGUST 5, 2006

**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**

THE BOOK—*Nicholas Nickleby*

"We go upon the practical mode of teaching, Nickleby; the regular education system. C-l-e-a-n, clean, verb active, to make bright, to scour. W-i-n, win, d-e-r, der, winder, a casement. When the boy knows this out of book, he goes and does it. ... That's our system, Nickleby: what do you think of it?"

Here Wackford Squeers, the tyrannical, cane-wielding headmaster of Dotheboys Hall, a school for unwanted children in a bleak part of Yorkshire, sets forth the guiding principle of his exploitative and punishing pedagogical practice. In the redwood groves of UC Santa Cruz, our study of *Nicholas Nickleby* promises to be altogether more pleasurable. For many generations of readers, the third major work from the pen of Charles Dickens presents the nineteenth-century's pre-eminent storyteller at the height of his youthful powers. Dickens's "first romantic novel," the critic G. K. Chesterton asserted, is the book that "coincided with his resolution to be a great novelist and his final belief that he could be one."

At the center of *Nicholas Nickleby* is the story of a young man's journey. After the death of his father and the collapse of his fortune, Nicholas must strive to find his place in the world and ways of supporting his family. His sister Kate faces her own struggles; both siblings discover quickly enough that any assistance offered by their grudging uncle Ralph creates more problems than it solves. Thrown into a dizzying variety of situations, from the brutality of the Yorkshire school to the overheated dramas of Madame Mantalini's dress-making establishment, and entering all kinds of societies, from the company of a rumbustious band of touring players to a predatory circle of aristocrats, brother and sister alike must keep their wits about them at all times. Throughout their trials and tribulations, Nicholas and Kate learn again and again of the potential for kindness and cruelty,

warmth and coldness, in other human beings.

Certainly it is the masterfully-rendered characters of *Nicholas Nickleby* that readers remember most. Along with Squeers we find the flamboyant actor-manager Vincent Crummies and his daughter, the befuddled Infant Phenomenon; Newman Noggs, the distressed gentleman; Smike, the abused and crippled boy; the benevolent brothers Cheeryble; the Kenwidges; the Lillyvicks; and many more. The inventive richness of the world Dickens creates in *Nicholas Nickleby* makes the book one of nineteenth-century fiction's most purely enjoyable experiences. The most theatrical of Dickens's novels, *Nicholas Nickleby* has been frequently dramatized for both stage and screen, delighting audiences as much as it has always entertained readers.

For our discussions, this energetic tour-de-force offers an embarrassment of riches. Although *Nicholas Nickleby* has long been hailed as the English comic novel at its exuberant and generous best, its darker shades also demand careful attention. If the novel celebrates youthful resilience, the sustaining qualities of conviviality and the sheer plenitude of life's possibilities, what does it also tell us about the manipulative undercurrents of philanthropy, the warping tendencies of thwarted desire, and the crushing effects of both casual and deliberate neglect? In a manner Wackford Squeers could never have imagined, we will together scour the windows of *Nicholas Nickleby*'s world, and find new, bright ways of reading this perennial favorite.

JOHN O. JORDAN
UC Santa Cruz

JOHN BOWEN
University of York

JOSEPH CHILDERS
UC Riverside

CAROLYN DEVER
Vanderbilt University

EILEEN GILLOOLY
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LEADING 19TH-CENTURY SCHOLARS

WORKSHOPS FOR TEACHERS

AFTERNOON VICTORIAN TEAS

FILMS & SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

"Urbanism, Urbanity, and the Nineteenth-Century Novel"

From Thursday evening, August 3, through the afternoon of Saturday, August 5, the Dickens Project will present a scholarly conference on "Urbanism, Urbanity, and the Nineteenth-Century Novel" to which all Dickens Universe participants are invited without additional fee. Panelists will discuss different aspects of the nineteenth-century urban novel in a comparative perspective, including such topics as crowds, urban mysteries, the semiotics of the city, mobility and transportation systems, and cosmopolitanism. Featured speakers include **Sharon Marcus (Columbia Univ.)**, and **Kevin McLaughlin (Brown Univ.)**. 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 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 will have access to all regular Dickens Universe lectures and programs. In addition, they will attend a small seminar, led by a pair of Dickens Project faculty, that will meet 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.

New!

THE SETTING

We will discuss *Nicholas Nickleby* 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 Airporter (800-497-4997) provides shuttle service to and from the San Jose and San Francisco airports.

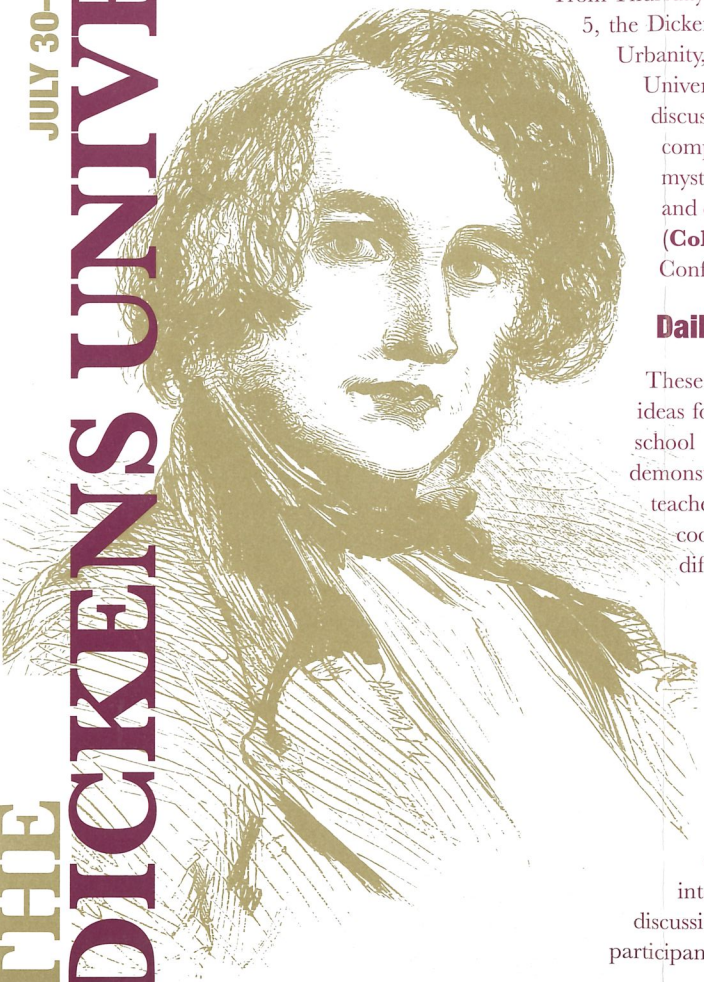
Since many people summer in Santa Cruz, off-campus housing is usually in short and expensive supply. For this reason, we suggest that you stay on campus at Kresge College, where all conference events are held. Program registration, campus parking, and meals at the dining hall are all included in the 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://humwww.ucsc.edu/dickens>.

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Everyone is Welcome

You need not be a scholar to attend the Dickens Universe. 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."



The Text

You should read *Nicholas Nickleby* prior to your arrival and bring the book with you. We recommend the latest Penguin Classics edition, edited by Mark Ford.

Credit

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. Please contact the Dickens Project or UCSC Summer Session for forms and information.

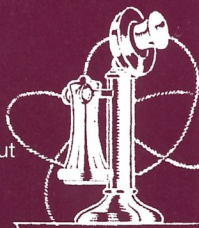
Students taking either course for credit are expected to write a paper 5-7 pages in length, which will be due August 31. The topic of the paper will be discussed at the program.

Cancellations

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.

For More Information

If you have questions not answered by this brochure, please contact us or visit our website humwww.ucsc.edu/dickens. All programs are handicapped accessible, but those with mobility concerns should call first for more information (831 459-2103).



The Dickens Universe, July 30 - August 5

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

EMAIL _____

PHONE _____

- I would like more information about the high school teacher's workshop
- I would like more information about the non-affiliated college instructor's seminar

I would like to stay on campus 6 nights (arrive SUN 7/30, depart SAT 8/5, registration, meals, and parking included):

- SINGLE accommodations (bedroom to myself in a shared apartment, sharing a bathroom and common areas) \$985
- DOUBLE accommodations \$750
(share a bedroom with one other person in a shared apartment)
Please designate a roommate or we will match you with someone:

- _____ Arrive early (SAT 7/29) \$120
- _____ Depart late (SUN 8/6) \$110

I do not wish to stay on campus:

- _____ Registration \$335
- _____ Parking for the week (permit required) \$25
- _____ Lunches M - F (optional) \$45
- _____ Dinners M - F (optional) \$48

You may take the Dickens Universe as a UC Extension course for 5 units of Post-Baccalaureate credit (fee is non-refundable and transferability is determined by your institution). \$40

TOTAL \$ _____

Make checks payable to UC REGENTS and mail to:

Dickens Project
UCSC
1156 High St.
Santa Cruz CA 95064

phone: 831-459-2103
fax: 831-459-4424
email: dpj@ucsc.edu
<http://humwww.ucsc.edu/dickens/>

or you may charge to American Express, Visa, or MasterCard:

_____ number _____ exp. date _____

_____ signature _____

In order to save costs and provide the most updated information, we post details about the conference on our web site, including the schedule, travel information, a bibliography, and valuable links. If you would prefer to receive this information in hard copy, we will mail it to you.

- I prefer to be mailed hard copies of the information

REGISTRATION

SUNDAY July 30, 2006

- 2-4 pm Registration
- 6:30 Post-Prandial Potations (PPP)
- 7:30 Welcome and lecture
- 9:15 Film (optional)

MONDAY THRU THURSDAY

- 8:30 am Faculty-led discussion groups
- 9:45 Faculty lectures on *Nicholas Nickleby*
- 11:15 Workshops on the novel and the lecture material
- 12:30 pm Lunch
- 1:30 Special workshops
- 3:00 Afternoon Tea offered by the Friends of the Dickens Project
- 3:45 Lecture or workshop
- 5:30 Dinner
- 6:30 Post-Prandial Potations
- 7:30 Lecture
- 9:15 Film (Thursday is Grand Party hosted by the Friends)

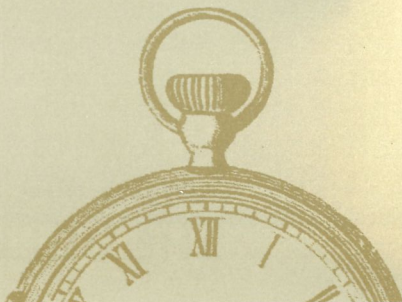
FRIDAY August 4

Morning schedule is the same as M – TH

- 1:30 pm "Urbanism" panel
- 3:00 Refreshments
- 3:30 "Urbanism" panel
- 5:00 Dinner
- 6:30 Dessert Party
- 7:30 Auction, announcements, and Magic Lantern Show

SATURDAY August 5

- Morning Departures (or stay for "Urbanism" panels)



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The Dickens Project
UC Santa Cruz
1156 High Street
Santa Cruz CA 95064

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