Course Title: Special Topics in Literature (Hypertext and Electronic Literature)
Level: Forth Year
Prerequisite (s):
Co requisite(s):

Lecturer's Name: Dr. Hilmi Al- Ahmed
Office Number: 405
Office Hours:
E-mail: mhilmi

Course Description: Dr. Hilmi Al- Ahmed

Computer technology is reshaping our life in all its aspects. The way we read and analyze literary texts is one of these aspects. The course examines the effects of the digital technology and new media on literary texts and embarks to explore what happens when texts are moved from page to screen. We will also discuss electronic literature and its different genres in relation to print literature. A major theme in the course will be the pedagogical uses of the computer and how to make the best uses of this technology in studying literature.

Course Objectives:

1. To introduce students to the field of digital literary studies and hypertext theory.
2. To introduce students to the major genres of electronic literature.
3. To enable students to make better use of the computer technology in reading and studying literary texts.
4. To understand the implications and consequences when texts are moved from page to screen.
5. To sharpen the critical thinking, writing, and reading skills of students.

Intended Learning Outcomes:

Upon completing this module students should be able

a. Knowledge & Understanding:
   1. To have a general knowledge of key concepts and definitions of electronic literature and hypertext theory.
2. To be able to discuss some issues concerning the digitization of texts and how this influences the perception of literary texts.

b. **Cognitive Skills (Thinking & Analysis):**
   1.

c. **Communicative Skills (Personal and Academic):**
   1. To have some background knowledge and practical experience in terms of using digital tools in studying literature.

d. **Practical and Subject Specific Skills (Transferable Skills):**
   1. To experience the reading and analyzing of some works of e-literature.
   2. To be able to produce well-written critiques of some works.

**Teaching Methods:**
The best way to study any topic is by discussion and critical thinking. Thus, the classes will depend on active participation and lecturing won’t be the sole method of teaching/learning. Besides, group work and creative assignments will be a basic part of all classes.

**Required Text(s):**
*We will read short selections from the following books. Those will be posted/available online:*


**Literary Works:**
- Michael Joyce’s *Afternoon*
- Shelley Jackson’s *Patchwork Girl*
Required Assignments:

1. **Written essays:** These will be about a major theme relevant to the topic of the course.
2. **Presentation:** Throughout the semester, you (individual students or groups) will be asked to prepare a 15-minute presentation about a literary work or a certain topic.
3. **Blog and wiki assignments:** There will be a blog and a wiki page for the course. Weekly assignment will be given to post short comments.
4. **Final Project:**
   *You will receive detailed handouts about these assignments in time.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mode of Assessment</th>
<th>Score</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Written Essay 1</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Web-based Essay 2</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Blog and wiki assignments</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<td>Participation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Project</td>
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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**


* **Chapter/extract from an edited collection**

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

**Journal article:**


**Book article:**

**Magazine article:**

**Daily newspaper article:**

**Entry in an encyclopedia:**

**Documenting Web Sources**

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/apama.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.

Semester Schedule (Tentative):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Themes to be covered</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(1)</td>
<td>Introductions and Class Meeting</td>
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<td>(2)</td>
<td>Basic terms and concepts (Hypertext, E-Literature, E-Crit)</td>
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<td>(3)</td>
<td>Hypertext I</td>
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<td>(4)</td>
<td>Hypertext II</td>
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<td>(5)</td>
<td>Digital tools for studying literature</td>
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<td>(6)</td>
<td>Interactive fiction and games I</td>
<td>First Written Essay</td>
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<tr>
<td>(7)</td>
<td>Interactive fiction and games II</td>
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# Philadelphia University

## Faculty of Arts

## Department of English

### Second Semester, 2012 /2013

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(8)</td>
<td>e-books and reading on screen I</td>
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<tr>
<td>(9)</td>
<td>e-books and reading on screen II</td>
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<td>(10)</td>
<td>Virtual reality</td>
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<td>(11)</td>
<td>Digital poetry</td>
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<td>(12)</td>
<td>Digitization of literary texts and online editions</td>
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<td>(13)</td>
<td>Web-based Essay</td>
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<td>(14)</td>
<td>Social media and literature I</td>
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<tr>
<td>(15)</td>
<td>Social media and literature II</td>
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<td>(16)</td>
<td>Final projects</td>
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**Expected Workload:**
On average you should expect to spend at least (9) hours per week on this course.

**Attendance Policy**
Absence from lectures and/or tutorials shall not exceed 15%. Students who exceed the 15% limit without a medical or emergency excuse acceptable to and approved by the Dean of the relevant college/faculty shall not be allowed to take the final examination and shall receive a mark of zero for the course. If the excuse is approved by the Dean, the student shall be considered to have withdrawn from the course.

**Course Policies:**

1. You are allowed up to (5) absences on Mondays/Wednesdays or (7) absences on Sundays/Tuesdays/Thursdays. If you exceed this number, you will fail the course.
2. Tardiness will not be tolerated. If you come to class after I take attendance, you are welcome to attend, but you will be considered absent.
3. Plagiarism is a serious academic offense that will result in your failing the course.
4. Learning notes by heart and repeating the information word by word in the exam is a type of plagiarism.
5. Participation is an essential part of course work. It does not merely mean coming to class; it involves preparing before hand and playing an active role in class discussion.
6. Make-up exams will be offered for valid reasons only with the consent of the Dean.

References:


