

FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

ENGLISH 302 A/B -03

Fall 2012/Winter 2013

TITLE: Foundations: Introduction to Contemporary Theoretical Practices
Instructor: Rebecca Sullivan
Office: SS1142
Phone: 403-220-3397
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Office hours: Wednesdays, 8:30 – 9:30; Thursdays 11:00 – 12:30

Course description:

This course examines the claims and assumptions of a range of contemporary critical practices, including but not limited to formalism, structuralism, deconstruction, feminism and gender studies, new historicism, psychoanalytic criticism, and cultural and ideological critique. Students will have the opportunity to practice the application of theory to various assigned texts, including fiction, film, and other forms.

Prerequisites: One full-course equivalent of English and/or Comparative Literature, or consent of the Department.

Student conduct:

Some of the materials and topics in this class may include explicit written or audio-visual content (violence, sexuality, objectionable or illegal conduct). If these materials make you uncomfortable, you are encouraged to speak with the professor. You will not be exempt from any assigned work but we will work together to accommodate your concerns. This class respects difference and diversity while welcoming thoughtful, critical debate and discussion.

Responsibility for attending and fulfilling the requirements for all aspects of the course resides with the student. The professor will not give out lecture notes, repeat information, nor provide replacement copies of material that was provided during regular class hours. The course includes a combination of individual assignments, group work, lectures, screenings, and readings. Students are expected to arrive to class on time and prepared to work.

Use of recording technologies in class is prohibited.

A Blackboard portal has been set up for this course which allows for group correspondence, course announcements, assignment submissions, and other forms of communication. Students are expected to check Blackboard before class time for any last minute changes or cancellations.

Students are strongly encouraged to bring portable word processing devices (tablets, laptops, airbooks, Acer, anything you got) to class. Just turn off the recording devices, and sound. Abuse of these devices (surfing inappropriate or offensive material, use of social network sites, texting, playing music, etc.) is prohibited and may result in having your privileges to use your device in class revoked and/or being removed from the class.

Plagiarism, defined as using any source whatsoever without clearly documenting it, is a serious academic offense. Consequences include failure on the assignment, failure in the course and possible suspension or expulsion from the university. Please refer to the following information and make sure you are familiar with the statement on plagiarism provided at the end of the syllabus.

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-2-1.html>

Texts and readings:

There will be assigned readings from the textbook for every class (except for workshop, review and test dates). The Supplemental Texts are the designated examples upon which lectures and assignments will be designed.

Required Textbook:

Literary Theory: An Anthology

Julie Rivkin and Michael Ryan (Editors)

ISBN: 978-1-4051-0696-2

Wiley-Blackwell, 2010

* available new and used through amazon.ca and chapters.indigo.ca, as well as through the university bookstore

Supplemental Texts:

Frankenstein, or, The Modern Prometheus

Mary Shelley

Edited by D. L. McDonald and Kathleen Scherf

Broadview Press, 1994

* available electronically from the university library catalogue

Frankenstein: based on the novel by Mary Shelley

Nick Dear

Faber and Faber, 2010

1HR Reserve PR6054 .E235 F73 2011

“*Sonnet – to Science*”

Edgar Allan Poe

* available all over the Internet

Frankenstein

Directed by James Whale

Universal Pictures, 1931

* will be screened in class

Assignments and Evaluation:

Group Reports	10 X 2%	20%	Ongoing
Theory Into Practice	3 X 10%	30%	December 4 / April 8 / April 22
Midterm		20%	December 6
Take-home		30%	April 16 / April 23

There will be no Registrar-scheduled final exam.

Group Reports

On the last date of each section, we will do in-class workshops to practice applying theory to texts. Students will be placed in groups of 3-5 and assigned a specific text from the Supplemental Reading List. It will be their task to determine how each of the different assigned readings for the section would approach an analysis of that text. What would be the key questions and considerations? What elements of the text are of most interest? What sorts of commentary or conclusions could you draw? Students will be asked to share their ideas with the class during the workshop.

The group will then draft a brief, one-page summary of their discussions (@ 250 words) and submit it on Digital Dropbox no later than 11:59 PM on the date of the workshop. Assignments will not be accepted any other way. Only Word (doc or docx) and Pages formats are accepted. The summary must use clear, scholarly language and provide sound reasoning for your analytical choices. You must have participated in the workshop in order to receive any grade for the Group Report. The professor will circulate a signature sheet during the workshop. The highest and lowest grade for each will be dropped.

You must also submit a Group Project Self-Assessment form at the end of each term. They are due Monday, December 10th and Monday, April 8th by 5PM. The instructor may use the information provided in the assessments to address any issues within the group, including inviting the group or individual members to meet with her privately or advising an individual that their group mark may be adjusted to reflect their level and quality of involvement. No adjustment of grade will take place without the opportunity to meet and discuss any issues with the instructor. Failure to provide your assessments by the deadlines may result in receiving a grade of F for the Group Reports. Submit your assessment as one file (doc, docx or pages) through Digital Dropbox.

Theory into Practice

Students may select from any of the twelve paradigms under investigation and develop their own analysis of one of the assigned supporting Frankenstein texts. You can only use a text once (i.e., you can't submit three analyses of the film). The analyses will be short, between 3-5 pages (@ 1000 – 1600 words), and include a bibliography drawn from the assigned readings. A minimum of three sources (retrieved in full from sources other than the textbook) are required. If the original source is a book, then the chapter or section from which the excerpt was taken will suffice. Failure to meet minimum requirements in research may result in a grade of D or lower. The cover page must clearly state the Paradigm and the Supplemental Reading used in your analysis. Students are expected to read the full-length versions or longer excerpts of the assigned readings and to follow the scholarly guidelines as outlined in the Research Assignment Assessment guide, available in Course Documents on Blackboard. Submit electronically to the Digital Dropbox in Blackboard. Assignments will not be accepted any other way.

You may submit these at any time during the course. However, at least one must be submitted before December 4th or you will receive a grade of zero. The remaining two must be submitted no later than April 8th for grading with comments. You have an automatic extension to April 22nd for grading without comments. Assignments received after April 22nd will receive a grade of zero. Only Word (doc or docx) and Pages formats are accepted.

Midterm

The December exam will be 75 minutes long and cover all material from the previous twelve weeks. It will be a mixture of short answer questions. More details will be provided during the review class on December 4th.

Take-home Final

The take-home final will be a long essay question that will provide you with the opportunity to demonstrate your knowledge of the paradigms studied throughout the year, and your ability to apply them to cultural texts. You must complete the assignment independently, and follow the scholarly guidelines as outlined in the Research Assignment Assessment guide, available in Course Documents on Blackboard.

Students are expected to conduct independent research as well as integrate readings and other material from weekly lectures. The assignment will be 7-10 pages (2200 – 3000 words), following a strict format outlined in the Research Assignment Assessment guide, and must include a bibliography. A minimum of three sources from the textbook (retrieved in full as per the guidelines outlined in the "Theory Into Practice" section) and three additional scholarly, peer-refereed sources gained through independent research are required. Failure to meet minimum requirements in research may result in a grade of D or lower. More information on the exact format of the assignment will be provided in class.

Take-home Exam answers are due on April 16th for grading with comments. An automatic extension of April 23rd for grading without comments is offered to all students. No further extensions will be granted and you will receive a grade of zero. Submit electronically to the Digital Dropbox in Blackboard. Assignments will not be accepted any other way. Only Word (doc or docx) and Pages formats are accepted.

Policy for Late Assignments:

Unless otherwise stated, no extensions will be granted on assignments. Failure to submit on time will result in a grade of F (zero).

Failure to complete all of the required exams and assignments may result in a grade of F (zero) in the course. If you receive more than two Fs in the course, the professor reserves the right to give you a final grade of F.

It is the student's responsibility to keep a copy of all assignments in case of loss by any cause.

Grading information:

Grading Scale			
<i>Letter</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Usually Graded At</i>	<i>Point</i>
A+	96-100	98	4
A	90-95.99	93	4
A -	85-89.99	87	3.7
B+	80-84.99	83	3.3
B	75-79.99	77	3
B-	70-74.99	73	2.7
C+	65-69.99	67	2.3
C	60-64.99	63	2
C-	55-59.99	57	1.7
D+	53-54.99	54	1.3
D	50-52.99	51	1
F	0-49	0	0

Plagiarism:

Using any source whatsoever without clearly documenting it is a serious academic offense. Consequences include failure on the assignment, failure in the course and possible suspension or expulsion from the university. Please refer to the following information and make sure you are familiar with the statement below on plagiarism.

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-2-1.html>

Scribe and Muse Club for English Students:

The Scribe and Muse Reading and Writing Club (SMRWC) fosters and champions reading and writing through community service, leadership, and engagement. We strive to enhance the academic and social experience of undergraduate students by promoting academic excellence and interaction between students, faculty, and the community, through social, cultural, and academic events. <http://english.ucalgary.ca/content/scribe-and-muse-reading-and-writing-club>

Our email address is smrwc@ucalgary.ca.

English Department Website:

For more information about courses, programs, policies, events and contacts in the Department of English, please go to our website at <http://english.ucalgary.ca>.

Writing support:

The Student Success Centre offers both online and workshop writing support for U of C students.

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/writing-support>

Follow the Department of English on Facebook & Twitter:



Academic regulations and schedules:

Consult the *Calendar* for course information, university and faculty regulations, dates, deadlines and schedules, student, faculty and university rights and responsibilities. The homepage for the University Calendar is <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/index.htm>

Guidelines on e-mail Etiquette:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/it/help/articles/email/etiquette>

Grade appeals:

Consult the following University *Calendar* link and request advice from the English Department office, SS 1152. Please note that “mere dissatisfaction with a decision is not sufficient grounds for the appeal of a grade or other academic decision.” <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i.html>

Deferral of term work and final examinations:

Should you require an extension for completion of term papers or assignments beyond the deadline of five days after the end of lectures, an Application of Deferment of Term Work form must be completed. The University also has regulations governing the deferral of final examinations. See *Calendar*: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/g-6.html>, <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/g-7.html>.

Academic accommodation:

It is a student’s responsibility to request academic accommodation. If you are a student with a disability who may require academic accommodation and if you have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 220-8237. Your academic accommodation letters should be provided to your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the commencement of this course. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. <http://www.ucalgary.ca/drc/>

Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints;>

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip/>

“Safewalk” Program:

Campus Security will escort individuals day or night: call 220-5333 for assistance. Use any campus phone, emergency phone or the yellow phone located at most parking lot pay booths. <http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk/>

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources:

Have a question, but not sure where to start? The new Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (PIC) is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS110, call us at 403-220-3580 or email us at artsads@ucalgary.ca. You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> which has detailed information on common academic concerns.

For program planning and advice, contact the Student Success Centre (formerly the Undergraduate programs Office) at (403) 220-5881 or visit them in their new space on the 3rd Floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library.

For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Library Block.

Contact for Students Union Representatives for the Faculty of Arts:

arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, arts4@su.ucalgary.ca

Contact for Students Ombudsman’s Office: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds>

PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism is an extremely serious offence. Please read the following information carefully. The penalty routinely recommended by the English Department for documented plagiarism is failure of the course in which the offence occurred; academic probation is also routinely applied at the Faculty level. Suspension or expulsion can result from severe or repeated plagiarism.

The University *Calendar* states:

1. **Plagiarism** - Essentially plagiarism involves submitting or presenting work in a course as if it were the student's own work done expressly for that particular course when, in fact, it is not. Most commonly plagiarism exists when:

- (a) the work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work (this includes having another impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for one's own in an examination or test),
- (b) parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author,
- (c) the whole work (e.g., an essay) is copied from another source, and/or,
- (d) a student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course (although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved.

While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted.

Plagiarism occurs when direct quotations are taken from a source without specific acknowledgement, or when original ideas or data from the source are not acknowledged. Citing your sources in a bibliography is not enough, because a bibliography does not establish which parts of a student's work are taken from other sources. MLA (Modern Language Association) documentation or other recognized forms of citation must be used for this purpose. Advice on adequate documentation can be found at the following web sites:

<http://www.dianahacker.com/resdoc/>

<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/>

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH STATEMENT ON PRINCIPLES OF CONDUCT

According to the University *Calendar*, (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/j.html>)

“The University of Calgary community has undertaken to be guided by the following statements of purpose and values: to promote free inquiry and debate, to act as a community of scholars, . . . , to respect, appreciate, and encourage diversity, [and] to display care and concern for community”. The Department of English, like the university as a whole, is committed to a “positive and productive learning and working environment.”

This environment is characterized by appreciation and encouragement of diversity and respect for the dignity of all persons: students, support staff, and faculty. The department will not tolerate unacceptable behaviour, such as threatening gestures, threatening or abusive verbal or written communication (including e-mails), or any conduct that “seriously disrupts the lawful education and related activities of students and/or university staff”. Any cases of such misconduct should be reported immediately to the department Head, who, depending on the nature and severity of the incident, may then take further appropriate action.