

## EN 390 Introduction to Literary Theory and Criticism (3) Fall 2005

**Instructor:** Rita Dirks Heath                      **Office:** Room 509  
**Office Hours:** 14:30 – 15:45 T/Th, or           **Office Phone:** 571-2550, ext. 5900  
by appointment                                      **Location:** Room 753  
**Class Times:** 16:00 – 17:15 T/Th               **E-Mail Address:** rheath@auc-nuc.ca

### Required Texts

David Lodge, ed. *Modern Criticism and Theory*. Second Edition. New York: Pearson Education, 2000.

### Course Description

This course is designed as an introduction to the modern theories of literary criticism. Included, but not limited to, are some of the following twentieth-century schools: Formalism, Structuralism, Deconstruction, Feminism, Psychoanalysis, and Reader-Response.

### Course Objectives

1. This course will introduce students to the theoretical arguments which have shaped the interpretation of literature over the last hundred years.
2. This course will give students an understanding of the various theories and help them choose their own methods of analysis.

### Course Schedule

September	8	Introduction to Literary Theory and Criticism
	13	Linguistics, Formalism, and Structuralism; Shklovsky, "Art as Technique" and Eichenbaum, "The Theory of the Formal Method"
	15	Jakobson, "Linguistics and Poetics" (31-37)
	20	Bakhtin, "From the Prehistory of Novelistic Discourse"
	22	Bakhtin, cont'd
	29	Eco, " <i>Casablanca</i> : Cult Movies and Intertextual Exchange"
October	4	Deconstruction
	6	Derrida, "Structure, Sign and Play in the Discourse of the Human Sciences"
	11	MIDTERM
	13	Psychoanalysis
	18	Lacan, "The Insistence of the Letter of the Unconscious"
	20	Lacan, cont'd

	25	Cixous, "Sorties"
November	1	Politics, Ideology, and Cultural History
	3	Jameson: "The politics of Theory: Ideological Positions in the Postmodernism Debate"
	8	Eagleton, "Capitalism, Modernism, and Postmodernism"
	15	Feminism
	17	Irigaray, "The Bodily Encounter with the Mother"
	22	Schowalter, "Feminist Criticism in the Wilderness"
	24	Queer Theory
	29	Sedgwick, "The Beast in the Closet"
December	1	Reader-Response and Hermeneutics
	6	Iser, "The Reading Process: a Phenomenological Approach"
	8	Hirsch Jr., "Faulty Perspectives"
	13	Review for exam; Essay due

### Course Requirements and Grading

1. Students should do all the prescribed readings before class and be prepared to participate in class discussion.
2. Assignments are due on the dates specified. Late assignments will not be accepted, unless extenuating circumstances can be shown.
3. To receive a passing grade in the course, all assignments, quizzes, and exams must be submitted to the instructor.
4. Plagiarism in any of its forms will not be tolerated.
5. Students may not submit work done for another class.
6. The student is responsible for all the information given in class, and also for any changes to the syllabus that are announced in class.
7. Grading:

Essay 1 (2500 words)	20%
Presentation	20%
Midterm	20%
Participation	10%
Final Exam	30%