Spring 1-15-2001

ENG 2205-001: Introduction to Literary Studies

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English 2205-001—Introduction to Literary Studies
Spring 2001

Dr. Campbell
CH 316B
Office hours TTH 9:15-11:00, W 11:00-11:30

TTH 8:00
CH 311

Texts
Barnet. An Introduction to Literature
Richter. The Critical Tradition, 2nd ed.
Holman. A Handbook to Literature
Austen. Emma
Shakespeare. Much Ado About Nothing.
Stoppard. Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead (Library, on reserve)

Course Focus
There are as many ways to view a text as there are readers, and each reader brings to a text her or his own perceptions, prejudices, and experiences. When reading and writing about literature are approached from a variety of perspectives, exciting things happen. Texts come alive artistically, historically, and politically in fascinating ways, and we realize that readers co-create meaning with writers. A text is a two-way street. English majors are encouraged to learn to view literature from a variety of critical stances that have evolved into the field called literary theory. In this course we will read a selection of poetry, drama, and prose from several theoretical standpoints and discuss the historical development of literary criticism.

Policies
--The English Department statement on plagiarism stipulates that any teacher who discovers an act of plagiarism--"The appropriation or imitation of the language, ideas, and/or thoughts of another author and representation of them as one's original work" (Random House Dictionary of the English Language)--has the right and the responsibility to impose upon the guilty student an appropriate penalty, up to and including immediate assignment of a grade of F for the assigned essay and a grade of NC for the course, and to report the incident to the Judicial Affairs Office.
--Hand papers in on time. If you're having problems, let me know. Papers a week or more late will not be accepted at all. Also plan to show up for exams. Again, if you have problems, let me know. You will have no more than one week to make up an exam, and the make-up exam will be different from the one given during class.
--If you have a documented disability and wish to receive academic accommodations, please contact the Coordinator of the Office of Disability Services (581-6583) as soon as possible.
--Be prepared for class. You'll get a lot more out of class discussions if you are participating in them, and I'll notice if you do not seem prepared to participate.

Requirements
--Midterm exam. ........... 30%
--Response writings ....... 40%
--Final exam ............... 30%
Exam: The two exams will cover the units of the semester; however, there will be interplay between these units of study in our discussions and in the test questions, and the final exam will have some comprehensive elements.

Response Writings: The response writings will be concerned with specific reading assignments and are meant to generate class discussion. In some cases, the responses will be formal essays. These may also be, at times, group activities.

Tentative Schedule
Note: Readings may be shifted around during the semester to accommodate class discussion.

T. Jan. 9—Introduction to the course. The plan: Begin each unit by focusing on a piece (or pieces) of literature and ultimately explore it/them via two or three lines of critical thought. Th. Jan. 11—Unit One: Hamlet. Read Shakespeare’s Hamlet, Stoppard’s Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead, “Psychological (or Psychoanalytic) Criticism,” in Barnet, Derrida’s “Structure, Sign, and Play in the Discourse of the Human Sciences,” and Greenblatt’s “Introduction to The Power of Forms in the English Renaissance.”

T. Jan. 16—Hamlet Unit
Th. Jan. 18—Hamlet Unit

T. Jan. 23—Hamlet Unit
Th. Jan. 25—Hamlet Unit

T. Jan. 30—Hamlet Unit
Th. Feb. 1—Writing Response


Th. Feb. 8—Yellow Wallpaper Unit

T. Feb. 13—Yellow Wallpaper Unit
Th. Feb. 15—Yellow Wallpaper Unit

T. Feb. 20—Yellow Wallpaper Unit
Th. Feb. 22—Writing Response

T. Feb. 27—Review
Th. Mar. 1—Midterm Exam


T. Mar. 13—Spring Break
Th. Mar. 15—Spring Break

Th. Mar. 22—Emma Unit

T. Mar. 27—Emma Unit
Th. Mar. 29—Emma Unit

T. Apr. 3—Emma Unit
Th. Apr. 5—Emma Unit

T. Apr. 10—Response Writing
Th. Apr. 12—Unit Five: Much Ado. Read Shakespeare's Much Ado about Nothing and Woolf's "Shakespeare's Sister."

T. Apr. 17—Much Ado Unit
Th. Apr. 19—Much Ado Unit

T. Apr. 24—Much Ado Unit
Th. Apr. 26—Review

Final Exam