
ENGL 4365:001

Semester: Spring 2019

Time: R 06:00-08:45

Location: CAS 212

Instructor: Dr. Carolyn Tilghman

Office: CAS 161

Office Hours: T 1:30-3:30,
R 5:00-6:00 & by appointment

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LITERARY THEORY AND CRITICISM

COURSE DESCRIPTION: The senior level seminar is recommended for students who plan to attend graduate school or who want to familiarize themselves with the considerable impact critical theory has had on the study of literature in the academy. It will introduce students to major critical schools including Russian Formalism, New Criticism, Reception Theory, Structuralism, Marxism, Psychoanalytic Theory, Deconstruction, New Historicism, Feminism, Gender Studies, Ethnic Studies, Post-Colonialism, and Culture Studies. As these different theoretical approaches are examined, questions include: How do we define "literature"? What do we mean by "theory"? What is the difference between theory and criticism? What are the stakes when we apply one theoretical methodology to a text instead of another? How does the theory and criticism of literature relate to other aspects of experience and culture, such as racial, ethnic, and gendered identities and social, political, and economic circumstances? In order to better respond to these questions, students will apply the theories studied to selected written and visual texts.

COURSE TEXTS (Required):

1. Julie Rivkin & Michael Ryan (eds.), *Literary Theory: An Anthology*, 2nd ed., Blackwell, 2004 (ISBN-13: 978-1405106962)
2. J. M. Coetzee, *Foe*, Penguin, 1988. (ISBN-13: 978-8420424965)
3. David Mamet, *Oleanna: A Play*, Vintage, 1993 (ISBN-13: 978-0679745365)
4. Handouts (HO) will be distributed as needed.

LEARNING OUTCOMES: By the end of the semester, a student should have a(n) 1) foundational understanding of major contemporary schools of literary theory; 2) familiarity with particular theorists who have significantly impacted how interpret literary works are interpreted, 3) working knowledge of how to apply key critical terms to texts, and 4) appreciation for the importance of critical theory to the study of literature in the academy.

COURSE PARTICIPATION: This course involves learning important critical concepts and terminology at the graduate level. It draws upon challenging primary texts, which will demand several careful readings. It also demands the ability to apply theoretical terms to literary texts, intelligent discussion, rigor in written work, and effective oral presentation. In class, your physical presence is not enough; class participation means being prepared for class and an consistent willingness to thoughtfully discuss the assigned readings and do the required work. We will be counting on each other to make the class an exciting and rewarding endeavor for everyone involved.

Attendance: Attending is important to successful completion of the course. Each student starts out with a participation grade of 100%. More than one (1) unexcused absence will lower your participation grade 8% for each additional absence. If your attendance is influenced by sickness or school activities, the responsibility falls upon you to see that the professor receives an official excuse from your doctor, dean or coach. You must provide proof of your attendance at weddings, funerals, and other significant events; your absence for these events will be excused at the professor's discretion.

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Student Absence for University-Sponsored Events and Activities: If you intend to be absent for a university-sponsored event or activity, notify the professor at least two weeks prior to the date of the planned absence. The instructor will set a date and time when make-up assignments should be completed.

Student Absence due to Religious Observance: Students who anticipate being absent from class due to a religious observance are requested to inform the instructor of such absences by the second-class meeting of the semester.

Disability Services: In accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the ADA Amendments Act (ADAAA) the University of Texas at Tyler offers accommodations to students with learning, physical and/or psychological disabilities. If you have a disability, including non-visible a diagnosis such as a learning disorder, chronic illness, TBI, PTSD, ADHD, or you have a history of modifications or accommodations in a previous educational environment, you are encouraged to visit <https://hood.accessiblelearning.com/UTTyler> and fill out the New Student application. The Student Accessibility and Resources (SAR) office will contact you when your application has been submitted and an appointment with Cynthia Lowery, Assistant Director Student Services/ADA Coordinator. For more information, including filling out an application for services, please visit the SAR webpage at <http://www.uttyler.edu/disabilityservices>, the SAR office located in the University Center, # 3150 or call 903.566.7079.

State-Mandated Course Drop Policy: Texas law prohibits a student who began college for the first time in Fall 2007 or thereafter from dropping more than six courses during their entire undergraduate career. This includes courses dropped at another 2-year or 4-year Texas public college or university. For purposes of this rule, a dropped course is any course that is dropped after the census date (See Academic Calendar for the specific date). Exceptions to the 6-drop rule may be found in the catalog. Petitions for exemptions must be submitted to the Enrollment Services Center and must be accompanied by documentation of the extenuating circumstance. Please contact the Enrollment Services Center if you have any questions.

Withdrawal Date: The last day to withdraw from this course with an automatic "W" is Monday, April 1, 2019.

ASSIGNMENTS & GRADING: In addition to engaged and thoughtful discussion of the readings, you will be responsible for composing a series of short application papers, a critically informed seminar paper, an oral presentation, and a final exam. Assignments and exams will be discussed in class with specific instructions provided.

Grading: The following formula will guide my assessment of your grade:

Participation	10%
Oral Presentation	15%
Application Papers	30%
Seminar Paper	30%
Terms & Concepts Exam	15%

The course grade will be assigned using the following scale: 90%-100%=A; 80%-89%=B; 70%-79%=C; 60%-69%=D; 59% or below=F

Application Papers: Five application paper assignments will be assigned throughout the semester you will be asked to complete **two** of them for an assigned grade. These papers will ask you to apply terms and concepts from the critical theories under study to a selected written or visual text. Late papers will be marked down 2% of the assigned grade for each day late.

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Oral Presentation: You will be asked to give a fifteen-minute oral presentation based on your research of a specific theoretical school or theorist. Because the assignment's purpose is to enhance understanding of critical theory, your presentation should cover material that does not repeat the material covered in our regular class lectures and discussions. A suggested topic list and sign-up sheet will be provided.

Seminar Paper: A substantive seminar paper focused on applying key concepts of an important theoretical school to a selected literary text will be assigned. Late papers will be marked down 2% of the original grade for each day late. Instructions will be provided.

Final Exam: At the end of the semester, there will be an examination focused on critical terms covered during the semester.

Grade Replacement/Forgiveness & Census Date Policies: Students repeating a course for grade forgiveness (grade replacement) must file a Grade Replacement Contract with the Enrollment Services Center (ADM 230) on or before the Census Date of the semester in which the course will be repeated. Grade Replacement Contracts are available in the Enrollment Services Center or at <http://www.uttyler.edu/registrar>. Each semester's Census Date can be found on the Contract itself, on the Academic Calendar, or in the information pamphlets published each semester by the Office of the Registrar.

Note: Failure to file a Grade Replacement Contract will result in both the original and repeated grade being used to calculate your overall grade point average. Undergraduates are eligible to exercise grade replacement for only three course repeats during their career at UT Tyler; graduates are eligible for two grade replacements. Full policy details are printed on each Grade Replacement Contract.

The Census Date is the deadline for many forms and enrollment actions that students need to be aware of. These include

- Submitting Grade Replacement Contracts, Transient Forms, requests to withhold directory information, approvals for taking courses as Audit, Pass/Fail or Credit/No Credit.
- Receiving 100% refunds for partial withdrawals. (There is no refund for these after the Census Date)
- Schedule adjustments (section changes, adding a new class, dropping without a "W" grade)
- Being reinstated or re-enrolled in classes after being dropped for non-payment
- Completing the process for tuition exemptions or waivers through Financial Aid

ACADEMIC HONESTY: You must not submit work that has been copied, wholly or partially, from a book, article, essay, newspaper, another student's paper, notebook, test or any other written, printed, or internet or media source. Another writer's phrases, sentences, or paragraphs may be included as part of your work only if presented in paraphrase or quotation with the source appropriately cited both in the text and in an attached bibliography. Academic dishonesty will result in failure of the course.

UT Tyler Honor Code: "Every member of the UT Tyler community joins together to embrace: Honor and integrity that will not allow me to lie, cheat, or steal, nor to accept the actions of those who do."

The following UT Tyler policies and information must appear in each UT Tyler course syllabus.

Students Rights and Responsibilities

To know and understand the policies that affect your rights and responsibilities as a student at UT Tyler, please follow this link: <http://www.uttyler.edu/wellness/rightsresponsibilities.php>.

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Policies

- 1) We acknowledge the right and privacy of students 21 and over who are duly licensed to carry concealed weapons in this class. License holders are expected to behave responsibly and keep a handgun secure and concealed. Information is available at <http://www.uttyler.edu/about/campus-carry/index.php>.”
- 2) UT Tyler a Tobacco-Free University: All forms of tobacco will not be permitted on the UT Tyler main campus, branch campuses, and any property owned by UT Tyler. This applies to all members of the University community, including students, faculty, staff, University affiliates, contractors, and visitors.
- 3) Emergency Exits and Evacuation: Everyone is required to exit the building when a fire alarm goes off. Follow your instructor’s directions regarding the appropriate exit. If you require assistance during an evacuation, inform your instructor in the first week of class. Do not re-enter the building unless given permission by University Police, Fire Department, or Fire Prevention Services.

Social Security and FERPA Statement: It is the policy of The University of Texas at Tyler to protect the confidential nature of social security numbers. The University has changed its computer programming so that all students have an identification number. The electronic transmission of grades (e.g., via e-mail) risks violation of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act; grades will not be transmitted electronically.

Student Standards of Academic Conduct

Disciplinary proceedings may be initiated against any student who engages in scholastic dishonesty, including, but not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts.

i. “Cheating” includes, but is not limited to:

- copying from another student’s test paper;
- using, during a test, materials not authorized by the person giving the test;
- failure to comply with instructions given by the person administering the test;
- possession during a test of materials which are not authorized by the person giving the test, such as class notes or specifically designed “crib notes”. The presence of textbooks constitutes a violation if they have been specifically prohibited by the person administering the test;
- using, buying, stealing, transporting, or soliciting in whole or part the contents of an unadministered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program;
- collaborating with or seeking aid from another student during a test or other assignment without authority;
- discussing the contents of an examination with another student who will take the examination;
- divulging the contents of an examination, for the purpose of preserving questions for use by another, when the instructors has designated that the examination is not to be removed from the examination room or not to be returned or to be kept by the student;
- substituting for another person, or permitting another person to substitute for oneself to take a course, a test, or any course-related assignment;
- paying or offering money or other valuable thing to, or coercing another person to obtain an unadministered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program or information about an unadministered test, test key, home solution or computer program;
- falsifying research data, laboratory reports, and/or other academic work offered for credit;
- taking, keeping, misplacing, or damaging the property of The University of Texas at Tyler, or of another, if the student knows or reasonably should know that an unfair academic advantage would be gained by such conduct; and
- misrepresenting facts, including providing false grades or resumes, for the purpose of obtaining an academic or financial benefit or injuring another student academically or financially.

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- ii. Plagiarism” includes, but is not limited to, the appropriation, buying, receiving as a gift, or obtaining by any means another’s work and the submission of it as one’s own academic work offered for credit.
- iii. “Collusion” includes, but is not limited to, the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing academic assignments offered for credit or collaboration with another person to commit a violation of any section of the rules on scholastic dishonesty.
- iv. All written work that is submitted will be subject to review by SafeAssign™.

UT Tyler Resources for Students

- UT Tyler Writing Center (903.565.5995), writingcenter@uttyler.edu
- UT Tyler Tutoring Center (903.565.5964), tutoring@uttyler.edu
- The Mathematics Learning Center, RBN 4021, this is the open access computer lab for math students, with tutors on duty to assist students who are enrolled in early-career courses.
- UT Tyler Counseling Center

Welcome to class! I hope this class will be a place for you to present your thoughts, listen to the thoughts of others, and formulate exciting ideas while you study and learn to appreciate the importance of literary theory and criticism to understanding literature. If you have any questions or concerns, I urge you to see me during office hours or make an appointment to visit with me outside of office hours.

PLEASE SAVE THE ABOVE INFORMATION FOR FUTURE REFERENCE IN CASE YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT CLASS POLICY.

Weekly Course Schedule

Week One

January 17: **Introduction:** Critical Theory, Literature, Literary Criticism

Week Two

January 24: **Formalisms:** Russian Formalism & American New Criticism
Reading: Russian Formalism: Viktor Shklovsky, “Art as Technique” (Rivkin & Ryan--RR 15); Vladimir Propp, from *Morphology of the Folktale* (RR 72); & “Hansel & Gretel” (Canvas--C); New Criticism: Cleanth Brooks, “The Formalist Critics” (RR 22); & W. B. Yeats, “Sailing to Byzantium” (C)
Recommended Reading: Julie Rivkin and Michael Ryan, Introduction: Formalisms (RR 3); Mikhail M. Bakhtin, “Discourse in the Novel” (RR 674); William K. Wimsatt & Monroe C. Beardsley, “The Intentional Fallacy” (C)

Week Three

January 31: **Hermeneutics & Reception Theory**
Reading: Wolfgang Iser, “The Reading Process” (C); Stanley Fish, “Interpretive Communities” (RR 217); & Shirley Jackson, “The Lottery”(C);
Recommended Reading: Rivkin and Ryan, Introduction: Language and Action (RR 127); Pierre Bourdieu, “Distinction” (RR 237)

Week FourFebruary 07:**Due:** Application Paper #1**Structuralism**Reading: Jonathan Culler, "The Linguistic Foundation" (RR 56);Ferdinand de Saussure, from *Course in General Linguistics* (RR 59);Recommended Reading: Rivkin and Ryan, Introduction: The Implied Order: Structuralism (RR 53)**Week Five**February 14:**Structuralism** cont.: Joseph Campbell & The Wachowski BrothersFilm Viewing: *The Matrix*Assignment: Worksheet (handout)**Week Six**February 21:**Marxism**Reading: Karl Marx, "Wage Labor and Capital" (RR 659); Antonio Gramsci, "Hegemony" (RR 673); Louis Althusser, "Ideology and Ideological State Apparatuses" (RR 693); & D. H. Lawrence, "Coal Dust" from *Women in Love* (C)Recommended Reading: Rivkin and Ryan, Introduction: Starting with Zero (RR 643)**Week Seven**February 28:**Due:** Application Paper #2**Psychoanalytic Theory: Freud**Reading: Sigmund Freud, from *Beyond the Pleasure Principle* (RR 431), "The Uncanny" (RR 418); & E. T. A. Hoffmann, "The Sandman" (C); Saki, "The Open Window" (C)Recommended Reading: Rivkin and Ryan, Introduction: Strangers to Ourselves (RR 389)**Week Eight**March 07:**Psychoanalytic Theory: Lacan**Reading: Jacques Lacan, "The Mirror Stage" (RR 441) "Seminar on The Purloined Letter" (C); & Edgar Allan Poe, "The Purloined Letter" (C)Recommended Reading: Lacan, "The Instance of the Letter in the Unconscious or Reason since Freud" (RR 447)**Week Nine**March 14:

Spring Break

Week TenMarch 21:**Due** Application Paper #3**Post-structuralism: Deconstruction**Reading: Jacques Derrida, "*Différance*" (RR 278); Ernest Hemingway, "A Very Short Story" (C); & David Mamet, *Oleanna*Recommended Reading: Rivkin and Ryan, Introductory Deconstruction; Derrida (RR 257) and "Semiology and Grammatology" (RR 332)

Week ElevenMarch 28:**Post-structuralism: New Historicism**

Reading: Michel Foucault, from *Discipline & Punish* (RR 549); & Bridget Bishop, Executed, June 10, 1692 (C)

Recommended Reading: Rivkin and Ryan, Introduction: Writing the Past (RR 505); Nancy Armstrong, "Some Call it Fiction" (RR 567)

Week TwelveApril 04:**Due:** Application Paper #4**Feminisms:** Anglo/American, French, & Third World Feminisms:**Gender Studies**

Reading: Sandra Gilbert and Susan Gubar, from *The Madwoman in the Attic* (RR 812); Charlotte Perkins Gilman, "The Yellow Wallpaper" (C); Luce Irigaray, "The Power of Discourse and the Subordination of the Feminine" (RR 795), "Women on the Market" (RR 799); & Isak Dinesen, "The Blank Page" (C); Eve Kosofsky Sedgwick, from *Epistemology of the Closet* (RR 912); & D. H. Lawrence, "The Prussian Officer" (free etext at <http://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/22480>)

Recommended Reading: Rivkin and Ryan, Introduction: Feminist Paradigms (RR 765); Introduction: Contingencies of Gender (RR 885); Geraldine Heng, "A Great Way to Fly" (RR 861)

Week ThirteenApril 11:**Ethnic Studies: Post-colonial Studies**

Reading: W.E.B. Dubois, from *The Souls of Black Fold* (C); Henry Louis Gates, "The Blackness of Blackness" (RR 987); & Alice Walker, "The Flowers" (C); Edward Said, from *Orientalism* (C); Homi Bhabha, "Signs Taken for Wonders" (RR 1167); & J. M. Coetzee, *Foe*

Recommended Reading: Rivkin and Ryan, Introduction: Situating Race (RR 959); Rivkin and Ryan, Introduction: English Without Shadows (RR 1071); Gloria Anzaldua, from *Borderlands/La Frontera* (RR 1017); Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak, "Thee Women's Texts and a Critique of Imperialism" (C)

Week FourteenApril 18:**Due:** Seminar Paper**Cultural Studies****Winding Down: The End of Theory?**

Reading: Walter Benjamin, "The Work of Art in the Age of Mechanical Reproduction" (RR 1235); Max Horkheimer and Theodor Adorno, "The Culture Industry as Mass Deception" (RR 1242); John Fiske, from *Television Culture* (RR 1274)

Recommended Reading: Rivkin and Ryan, Introduction: The Politics of Culture (RR 1233)

Week FifteenApril 25:**Due:** Application Paper #5 (Email to ctilghman@uttyler.edu)

No Class, Dr. Tilghman is at a literary conference

Final Exam WeekMay 02:**Exam:** Key Terms**HAVE A WONDERFUL SUMMER!**