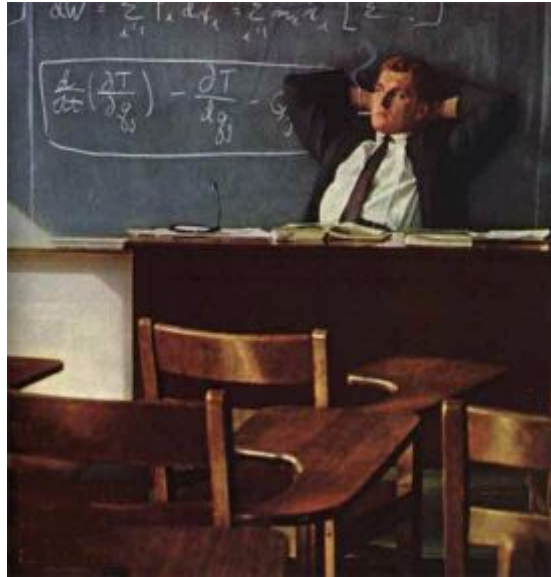


English 682: Recent Literary Criticism



Fall, 2005

Instructor: Dennis Allen

Office: 439 Stansbury

Office Hours: 4:00-5:00 T/TH and by appointment

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Course Purpose: This course is intended to acquaint you with a variety of contemporary critical methodologies.

Course Requirements:

Course grades will be based on a final exam (30%), a 10-12 page typed paper (40%), and your choice of either reading responses OR a take-home midterm (30%).

The Paper: You may write on any literary or cultural text (e.g. film). Your paper must employ one of the methodologies analyzed in the course and should demonstrate a firm grasp of that critical approach. Your paper should also reflect a mastery of the current secondary materials on the text you have chosen to analyze.

The Reading Responses (Optional): Reading responses should consist of a two page typed analysis of one of the essays from each week's reading assignments. Your responses should not summarize the reading but should engage it intellectually. In other words, your response on a particular essay should do one or more of the following: critique the essay, apply it to a literary or cultural text, or relate it to previous reading in the course. Also, if an essay proves exceptionally difficult, your response on that essay could present some focused, specific questions on points that you did not understand. Responses will be collected during the 2nd through the 9th weeks of the semester.

Attendance: Ideally, you will attend all class sessions. If you miss more than one class, you will fail the course. This policy also applies to auditors.

Text (available at the bookstore):

Rivkin, Julie and Michael Ryan, eds. *Literary Theory: An Anthology, Second Edition* (Malden, MA: Blackwell, 2004)

Web Resources:

[Introductory Guide to Literary Theory](#)

[Lacan.com](#) (It had to happen.)

[An Interview with Judith Halberstam \(includes photos\)](#)

Assignments:

Aug. 25: Introduction--Background Lecture: Overview of Current Theories

September 1: [Poststructuralism and Deconstruction](#):

First Response Paper Due

Jacques Derrida, "Differance," pp. 278-299

Jean Baudrillard, "Simulacra and Simulations," pp. 365-377

Sept. 8: [Poststructuralism and Deconstruction](#):

Michel Foucault, "Discipline and Punish," pp. 549-566

Deleuze and Guattari, "A Thousand Plateaus," pp. 378-386

Sept. 15: [Psychoanalysis](#):

Jacques Lacan, "The Mirror Stage...", pp. 441-446

Jacques Lacan, "The Instance of the Letter in the Unconscious," pp. 447-461

Sept. 22: [Marxism](#)

Louis Althusser, "Ideology and Ideological State Apparatuses," pp. 693-702

John Fiske, "Culture, Ideology, Interpellation," pp. 1268-1273

Slavoj Zizek, "The Sublime Object of Ideology," pp. 712-724

Sept. 29: [Historicisms](#):

Louis Montrose, "Professing the Renaissance," pp. 584-591

Stephen Greenblatt, "Shakespeare and the Exorcists," pp. 592-620

October 6: [Feminism/Gender Studies](#)

Judith Butler, "Performative Acts and Gender Constitution," pp. 900-911

Judith Halberstam, "Female Masculinity," pp. 935-956

Oct. 13 : [Feminism/Gender Studies](#)

Gloria Anzaldua, "Borderlands/La Frontera," pp. 1017-1030

Lisa Lowe, "Heterogeneity, Hybridity, Multiplicity," pp. 1030-1050

Oct 20: [Queer Theory](#):

[Take Home Midterm Due](#)

[Final Reading Response Due](#)

Foucault, "The History of Sexuality," pp. 683-691

Eve Sedgwick, "Epistemology of the Closet," 912-921

Oct. 27: [Ethnic Studies/Critical Race Theory](#):

Ian F. Haney Lopez, "The Social Construction of Race," pp. 964-974

Toni Morrison, "Playing in the Dark," pp. 1005-1016

Nov. 3: [Week Off](#)

Nov. 10: [Postcolonial Theory/Transnational Studies](#):

Ania Loomba, "Situating Colonial and Postcolonial Studies," pp. 1100-1111

Homi Bhabha, "Signs Taken for Wonders," pp. 1167-1184

Nov. 17: [Postcolonial Theory/Transnational Studies](#):

Alan Lawson, "The Anxious Proximities," pp. 1210-1223

Jamaica Kincaid, "A Small Place," pp. 1224-1229

Nov. 24: [Break](#)

December 1: [Cultural Studies: Paper Due](#)

Dick Hebdige, "Subculture: The Meaning of Style," pp. 1258-1267

Michel de Certeau, "The Practice of Everyday Life," pp. 1247-1257

Dec. 8: [Final](#)

Last Updated: August 12, 2005