

## EN 390 Introduction to Literary Theory and Criticism (3) Fall 2004

**Instructor:** Rita Dirks Heath                      **Office:** Room 509  
**Office Hours:** 14:30 – 15:45 T/Th, or           **Office Phone:** 571-2550, ext. 5900  
by appointment                                      **Location:** Room 701  
**Class Times:** 16:00 – 17:15 T/Th              **E-Mail Address:** rheath@auc-nuc.ca

### Required Texts

David Lodge, ed. *Modern Criticism and Theory*. Second Edition. New York: Pearson Education, 2000.

### Course Description

This course is designed as an introduction to the modern theories of literary criticism. Included, but not limited to, are some of the following twentieth-century schools: Formalism, Structuralism, Deconstruction, Feminism, Psychoanalysis, and Reader-Response.

### Course Objectives

1. This course will introduce students to the theoretical arguments which have shaped the interpretation of literature over the last hundred years.
2. This course will give students an understanding of the various theories and help them choose their own methods of analysis.

### Course Schedule

September	9	Introduction to Literary Theory and Criticism
	14	Linguistics, Formalism, and Structuralism; Shklovsky, "Art as Technique" and Eijxenbaum, "The Theory of the Formal Method"
	16	Jakobson, "Linguistics and Poetics" (31-37)
	21	Bakhtin, "From the Prehistory of Novelistic Discourse"
	23	Bakhtin, cont'd
	30	Eco, " <i>Casablanca</i> : Cult Movies and Intertextual Exchange"
October	5	Deconstruction
	7	Derrida, "Structure, Sign and Play in the Discourse of the Human Sciences"
	12	MIDTERM
	14	Psychoanalysis
	19	Lacan, "The Insistence of the Letter of the Unconscious"
	21	Lacan, cont'd
	26	How to Write the Theory Essay

November	2	Politics, Ideology, and Cultural History
	4	Jameson: "The politics of Theory: Ideological Positions in the Postmodernism Debate"
	9	Eagleton, "Capitalism, Modernism, and Postmodernism"
	16	Feminism
	18	Irigaray, "The Bodily Encounter with the Mother"
	23	Cixous, "Sorties"
	25	Schowalter, "Feminist Criticism in the Wilderness"
December	30	Queer Theory
	1	Sedgwick, "The Beast in the Closet"
	3	Reader-Response
	8	Iser, "The Reading Process: a Phenomenological Approach"; Essay due

### Course Requirements and Grading

1. Students should do all the prescribed readings before class and be prepared to participate in class discussion.
2. Assignments are due on the dates specified. Late assignments will not be accepted, unless extenuating circumstances can be shown.
3. To receive a passing grade in the course, all assignments, quizzes, and exams must be submitted to the instructor.
4. Plagiarism in any of its forms will not be tolerated.
5. Students may not submit work done for another class.
6. The student is responsible for all the information given in class, and also for any changes to the syllabus that are announced in class.
7. Grading:

Essay 1 (2500 words)	20%
Presentation	20%
Midterm	20%
Participation	10%
Final Exam	30%