

Course ID:	Course Title:	Winter 2020
EN 391	Seminar in Early Literary Theory	Prerequisite: 6 EN credits
		Credits: 3

Class Information		Instructor Information		Important Dates	
Days:	W-F	Instructor:	Jonathan Goossen, PhD	First day of classes:	Tue, Jan 7
Time:	4:00-5:15 pm	Email:	jgoossen@ambrose.edu	Last day to add/drop, or change to audit:	Sun, Jan 19
Room:	RE 112	Phone:	403-410-2000 x5960	Last day to request revised final exam:	Mon, Mar 9
Lab/ Tutorial:		Office:	L2065	Last day to withdraw from course:	Fri, Mar 20
		Office Hours:	T-Th 1:00-2:15 pm	Last day to apply for coursework extension:	Mon, Mar 30
Final Exam:	TBA			Last day of classes:	Thurs, Apr 9

Course Description

From the course catalogue: This course will examine central statements about the nature and effect of language and literature from the classical era to the nineteenth century. Thinkers considered may include Plato, Aristotle, Augustine, Dante, Sidney, Schiller, Hegel and Nietzsche.

From your professor: My goal for the course this winter is to consider texts and ideas that treat literature as a unique mode of artistic expression. This destination requires us to chart a middle course between ideas about art and aesthetics more broadly, and focused critical readings of individual literary texts more particularly. Even within these limits, though, the range of the course remains vast. On the one hand, consider this a course in the history of ideas: it is meant to familiarize you with the developments and recurrences in Western ideas about the nature of literature, and to demonstrate that the central concerns and concepts of contemporary literary theory originate long before the twentieth century. But on the other hand, like all important history, the course is equally meant to broaden, sophisticate, and challenge your own ways of reading and thinking about literature. The ideas here are living; they remain deeply relevant, potent draughts of the “clean sea breeze of the centuries” that C. S. Lewis so presciently saw as the remedy for a contemporary culture evermore closeted in the present.

Expected Learning Outcomes

Diligent students of the course will:

1. Understand the major ways that literature has been received, understood, and conceptualized within the Western philosophical tradition from Plato to the beginning of the twentieth-century.
2. Understand how the rise and decline of Christianity in the West affects understandings of literature.
3. In light of this knowledge, recognize and challenge their own presuppositions about and ways of thinking about literature.
4. Develop the skill of writing clear, compelling, and correct prose in essays that logically argue a claim on the basis of textual evidence.

5. Learn, in the words of the Book of Common Prayer, to “reverence truth, desire goodness, and rejoice in beauty,” as these qualities are manifested in writing about literature.

Textbooks

Required:

- Sidney, Sir Philip. *The Defense of Poesy*. In *The Norton Anthology of English Literature, Volume B: The Sixteenth Century & the Early Seventeenth Century*. 9th edition. Edited by Stephen Greenblatt, et al.. Norton, 2012, pp. 1045-83.
- Pope, Alexander. *An Essay on Criticism*. In *The Norton Anthology of English Literature, Volume C: The Restoration and Eighteenth Century*. 9th edition. Edited by Stephen Greenblatt, et al.. Norton, 2012.

All other required texts are available in PDF form and are drawn from the following sources:

- St Augustine. *On Christian Teaching [de Doctrina Christiana]*. Translator R. P. H. Green. Oxford, 2008.
- Habib, M. A. R. *A History of Literary Criticism and Theory: From Plato the Present*. Wiley Blackwell, 2005.
- Leitch, Vincent B., et al., editors. *The Norton Anthology of Theory and Criticism*. 2nd ed. Norton, 2010.
- Preminger, Alex, et al., editors. *Classical and Medieval Literary Criticism: Translations and Interpretations*. Frederick Ungar, 1974.

Recommended:

- Cambridge History of Literary Criticism*, 9 vols. Cambridge UP, 1993-2016.
- Greene, Roland, and Stephen Cushman, editors. *The Princeton Encyclopedia of Poetry and Poetics*. 4th ed. Princeton, 2012.
- The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*. Edited by Edward N. Zalta. Stanford: The Metaphysics Research Lab.
<http://plato.stanford.edu/>

Requirements:

- Class sessions will be largely devoted to considering the assigned readings. Therefore:
 - Read all assigned texts **before** the class for which they are assigned;
 - Always **bring the relevant texts to class in hard copy**;
 - Additional secondary reading may be assigned at the instructor’s discretion.
- In addition to assigned readings, **you are responsible for the content of all lectures and presentations by fellow students**. In other words, **attend class**.
 - **Attendance** will be taken daily. Students who miss more than **eight** class periods will **automatically fail** the course.
- **All** assignments must be submitted to receive a passing final grade.
- **Extensions** may be granted on essay assignments in exceptional circumstances, but must be arranged in advance. **Late papers** will be marked down one refined letter grade per class day late and may be graded and returned later than on-time papers.
 - The most current version of this syllabus and any supplementary handouts will always be available on Moodle.

Participation – 15%

A seminar course relies heavily on the alert, informed, and thoughtful participation of students. When this is combined with our small class size, **the contribution of each class member to each class period becomes crucial**. Therefore:

- read the texts deeply and repeatedly, not quickly;
- ask and answer questions in class;
- discuss and debate not merely with the professor but with your classmates;
- seek the professor’s direction in advance of major assignments;
- attend class.

As part of your participation grade, you must **submit one thoughtfully developed question** to initiate class discussion. **Dates as per schedule**.

Major Seminar Presentation (45-60 minutes) – 20%.

Choose one of the assigned texts open for presentation. You will be responsible to **teach this text to the class** by setting it in its historical and theoretical context and by explaining its organization and ideas. Your grade will be based solely on your presentation; no written submission is required. **Dates as per schedule.**

Short summary paper, presentation, and discussion (30 minutes) – 15%

In a **5-page paper**, summarize one era of literary criticism, as noted on schedule. **Present the paper** to the class on the assigned due date and **lead a discussion** of the era's ideas. You will be graded on both written and oral components. **Dates as per schedule**

Research Paper – 30%.

Write a **12-page** research paper on an assigned topic. Proposals for topics of your own device will be entertained, but you must submit a thesis statement and list of sources for approval **one week before the essay due date**, which is **Wednesday, April 8.**

Final examination – 20%

The exam will be comprehensive of the entire course. **Date TBA.**

Further directions for these assignments will be given well before they are due.

Classroom Etiquette

In order for everyone to get the most out of this class, please observe the following points:

- Arrive on time. Attendance will be taken and count towards your participation grade.
- Eating in class is brutish; don't do it. Unslurped beverages are fine.
- Students may not use any device more technologically complex than a pen in our classroom. Beeping mobile phones are barbaric and will be confiscated.

Grade Summary:

Letter Grade	Percentage	Description
A+	96-100	Excellent
A	91-95	
A-	86-90	
B+	82-85	Good
B	75-81	
B-	72-74	
C+	68-71	Satisfactory
C	63-67	
C-	60-62	
D+	56-59	Poor
D	50-55	Minimum Pass
F	0-49	Failure

Because of the nature of the Alpha 4.00 system, there can be no uniform University-wide conversion scale. The relationship between raw scores (e.g. percentages) and the resultant letter grade will depend on the nature of the course and the instructor's assessment of the level of each class, compared to similar classes taught previously.

Please note that final grades will be available on student registration system. Printed grade sheets are not mailed out.

Ambrose University Academic Policies

Communication

All students have received an Ambrose e-mail account upon registration. It is the student's responsibility to check this account regularly as the Ambrose email system will be the professor's instrument for notifying students of important matters (cancelled class sessions, extensions, requested appointments, etc.) between class sessions. If students do not wish to use their Ambrose accounts, they will need to forward all messages from the Ambrose account to another personal account.

Registration

During the **Registration Revision Period** students may enter a course without permission, change the designation of any class from credit to audit and/or voluntary withdraw from a course without financial or academic penalty or record. Courses should be added or dropped on the student portal by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. After that date, the original status remains and the student is responsible for related fees.

Students intending to withdraw from a course after the Registration Revision Period must apply to the Office of the Registrar by submitting a "Request to Withdraw from a Course" form or by sending an email to the Registrar's Office by the **Withdrawal Deadline**; please consult the List of Important Dates on the my.ambrose.edu website. Students will not receive a tuition refund for courses from which they withdraw after the Registration Revision period. A grade of "W" will appear on their transcript.

Students wishing to withdraw from a course, but who fail to do so by the applicable date, will receive the grade earned in accordance with the course syllabus. A student obliged to withdraw from a course after the Withdrawal Deadline because of health or other reasons may apply to the Registrar for special consideration.

Exam Scheduling

Students, who find a conflict in their exam schedule must submit a Revised Examination Request form to the Registrar's Office by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. Requests will be considered for the following reasons only: 1) the scheduled final examination slot conflicts with another exam; 2) the student has three final exams within three consecutive exam time blocks; 3) the scheduled final exam slot conflicts with an exam at another institution; 4) extenuating circumstances. Travel is not considered a valid excuse for re-scheduling or missing a final exam.

Electronic Etiquette

Students are expected to treat their instructor, guest speakers, and fellow students with respect. It is disruptive to the learning goals of a course or seminar and disrespectful to fellow students and the instructor to use electronics for purposes unrelated to the course during a class session. Turn off all cell phones and other electronic devices during class. Laptops should be used for class-related purposes only. Do not use iPods, MP3 players, or headphones. Do not text, read, or send personal emails, go on Facebook or other social networks, search the internet, or play computer games during class. Some professors will not allow the use of any electronic devices in class. The professor has the right to disallow the student to use a laptop in future lectures and/or to ask a student to withdraw from the session if s/he does not comply with this policy. Repeat offenders will be directed to the Dean. If you are expecting communication due to an emergency, please speak with the professor before the class begins.

Academic Policies

It is the responsibility of all students to become familiar with and adhere to academic policies as stated in the Academic Calendar. Personal information (information about an individual that may be used to identify that individual) may be required as part of taking this class. Any information collected will only be used and disclosed for the purpose for which the collection was intended. For further information contact the Privacy Compliance Officer at privacy@ambrose.edu.

Extensions

Although extensions to coursework in the semester are at the discretion of the instructor, students may not turn in coursework for evaluation after the last day of the scheduled final examination period unless they have received permission for a course Extension from the Registrar's Office. Requests for course extensions or alternative examination time must be submitted to the Registrar's Office by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. Course extensions are only granted for serious issues that arise "due to circumstances beyond the student's control."

Appeal of Grade

An appeal for change of grade on any course work must be made to the course instructor within one week of receiving notification of the grade. An appeal for change of final grade must be submitted to the Registrar's Office in writing and providing the basis for appeal within 30 days of receiving notification of the final grade, providing the basis for appeal. A review fee of \$50.00 must accompany the appeal. If the appeal is sustained, the fee will be refunded.

Academic Integrity

We are committed to fostering personal integrity and will not overlook breaches of integrity such as plagiarism and cheating. Academic dishonesty is taken seriously at Ambrose University as it undermines our academic standards and affects the integrity of each member of our learning community. Any attempt to obtain credit for academic work through fraudulent, deceptive, or dishonest means is academic dishonesty. Plagiarism involves presenting someone else's ideas, words, or work as one's own. Plagiarism is fraud and theft, but plagiarism can also occur by accident when a student fails or forgets to acknowledge to another person's ideas or words. Plagiarism and cheating can result in a failing grade for an assignment, for the course, or immediate dismissal from the university. Students are expected to be familiar with the policies in the current Academic Calendar that deal with plagiarism, cheating, and the penalties and procedures for dealing with these matters. All cases of academic dishonesty are reported to the Academic Dean and become part of the student's permanent record.

Note: Students are strongly advised to retain this syllabus for their records.

Course Schedule – EN 391 – Winter 2020

Wednesday	Friday
<p>January 8 - Course Introduction</p>	<p>January 10 THE CLASSICAL WORLD 1. Plato and Neo-Platonism Habib, “Classical Literary Criticism” pp. 9-18 Preminger, et al. “Introduction” to Plato Plato, <i>Ion</i></p>
<p>January 15 Plato, <i>Republic</i> Bk 2 (376d-386a) from Bk 3 (pp. 49-54; 62-64 / 386a-391e; 400e-403c)</p>	<p>January 17 Plato, <i>Republic</i>, from Bk 10 (pp. 64-78 / 595a-608b) Question _____</p>
<p>January 22 Plotinus, <i>The Enneads</i> Proclus, <i>On the More Difficult Questions in the Republic</i> Question _____</p>	<p>January 24 2. Responses to Plato Summary Presentation on Plato & Neo-Pl. _____ Aristotle, from <i>Poetics</i> (pp. 108-27 / Ch. 1-19)</p>
<p>January 29 Aristotle, <i>Poetics</i> Question _____</p>	<p>January 31 Longinus, from <i>On Sublimity</i> I-XVII; XXXIII-XXXVI (pp. 192-207; 216-19) Major Presentation _____</p>
<p>February 5 THE EARLY CHRISTIAN AND MEDIEVAL WORLDS Summary Presentation on Responses to Plato _____ Habib, “The Early Middle Ages” (pp. 151-56) St Basil, “Address to Young Men” Question _____</p>	<p>February 7 1. Reading Scripture St Augustine, <i>On Christian Teaching</i> Bk I: § 1-12; 39-40; 59-60; 84-96 (I-V; XXII; XXVII; XXXV-XL) Bk II: § 1-33; 144-52 (I-X; XL-XLII) Bk III: § 1; 20-34; 50-55; (I; V-X; XIV) Question _____</p>
<p>February 12 St Augustine, <i>On Christian Teaching</i> Bk IV: § 72-89; 96-124; 145-50 (XI-XV; XVII-XX; XXVI) Hugh of St Victor, from <i>Didascalion</i> Bk V §1-3; Bk VI Major Presentation (on Hugh) _____</p>	<p>February 14 2. Reading Poetry Habib, “The Later Middle Ages” (pp. 166-78) Dante, from <i>Il Convivio</i>, NATC pp. 249-51 from <i>Letter to Can Grande</i>, NATC pp. 251-52 Bocaccio, from <i>Genealogy of the Gentile Gods</i> Bk 14 §V-VII; IX-X; XII; XXII (pp. 452-58; 461-71) Major Presentation _____</p>

Wednesday	Friday
TERM	BREAK
<p>February 26 - THE EARLY MODERN ERA</p> <p>1. The Renaissance</p> <p>Summary Presentation on Middle Ages _____</p> <p>Habib, "The Early Modern Period," pp. 229-40</p> <p>Sir Philip Sidney, from <i>The Defense of Poesy</i>, NAEL Vol. B</p>	<p>February 28</p> <p>Sidney, from <i>The Defense of Poesy</i></p> <p>Question _____</p>
<p>March 4</p> <p>2. Women in and writing literature</p> <p>Christine de Pizan, from <i>The Book of the City of Ladies</i> (pp. 265-70)</p> <p>Aphra Behn, "Epistle to the Reader" from <i>The Dutch Lover</i></p> <p>Preface to <i>The Lucky Chance</i></p> <p>Major Presentation _____</p>	<p>March 6</p> <p>3. The Enlightenment</p> <p>Habib, "The Enlightenment," pp. 311-20</p> <p>Alexander Pope, <i>An Essay on Criticism</i>, NAEL Vol. C.</p> <p>Major Presentation _____</p>
<p>March 11</p> <p>Immanuel Kant, from <i>Critique of Judgment</i></p>	<p>March 13 - ROMANTICISM</p> <p>Summary Presentation on Early Modern Era _____</p> <p>Habib, "Romanticism"</p> <p>William Wordsworth, from "Preface to <i>Lyrical Ballads</i>"</p>
<p>March 18</p> <p>Friedrich Schiller, from <i>On the Aesthetic Education of Man</i>, pp. 573-82</p> <p>Major Presentation _____</p>	<p>March 20</p> <p>Samuel Taylor Coleridge, from <i>Biographia Literaria</i></p> <p>Major Presentation _____</p>
<p>March 25 – AMBROSE RESEARCH CONFERENCE – no classes</p>	<p>March 27</p> <p>Summary Presentation on Romanticism _____</p> <p>Habib, "Realism and Naturalism," pp. 469-76</p> <p>Germaine Necker de Staël, from <i>Essay on Fictions</i>, pp. 597-603</p> <p>William Dean Howells, from <i>Criticism and Fiction</i></p> <p>Henry James, <i>The Art of Fiction</i></p> <p>Question _____</p>
<p>April 1</p> <p>THE RISE OF CRITICISM</p> <p>Summary Presentation on Novel, Realism _____</p> <p>Matthew Arnold, <i>The Function of Criticism at the Present Time</i></p> <p>Question _____</p>	<p>April 3</p> <p>AESTHETICISM</p> <p>Habib, "Symbolism and Aestheticism," pp. 489-92</p> <p>Walter Pater, from <i>Studies in the History of the Renaissance</i></p> <p>Oscar Wilde, from <i>The Critic as Artist</i></p> <p>Major Presentation _____</p>
<p>April 8 – FINAL CLASS</p> <p>Summary Presentation on Criticism, Aestheticism _____</p> <p>Summary Presentation on Major Themes _____</p>	

