Philadelphia University
Faculty of Arts
Department of English
1st Semester, 2016/2017

Course Title: Introduction to Literary Theory and Criticism
Level: Fourth Year
Prerequisite(s): 120251
Co-requisite(s): None

Course Code: 120484
Credit Hours: 3
Lecture Time: Sun/Tues/Thurs 10:10-10:59

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Course Coordinator: Prof. Mohammad Asfour

Course Description

This course is an introduction to some of the major literary theories of the modern age. Students study and discuss one literary text, which is then analyzed by different scholars using different theoretical and practical approaches. The idea is to show that the different approaches do not cancel each other out but help the reader to see the text from various, but complementary, viewpoints.

Course Objectives

1. To introduce students to some of the more recent literary theories.
2. To familiarize students with the different ways of thinking about knowledge texts.
3. To give students a chance to analyze and critique literary texts by using different approaches.

Teaching Methods

Although the course is largely theoretical, lecturing will be kept to a minimum. Instead, the theoretical material will be turned into questions that will be put forward for discussion and application to the story will be emphasize to show that theory is not sought for its own sake but intended to make literary texts more accessible and more rewarding. Students will also be asked to give short presentations and short papers on selected points in the material.
Intended Learning Outcomes

Note: The symbols employed in this section refer to a two-page set of intended learning outcomes distributed by the Department’s Chair on 9 October 2016 to be used when relevant.

A. Knowledge and Understanding
   A2, A4
B. Analysis and Critical Thinking
   B1, B2, B3, B4, B5
C. Practical Skills
   C1, C2, C6, C7
D. Transferable Skills and Personal Qualities
   D2, D3, D4

Required Text


Required Assignments & Weighting Scale

1. Written Examinations: You will have TWO written examinations in the form of essay questions about particular topics. You should voice your own opinion and demonstrate your understanding of the topic.
2. Presentations: Throughout the semester you will be asked to prepare 10-minute presentations on critics or topics of criticism.
3. In-class Assignments: You will be given a variety of short assignments, some of which to be done by groups.
4. Final Examination: The final examination will be based on the entire material covered in the course.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Allocation of grades</th>
<th>Percentages</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Written Exam 1</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Written Exam 2</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Presentation</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Presentation</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>40%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
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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)
Note: Italicize book titles; if you are not able to do this, you should underline them instead.

*Book

* Chapter/ extract from an edited collection

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

* Book article:

* Documenting Web Sources

For more on APA and MLA Styles for citing print sources, see
http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/557/01
http://wally.rit.edu/internet/subject/apamla.htm

2. Protection of Copyright
Publications in all forms require permission from the copyright owner in advance. You are not allowed to reproduce, store in a retrieval system, or transmit, in any form or by any means, without the prior permission of the publisher.

3. Avoiding Plagiarism
Plagiarism is a serious academic offense that will result in your failing the course.
**Expected Workload:**

On average students are expected to spend at least (2) hours of study for each 50-minute lecture.

**Attendance Policy**

Absence from lectures may not exceed 15%. Students who exceed the 15% limit without a medical or emergency excuse acceptable to the Dean of the relevant faculty shall not be allowed to take the final examination and so fail the course. If the excuse is approved by the Dean, the student will 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.
3. Plagiarism is a serious academic offense that will result in your failing the course.
4. Participation is an essential part of your course work. It involves preparing and playing an active role in class discussion.
5. Make-up exams will be given for valid reasons and only with the consent of the Dean.

**Weekly Assignments**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Introduction + “Snowed Up”</td>
<td>Read the story and take notes.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Julian Cowley, “‘Snowed Up’: A Structuralist Reading”</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Mark Currie, “Snow Me Again: A Poststructuralist Narratology of ‘Snowed Up’”</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Jill Barker, “Does Edie Count?: A Psychoanalytic Perspective on ‘Snowed Up’”</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Ruth Robbins, “‘Snowed Up: A Mistletoe Story’: Feminist Approaches”</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Jessica Maynard, “Agriculture and Anarchy: A Marxist Reading of ‘Snowed Up’”</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>First Midterm + Discussion of students’ exam papers</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>John Brannigan, “Power and Its Representations: A New Historicist Reading of Richard Jefferies; ‘Snowed Up’”</td>
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the ‘Margins’: ‘Deconstructing’ ‘Richard Jefferies’?

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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>A general review of the various approaches</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Second Midterm Exam</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Presentations</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Presentations</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Presentations</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Presentations</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Final Examination</td>
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This part of the semester will be reserved for application by students of what they have learned to different literary texts.

Further Reading

The following short list of books will be of interest of to enterprising students: