



Philadelphia University

Faculty of Arts

Department of English

1st Semester, 2016/2017

Course Syllabus

Module Title: Stylistics Level: MA Prerequisite (s): Co- requisite(s):	Module Code: 0120723 Credit Hours: 3 Hours Lecture Time: Tuesday , 3:00 -6:00
Lecturer's Name: Prof. Nayef Al-Joulan Rank: Full Professor Office Hours: Sun., Tues., Thurs.. 10-11 & by appointment E-mail: nayef-ali@rocketmail.com	

Course Coordinator : Prof Mohamad Asfour

Course Description:

This course is primarily concerned with the function of stylistics in facilitating literary response and in understanding the techniques and features of literary texts (with marginal cross-references drawn from such areas of English performance as the media and narrative and forensic linguistics (language and the law). A broad selection of topics central to contemporary linguistics will be discussed, especially those that are particularly illuminating in textual analysis. Selected literary works that have proved to be of considerable interest in literary criticism will be used as a basis for discussion in class. Attention is given to both literary and linguistic stylistics with a view to exploring the relation between style and literary function. By the end of the course, students can acquire understanding of the principles of stylistic analysis and theory. They will be equipped with clear understanding of how language works, how to identify the essence of an author's style and how advertisements and commercials win people over.

Keywords: Style, stylistics, linguistic criticism, literary language, characterization, point-of-view, setting, repetition, linguistic choice, style and meaning, patterns, deviations, foregrounding, narrator, plot, etc.

2. Purpose of the Course:

- To develop students' skills in all aspects (keywords/key issues above) of literary stylistic analysis and research.
- To familiarize students with a set of analytical TOOLS from the "stylistician's toolkit" that they can use to examine texts (for example, words, sounds, structures, or interactive aspects).



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- Overall, to be able to submit a research paper on an agreed-upon topic for publication in a refereed journal

Teaching Methods

The module's weekly three-hour sessions are taught in a variety of forms to suit the different areas covered. As well as lectures, there will be presentations, in-class workshops, and follow up discussions of students submitted written work-in-progress.

Course Components:

TEXTBOOKS and Supplementary readings:

Lesley Jeffries, *Stylistics* (Cambridge Textbooks in Linguistics)

Short, Mick (1996) *Exploring the Language of Poems, Plays and Prose* (Longman).

Fowler, R. (1996 [1986]) *Linguistic Criticism* (OUP)

Richard Bradford, *Stylistics* (London and New York: Routledge, 1997)

Peter Verdnok, *Stylistics* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2002)

Jean Jacques Weber, *The Stylistics Reader: From Roman Jakobson to the Present* (New York: Arnold)

Leech, G. and Michael Short (1981) *Style in Fiction*. London: Longman.

Brown, G. and George Yule (1983). *Discourse Analysis*. London: OUP.

Hynes, John (1995) *Style*. London: Longman.

Mills, S. (1995) *Feminist stylistics*

Writing samples: the following list of the instructor's published research will be used as practical examples:

Monographs/Books

- *Essenced to Language': The Margins of Isaac Rosenberg*. Oxford: Peter Lang, 2007.



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Published refereed journal articles (according to genre)

Poetry

- "'incurable sores on innocent tongues': The Language of Pain in World War I Poetry," *Cross-cultural Communication, Canada*, vol. 7, no. 2 (2011): 109-115.
- "Prosopopoeia as a Cognitive Ekphrastic Activity: A Case from Eighteenth-Century Graveyard Poetry," *Canadian Social Science, Canada*, vol. 6, no. 4 (2010): 20-27.
- "Contending Heterotopic Artistic Space and Spatial/Stretched Time in T. S. Eliot's 'The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock'," *Miscelanea, Spain*, vol. 42 (Nov. 2010): 13-32.
- "Heterotopological Space in Emily Dickinson's Poem 632 'The Brain—is wider than the sky—'," *Interactions, Turkey*, vol. 18, no. 2 (Fall 2009): 1-14.
- "The Influence of Paining on the Language of Isaac Rosenberg's Poetry," *Al-Manarah, Al Al-Bayt University*, vol. VIII, no. 2 (2002): 27-48.
- "Aesthetic Dying: The Arab's Heroic Encounter with Death," *Canadian Social Science, Canada*, vol. 6, no. 6 (2010): 31-44.

Novel and short story

- "Below the level of the visible: The Mathematics and Physics of Space in Jane Smiley's *A Thousand Acres*," *Cross-cultural Communication, Canada*, vol. 6, no. 3 (2010): 83-96.
- "Content is in the Character: Critique of Arab and American Cultures in Diana Abu-Jaber's *Arabian Jazz*," *Interactions, Turkey*, vol. 18, no. 1 (Spring 2009): 19-30.
- "The Stylistics of Repetition: Gender and Class in Nawal El-Saadawi's *God Dies by the Nile*," *Al-Manarah*, vol. 13, no. 4 (2007): 71-88, Al Al-Bayt University.
- "Walking Against the Usual Traffic: A Feminist Reading of Sexual Textuality in John Updike's *A and P*," *Al-Manarah*, vol. 13, no. 5 (2007): 9-33, Al Al-Bayt University.
- "A Portrait of the Historian as Artist: The Fusion of Painting and History in the Prose Narratives of Hind Abu-Sha'ar," *Al-Manarah, Al Al-Bayt University*, vol. X, no. 3 (2004): 21-56.

Drama

- "Feminist Politics of Location: Staging Sexuality and Violence in the Drama of Griselda Gambaro," *Canadian Social Science, Canada*, vol. 6, no. 3 (2010): 114-124.

Criticism



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- "Ekphrasis Revisited: The Cognitive Essence of 'et picture poesis'," accepted in *Studies in Literature and Language*, ISSN 1923-1555 [Print], ISSN 1923-1563 [Online], vol.1, no 7 (2010): 39-54.

Online sources

<http://www.ego4u.com/en/cram-up/writing/style>

On the following pages, we will explain some of the most important stylistic devices (also called rhetorical devices or figures of speech) – they are not only useful for analyzing texts, but also for creating your own texts.

Stylistic devices make your speeches, essays etc. more interesting and lively and help you to get and keep your reader's / listener's attention.

Stylistic Devices

[Alliteration](#)

[Allusion](#)

[Anaphora](#)

[Antithesis](#)

[Hyperbole](#)

[Hypophora](#)

[Litotes](#)

[Metaphor](#)

[Metonymy](#)

Narration Technique see: [Points of view](#)

[Onomatopoeia](#)

[Parallelism](#)

[Parenthesis](#)

[Personification](#)

[Points of view](#)

[Repetition](#)

[Rhetorical Question](#)

[Simile](#)

[Synecdoche](#)

[Understatement](#)

<http://www.bloomsbury.com/uk/series/advances-in-stylistics/>

Advances in Stylistics

Series Editor: Dan McIntyre (University of Huddersfield, UK)

Editorial Board:

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http://www.blackwellreference.com/public/tocnode?id=g9781405138093_chunk_g978140513809318

5. Intended Learning Outcomes (cognition and analysis, personal and Academic communicative skills, Practical and subject-specific transferrable skills)

Stylistics is a systematic way of exploring (primarily literary) texts. It looks at the language of texts and tries to explain how that language creates meaning, style and effect. The main aim of the course is to make students appreciate and understand the functional interpretation and construction of texts. At the end of the course, the students will be able to:

- Identify the principles and tools of stylistic analysis;
- Describe the principles and tools of stylistic analysis;
- Analyze texts beyond its formal features using the principles and tools of stylistic analysis.
- Select a research topic and appropriate research strategies
- Deliver a clear, well-timed oral presentation appropriate to the topic and the audience.
- Present written work stylistically analyzing a work of literature in accordance with a system of guidelines to conventions of academic writing (e.g. MLA, Chicago manual etc.)

6. Attendance and Participation:

Attendance is expected to be regular, and absence is treated with reference to the University's policy on this matter. Student participation is essential.

7. Assessment:

Mid-term Exam: 30%

Research Paper: 20% to be submitted by the end of week 12.

Presentations: 10%

Final Exam: 40%

Checklist:



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- Awareness of the tools of stylistic analysis and content and techniques of literary works
 - Note taking
 - Arguing and counter-arguing
 - Presenting work-in-progress
 - Writing up and presenting a research paper
 - Keeping a journal

The following points should be borne in mind when preparing for the term paper:

- Concentrate on the features of the text that you consider to be most relevant to the understanding of the text.
- Follow relevant principles.
- Demonstrate each point by quoting examples and describing the communicative strategies that are employed in detail.
- Relate your analysis to the meaning of the text, showing how your insight into the language of the text informs the literary communication.
- Ensure that your essay is a coherent and well-structured essay.

Documentation and Academic Honesty

Students are expected to complete all homework, papers and projects independently (unless otherwise specified); any work must be yours and yours alone. Working together for anything other than data collection, relying on students' work from previous semesters and/or plagiarizing published research is considered cheating.

1. Documentation Style (with illustrative examples)

Reference list styles

Note: it is usual to italicize book titles; however, if you are not able to do this, you should underline them instead.

* Book

Trudgill, P. and Hannah, J. (1994, 3rd edn) *International English*, London, Edward Arnold.

Fodor, J.A. (1983) *The Modularity of Mind*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press.

Harré, R. and Gillett, G. (1994) *The Discursive Mind*. London: Sage.

* Chapter/ extract from an edited collection



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Harris, J. (1993) 'The grammar of Irish English' in Milroy, J. and Milroy, L. (eds) *Real English: the grammar of English dialects in the British Isles*, London, Longman.

* Paper in a journal or magazine

Wales, L. (1994) 'Royalese: the rise and fall of "the Queen's English" ', *English Today*, vol. 10, no.3, pp. 3-10.

Journal article:

Roulet, E. (1997). 'A Modular Approach to Discourse Structures'. *Pragmatics* 7(2), 125–46.

Lee, E. T. & Zadeh, L. A. (1969). 'Note on fuzzy languages'. *Information Sciences* 1, 421–434.

Book article:

Sinha, Chris. (1999). 'Grounding, mapping and acts of meaning'. In T. Janssen and G. Redeker (Eds.), *Cognitive Linguistics, Foundations, Scope and Methodology*, Berlin: Mouton de Gruyter, pp. 223-256.

Magazine article:

Posner, M. I. (1993, October 29). Seeing the mind. *Science*, 262, 673-674.

Daily newspaper article:

'New drug appears to sharply cut risk of death from heart failure'. (1993, July 15). *The Washington Post*, p. A12.

Entry in an encyclopedia:

Bergman, P. G. (1993). 'Relativity'. In *The new encyclopedia Britannica* (Vol. 26, pp. 501-508). Chicago: Encyclopedia Britannica.

Documenting Web Sources

Burka, Lauren P. 'A Hypertext History of Multi-User Dimensions.' *MUD History*. 1993. <<http://www.ccs.neu.edu/home/lpb/mud-history.html>> (5 Dec. 1994).

Harnack, Andrew and Gene Kleppinger. *Beyond the MLA Handbook: Documenting Electronic Sources on the Internet*. 25 November 1996. <<http://falcon.eku.edu/honors/beyond-mla/>> (17 Dec. 1997).



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For more about APA and MLA Styles for Citing Print Sources, browse:

<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/557/01>

<http://wally.rit.edu/internet/subject/apamla.htm>

2. Protection of Copyright

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Students are expected to respect and uphold the standards of honesty in all their activities. Any cheating or plagiarism will result in disciplinary action to be determined by the instructor based on the severity and nature of the offense.

3. Avoiding Plagiarism

Plagiarism is a serious academic offense that will result in your failing the course.

Learning notes by heart and repeating the information word by word in the exam is a type of plagiarism..

Deadlines

To be agreed on democratically but within the course time limits

Suggested topics

A separate handout for students to sign up for topics (given a week to chose)

Weekly plan

General introduction: style, stylistics, and literature

Goals of stylistics; types of stylistics

Stylistics and the levels of language

Foregrounding: Deviation and Repetition

Point of view

Stylistics in the novel: Perspective, deictic, and representation,

Contextual stylistics,

Roman Jakobson and stylistics,

Theories of fictional narrative: Genette



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A detailed look at poems: stylistic analysis of poetry

(rhyme, rhythm, figurative language etc.)

A detailed look at prose fiction: stylistic analysis of prose

(plot, character, narrator, point of view, setting, etc.)

A detailed look at drama: stylistic analysis of drama

(dialogue, scene, stage directions, costumes, etc.)

A detailed look at non-literary texts: stylistic analysis of advertisements