



EN 390 Introduction to Literary Theory and Criticism (3) Fall 2006

Instructor: Dr. Rita Dirks Heath
Office Hours: 9:30-11:00 W/F, or
by appointment
Class Times: 13:00-14:15 W/F

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Course Description

This course introduces the various theories of literary interpretation. Students examine theoretical arguments which have shaped the interpretation of literature over the last hundred years. We will begin the course by studying the history of modern literary theory and criticism. By examining major theoretical movements such as Structuralism, Deconstruction, Reader-Response, and Feminism the course aims to equip students with the tools of critical analysis.

Required Texts

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

Recommended Texts

David Macey. *The Penguin Dictionary of Critical Theory*. London/New York: Penguin, 2000.

Irena R. Makaryk, ed. *Encyclopedia of Contemporary Literary Theory: Approaches, Scholars, Terms*. Toronto: U of Toronto P, 2000.

Course Schedule

September	6	Introduction to Literary Theory and Criticism
	8	Linguistics, Formalism, and Structuralism; Shklovsky, "Art as Technique" and Ejxenbaum, "The Theory of the Formal Method"
	13	Jakobson, "Linguistics and Poetics" (31-37)
	15	Bakhtin, "From the Prehistory of Novelistic Discourse"
	20	Bakhtin, cont'd
	22	Eco, " <i>Casablanca</i> : Cult Movies and Intertextual Exchange"
	27	Deconstruction
	29	Derrida, "Structure, Sign and Play in the Discourse of the Human Sciences"
October	4	Psychoanalysis
	6	Lacan, "The Insistence of the Letter of the Unconscious"

	11	Lacan, cont'd
	13	Cixous, "Sorties"
	18	MIDTERM
	20	Politics, Ideology, and Cultural History
	27	Jameson: "The politics of Theory: Ideological Positions in the Postmodernism Debate"
November	1	Eagleton, "Capitalism, Modernism, and Postmodernism"
	3	Feminism
	8	Irigaray, "The Bodily Encounter with the Mother"
	15	Showalter, "Feminist Criticism in the Wilderness"
	17	Queer Theory
	22	Sedgwick, "The Beast in the Closet"
	24	Reader-Response and Hermeneutics
	29	Iser, "The Reading Process: a Phenomenological Approach"
December	6	Fish, "Interpreting the <i>Variorum</i> "
	8	Hirsch Jr., "Faulty Perspectives"
	13	Review for exam; 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. Students may not submit work done for another class.
5. The student is responsible for all the information given in class, and also for any changes to the syllabus that are announced in class.
6. Grade distribution and assignments:

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

Examinations

Final examinations are held during a scheduled time period at the end of the semester for regular semester classes and are scheduled by the Registrar.

Graded final examinations will be available for supervised review at the request of the student. Please contact the Academic Dean.

Grading

96-100	A+	
91-95	A	Excellent

86-90	A-	
82-85	B+	
75-81	B	Good
72-74	B-	
68-71	C+	
63-67	C	Satisfactory
60-62	C-	
56-59	D+	
50-55	D	Minimal Pass
0-49	F	Failure

Important Notes

It is the responsibility of all students to become familiar with and adhere to academic policies of as are stated in the Student Handbook and Academic Calendar.

Personal information, that is information about an individual that may be used to identify that individual, may be collected as a requirement as part of taking this class. Any information collected will only be used and disclosed for the purpose for which the collection was intended. For further information contact the Privacy Compliance Officer at privacy@auc-nuc.ca.

The last day to enter a course without permission and/or voluntary withdrawal from a course without financial penalty 15 September 2006.

The last day to withdraw from a course voluntarily or to change to audit without academic penalty 15 November 2006.

Although extensions to coursework in the semester are at the discretion of the instructor, students may not turn in coursework for evaluation after the last day of the scheduled final examination period unless they have received permission for a "Course Extension." Alternative times for final examinations cannot be scheduled without prior approval. Requests for course extensions or alternative examination time must be submitted to the Registrar's Office by the appropriate deadline. Course extensions are only granted for serious issues that arise "due to circumstances beyond the student's control."

We are committed to fostering personal integrity and will not overlook breaches of integrity such as plagiarism and cheating. Plagiarism and cheating can result in a failing grade for an assignment, for the course, or immediate dismissal from the university college. Students are expected to be familiar with the policies in the current Academic Calendar and the Student Handbook that deal with plagiarism, cheating, and the penalties and procedures for dealing with these matters. All cases of academic dishonesty are reported to the Academic Dean.

Students are advised to retain this syllabus for their records.

