English 300 – Introduction to Literary Criticism
MWF 9-9:50 - 175 Lillis Hall - CRN 22477

Instructor: Dr. Eric Luttrell
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Hours: 10-11am MWF
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Required Text
Literary Theory: An Anthology, Julie Rivkin and Michael Ryan eds., Blackwell, 2004

Course Objectives
This course is designed as a survey of the major forms of literary criticism of the last century. While the depth and breadth of study is necessarily constrained by a ten-week term, students will become familiar enough with the major schools of criticism, authors, and terminology to participate in scholarly discourse and to independently pursue their chosen critical paradigms. We will study the historical contexts from which the readings emerged, the degree to which they complement or conflict with each other, and the ways in which they have been applied to the study of fiction, poetry, and drama.

Students will be required to read approximately 30 pages per class meeting (about 90 pages per week). While this is extremely small for an English course, these readings will be considerably more difficult and require more time to digest than other forms of literature. Please allow yourself plenty of time to read them. Take notes during your own readings and during class. While no primary literary texts will be assigned, the readings and class lecture will frequently refer to works of English literature with which students will be assumed to be at least somewhat familiar.

Final Grade Formula
Application essay 15%
Comparison essay 15%
Discussion Forum 15%
Quizzes 15%
Midterm 20%
Final 20%

Essays
You will be required to write two essays of between 3 and 5 pages each. The application essay will apply one of the readings from the class to a primary literary text (work of original prose, poetry, or drama) of your choice. The comparison essay will evaluate the utility of two forms of criticism on the same primary literary text. Both essays will be uploaded on Blackboard's SafeAssign in either pdf or docx format.

Discussion Forum
Each Thursday I will post questions about the readings on Blackboard's discussion forum. You may respond to these questions or discuss essays that interested you. Your posts must be at least 300 works (the equivalent of just under one double-spaced page) and offer a detailed analysis of one critical text. You may pose questions, compare methodologies, propose readings of primary literature, test potential essay arguments, or simply express your discontent so long as you do so in a form that displays a thorough engagement with the argument of the text.
Quizzes
I will give several unannounced quizzes containing a total of 60 questions about the readings and class lectures. Since the total quiz score is 15% of your final grade, this means each question will equal 1/4 of a percent of that grade. Quizzes will be given at the beginning of class and timed (one minute per question) beginning promptly at 9am. If you are late, you will not be given extra time or allowed to make up the quiz later. No make-up quizzes will be possible except for officially excused absences.

Absences
The first three absences will not count against your grade. However, for every absence after the third, your final grade will be reduced by one letter. For example, if your final grade is an 81 (B-), but you have missed four classes, you will receive a C- for the class. Quizzes missed will not be available for make-up unless the absence was medical or university-related and demonstrated by official documentation (doctor’s note or interdepartmental memo).

Participation
You are encouraged to ask questions and participate in class discussion. Please be courteous in interactions with fellow class members. The use of laptops and tablets is permitted only as long as these devices are not used for any purpose not directly related to class. Do not underestimate the cues that indicate when you are using these devices for other purposes. In the event you are discovered to be using a device for any purpose beyond note-taking, you will be marked absent.

Academic Honesty
All work submitted in this course must be your own and be written exclusively for this course. The use of sources (ideas, quotations, paraphrases) must be properly documented. Please refer to the summary of the Code of Student Conduct on the Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards website: http://uodos.uoregon.edu/StudentConductandCommunityStandards/AcademicMisconduct/tabid/248/Default.aspx. In cases where academic dishonesty has been clearly established, the award of an F for the final course is the standard practice. Please see me if you have any questions about your use of sources.

Access
The University of Oregon is working to create inclusive learning environments. Please notify me in week one if there are aspects of the instruction or design of this course that result in disability-related barriers to your participation. You may also wish to contact Disability Services in 164 Oregon Hall at 541-346-1155 or disabsrv@uoregon.edu.
Schedule of Readings

(The numbers following the titles are page numbers followed by total number of pages)

----Week 1----

Monday, January 9

Course Introduction

Wednesday, January 11

Rivkin and Ryan, Formalisms 3 (4)
Boris Eichenbaum, The Formal Method 7 (7)
Viktor Shklovsky, Art as Technique 15 (5)

Friday, January 13

Cleanth Brooks, The Language of Paradox 28 (11)
W. K. Wimsatt Jr., The Structure of the Concrete Universal 40 (10)

----Week 2----

Monday, January 16

--Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday - no class--

Wednesday, January 18

Rivkin and Ryan, The Implied Order: Structuralism 53 (3)
Jonathan Culler, The Linguistic Foundation 56 (2)
Ferdinand de Saussure, Course in General Linguistics 59-71 (13)

Friday, January 20

Vladimir Propp, Morphology of the Folk-tale 72-75 (4)
Roman Jakobson, Two Aspects of Language 76 (4)
Roland Barthes, Mythologies 81-89 (9)

----Week 3----

Monday, January 23

Rivkin and Ryan, Language and Action 127 (4)
J. L. Austin, How To Do Things With Words 162 (15)
Martin Heidegger, Identity and Difference 271 (1.5)

Wednesday, January 25

Rivkin and Ryan, Introductory Deconstruction 257 (5)
Friedrich Nietzsche, On Truth and Lying in an Extra-moral Sense 262 (4)
Friedrich Nietzsche, The Will to Power 266 (5)
Jean-Francois Lyotard, The Postmodern Condition 355 (8)

Friday, January 27

Georges Bataille, Heterology 273 (3)
Jean Baudrillard, Simulacra and Simulations 365-377 (11.1)
Gilles Deleuze and Felix Guattari, A Thousand Plateaus 378-388 (8.5)

----Week 4----

Monday, January 30

Jacques Derrida, Semiology and Grammatology 332 (7)
Jacques Derrida, Differance 278 (21)
Wednesday, February 1
   Rivkin and Ryan, Writing the Past 505 (3)
   Raymond Williams, The Country and the City 508 (23)

Friday, February 3
   Michel Foucault, The Archaeology of Knowledge 90-96 (7)
   Michel Foucault, Discipline and Punish 549 (16)

---Week 5---

Monday, February 6
   --Midterm exam--

Wednesday, February 8
   --Abstract 1 Due--
   Rivkin and Ryan, Starting with Zero 643 (4)
   G. W. F. Hegel, Dialectics 647 (3)
   Karl Marx, Grundrisse 650 (2)
   Karl Marx, The German Ideology 653 (5)
   Antonio Gramsci, Hegemony 673 (1)

Friday, February 10
   Mikhail Bakhtin, Discourse in the Novel 674 (11.5)
   Louis Althusser, Ideology and Ideological State Apparatuses 693 (9)

---Week 6---

Monday, February 13
   Rivkin and Ryan, Feminist Paradigms 765 (5)
   Sandra Gilbert and Susan Gubar, The Madwoman in the Attic 812 (13)

Wednesday, February 15
   Rivkin and Ryan, Contingencies of Gender 885 (3.3)
   Helene Cixous, The Newly Born Woman 348 (6.2)
   Judith Butler, Performative Acts and Gender Constitution 900 (11)

Friday, February 17
   Luce Irigaray, The Power of Discourse and the Subordination of the Feminine 795 (3)
   Gayatri Spivak, Three Women's Texts and a Critique of Imperialism 838 (14)

---Week 7---

Monday, February 20
   Rivkin and Ryan, English Without Shadows: Literature on a World Scale 1071 (4)
   Edward Said, Jane Austen and Empire 1112 (13.2)

Wednesday, February 22
   Homi K. Bhabha, Signs Taken for Wonders 1167 (16.2)
   Jamaica Kincaid, A Small Place 1224 (6)

Friday, February 24
   Rivkin and Ryan, Situating Race 959 (4.1)
---Week 8---

Monday, February 27  
Rivkin and Ryan, The Politics of Culture 1233 (2)  
Walter Benjamin, The Work of Art in the Age of Mechanical Reproduction 1235 (6)  
Max Horkeimer and Theodor Adorno, The Culture Industry as Mass Deception 1242 (4.1)  
Michel de Certeau, The Practice of Everyday Life 1247 (10)

Wednesday, February 29  
Rivkin and Ryan, Strangers to Ourselves: Psychoanalysis 389 (7.2)  
Sigmund Freud, The Interpretation of Dreams 397 (16)

Friday, March 2  

---Week 9---

Monday, March 5  
Lisa Zunshine, Why Jane Austen was Different [Blackboard / Bb] (25)

Wednesday, March 7  
Deena Skolnick Weisberg and Joshua Goodstein, What Belongs in a Fictional World? [Bb] (10)  
Michelle Scalise Sugiyama, Reverse-Engineering Narrative [Bb](16)

Friday, March 9  
Mark Turner, The Literary Mind [Bb](21)

---Week 10---

Monday, March 12  
---Abstract 2 Due---  
Ursula Heise, The Hitchhiker's Guide to Ecocriticism [Bb](14)

Wednesday, March 14  
Emily Eakin, The Latest Theory is That Theory Doesn't Matter [Blackboard](2)  
W. J. T. Mitchell, Medium Theory [Blackboard](12)  
Frederic Jameson, Symptoms of Theory or Symptoms for Theory? [Blackboard](5)

Friday, March 16  
Review for Final Exam

---Final Exam---

Wednesday, March 21, 10:15