

**UNIVERSIDAD DE COSTA RICA
 ESCUELA DE LENGUAS MODERNAS
 SECCIÓN LITERATURA INGLESA
 JIMENEZ I-2017**

Proposed Course Outline

Course Title: Introduction to Literary Criticism	Pre-requisites: LM-1475
Course Code: LM-1486	Co-requisites: LM-1485
Credits: 3	Academic Cycle: VIII
Hours: 9 Class Work: 4 Out-of-Class Work: 5	Type: Course of study for the B.A. degree in English
Level: 4th year	Blended Course: Online 25% F2F 75%

I. Course Description

Literary Criticism is a required course for fourth-year English students. This course is designed to introduce students to basic critical approaches to literature and their application while fomenting understanding, enjoyment, and appreciation of literature.

II. Course Objectives

1. General Objectives

- A. Have a clear, basic understanding of the role of literary criticism and theory on literary studies, including mythic, feminist, cultural studies/new historicism, and reader-response approaches to literature
- B. Be able to apply the above approaches to literary texts
- C. Foment analytical ability and skills

2. Specific Objectives

- A. Define and characterize each of the critical approaches studied
- B. Understand and employ specific concepts from each approach in the analysis and interpretation of given literary works
- C. Develop ability to support ideas from both primary and secondary sources
- D. Differentiate and employ a variety of perspectives in analyzing a given literary work.
- E. Recognize and employ explicit vocabulary associated with each given approach
- F. Explain and defend personal insights and positions clearly and effectively in standard English, both oral and written

III. Contents

- 1. Introduction (Functions of literary criticism and traditional approaches)
- 2. Formalistic Approaches

3. Mythic Approaches
4. Feminist Approaches
5. LGBT and Queer Theory
6. New Historicism
7. Cultural Studies
8. Reader-Response

IV. Methodology

Class time will generally be employed in the discussion and analysis of given literary works previously assigned as homework. The professor will review, clarify, and supplement introductory material as needed and guide the students in the application of the given approaches. Student preparation out of class and participation in the class are fundamental for successful completion of the course. Participation includes both informal presentations and discussions whether individual or in groups, and formal oral and written presentations.

V. Evaluation

Evaluation is continuous in the sense that student performance will be observed during each class. No make-up quizzes will be given. Students are responsible for all material discussed and/or assigned. No late papers or presentations will be accepted except in extraordinary cases. The final grade will be based on the following:

Quizzes	15%
Class Work (oral / written assignments)	30%
Paper	15%
Exams (2)	40%

NOTES ON EVALUATION:

Plagiarism. Plagiarized papers will receive a 0 (Zero) and will be kept in your files according to the following guidelines from the “Reglamento de Orden y Disciplina de los Estudiantes de la Universidad de Costa Rica”: ARTICULO 4. Son faltas muy graves: g) Utilizar, con conocimiento de causa, documentos falsificados, para cualquier gestión universitaria administrativa, académica o de cualquier otra índole. ARTICULO 5. Son faltas graves: c) Copiar de otro estudiante tareas, informes de laboratorio, trabajos de investigación o de cualquier otro tipo de actividad académica. **Note: Every student is subject to the evaluation rules of the University of Costa Rica.**

Students are required to submit an electronic version of their out-of-class papers, along with the printed version, to be kept as a backup document by the Literature Department. However, unless told otherwise by your instructor in advance, the electronic version does not replace the printed version. The printed version is the only valid document to be evaluated and taken into account regarding late assignments.

VI. Bibliography

Adams, Carol J., and Lori Gruen, eds. *Ecofeminism: Feminist Intersections With Other Animals and the Earth*. Bloomsbury, 2014.

Barry, Peter. *Beginning Theory: An Introduction to Literary and Cultural Theory*. Manchester UP, 1995.

Bornstein, Kate, and Kate Bornstein. *My New Gender Workbook: A Step-by*

-step Guide to Achieving World Peace through Gender Anarchy and Sex Positivity. Routledge, 2013.

Bressler, Charles E. *Literary Criticism: An Introduction to Theory and Practice*. 3rd ed. Upper Saddle River. Prentice Hall, 2003.

Feinberg, Leslie. *Transgender Warriors: Making History from Joan of Arc to Dennis Rodman*. Beacon, 1996.

---. *Trans Liberation: Beyond Pink or Blue*. Boston, Beacon, 1998.

Green, Kenneth and Jill LeBihan. *Critical Theory & Practice: A Coursebook*. Routledge, 1996.

Guerin, Wilfred L. et al. *A Handbook of Critical Approaches to Literature*. 5° ed. Oxford UP, 2005.

Jagose, Annamarie. *Queer Theory: An Introduction*. New York UP, 1996.

Meyers, Kari and Gilda Pacheco. *The Perceptive Process: An Introductory Guide to Literary Criticism*. 2nd ed. Editorial de la Universidad de Costa Rica, 2008.

Selden, Raman. *Practicing Theory and Reading Literature*. 3rd ed. UP of Kentucky, 1989.

VII. Timetable*

30: LGBTQ

MARCH

14: Introduction
17: Introduction
21: Moral-Philosophical
24: Historical-Biographical
28: Formalism
31: Formalism

APRIL

4: Formalism Virtual Class
7: **Presentation Formalism**
11: **HOLY WEEK**
14: **HOLY WEEK**
18: **Quiz # 1**
21: Mythical Virtual Class
25: Mythical
28: **Presentation Mythical**

MAY

2: Feminism UNIVERSITY WEEK
Virtual Class
5: Feminism UNIVERSITY WEEK
Virtual Class
9: Feminism
12: Feminism
16: **Presentation Feminism**
19: **EXAM 1**
23: LGBTQ
26: LGBTQ Virtual Class

JUNE

2: LGBTQ Virtual Class
6: **Presentation LGBTQ**
9: **Quiz # 2**
13: New Historicism + **PAPER**
16: New Historicism
20: Cultural Studies
23: Cultural Studies Virtual Class
27: Cultural Studies
30: Reader-Response

JULY

4: Reader-Response
7: **EXAM 2**

**Ampliación and Proficiency Exam:
NOVEMBER 29 9:00 A.M.**

*** This timetable is tentative and subject to changes as deemed appropriate by the professor.**