

Department of English and Comparative Literature:
Graduate Course Offerings, Spring 2019

Please Note: Course offering & meeting times are subject to change; see Connect Carolina for the most current updates

CMPL 841 (Eric Downing): History of Literary Criticism I: The Origins of Theory and Criticism. TR 3:30

This course is designed to introduce students to some of the major strains in literary criticism from the Classical Period to the 18th century. Readings of major authors will be paired not only with literary examples contemporary with our chosen critics, but also with modern day theoretical responses to their works. Our objective is a working knowledge of dominant trends in European literary criticism up to (and including) the Enlightenment, useful in understanding the literature of the successive historical periods and also as a continuing, vital influence on twentieth-century poetics. We will also be devoting some time to the primary non-Classical tradition of early Western literary criticism, namely Biblical interpretation. Authors read include Gorgias, Plato, Aristotle, Aristophanes, Horace, Longinus, Philo, Proclus, Plotinus, Augustine, Scaliger, Luther, Boileau, Sidney, Burke, Young, and Lessing; Homer, Pindar, Callimachus, Ovid, Vergil, Dante, and Pope; and Auerbach, Derrida, Genette, Ricouer, Benjamin, and Bernal.

ENGL 611 (Jane Danielewicz): Narrative, Literature, and Medicine: Advanced Interdisciplinary Seminar. TR 2:00

Sociologist Arthur Frank asserts that "whether ill people want to tell stories or not, illness calls for stories." This seminar explores narrative approaches to suffering, healing, and medicine's roles in these processes. Students learn literary and anthropological approaches to examine medically themed works from a range of genres.

ENGL 638 (Jeanne Moskal): 19th-Century Women Writers. TR 2:00

An investigation of important texts by 19th-century women writers that considers issues of gender in relation to other important considerations--tradition, form, culture--with an introduction to the chief scholarly and critical problems of this period.

ENGL 666 (Maria Deguzman): Queer Latina/o Photography and Literature. TR 11:00

This course explores novels and short stories by Latina/o writers that focus in one way or another on photographs & photography and, in doing so, that simultaneously question (or "queer") certain cultural givens about gender, sexuality, race/ethnicity/nationality, class, and other coordinates of identity and subjectivity. We will investigate the connections between this double focus. At the same time, we will examine actual photo-based visual work by Latina/o artists. Textual and visual works considered include those by Alma López, Laura Aguilar, Axel Damian Reyes, Gerardo Suter, Franc Franca, Roberto Rincón, John Rechy, Achy Obejas, Helena María Viramontes, Emma Pérez, Elias Miguel Muñoz, Félix González-Torres, Graciela Limón, and Carla Trujillo.

Outline of Requirements. All these assignments will be graded:

- * Completed readings done on time, attendance, and active participation in class (10%)*
- * 7 page double-spaced standard expository essay (30%).*
- * 10 page double-spaced final project, standard expository or creative (40%).*

* Final Exam (20%)

ENGL 680 (Gregory Flaxman): Film Theory. W 5:45

Philosophy of the Image: Media, Ecology, and Technology. This course focuses on Gilles Deleuze two cinema books, *The Movement-Image* and *The Time-Image*, inasmuch as they form the basis for an evolution/ecology of images and anticipate our technological/digital transformation. Thus, we'll use Deleuze's philosophy to grapple with biological and morphogenetic questions (or what we'll call "prehumanism") and contemporary socio-technical questions ("posthumanism"). Intended for graduate students and advanced undergraduates, the class will be largely lecture-oriented, and I've arranged for Anne Sauvagnargues (Professor of Philosophy at Paris X, Nanterre) to come to UNC and co-teach the class for several weeks at the end of the semester. Apart from Deleuze, other readings for the class will likely include:

Bergson, Matter and Memory (and other selected texts)

Beniger, The Control Revolution

Debaise, Nature and Event

Flusser, selections

Guattari, Molecular Revolution

Hui, selection

Ingold, selections

Leibniz, selections

Leroi-Gourhan, Speech and Gesture

Margulis, Symbiotic Planet

Ruyer, The Genesis of Living Forms

Simondon, On the Mode of Existence of Technical Objects

Sauvagnargues, selections

Edward Tufte, The Visual Display of Quantitative Information

Virilio, selections

Wynter, selections

ENGL 690 (Mary Floyd-Wilson): Special Topics: Early Modern English Medical Discourse and Literature. TR 12:30

In this course, we will read a range early modern medical texts, including plague tracts, anatomical treatises, regimens, herbals, and midwifery manuals, to consider how this material may inform our understanding of the period's beliefs about bodies, sex, gender, emotions, temperament, disease, mortality, and sin. We will also examine how this medical discourse instructs our interpretation of more familiar literary genres of the period, including drama, poetry, and prose. We will ask a range of questions, such as: What social narratives can we discern in medical writing? Why were writers obsessed with melancholy? How did people explain the plague? What were the common methods of curing? What were the cultural assumptions about professional and lay medical practitioners? How did religion shape medicine and sickness? When and how did physic intersect with magic? Literary texts may include works by William Shakespeare, John Webster, John Donne, Ben Jonson, Thomas Dekker, Edmund Spenser, and more.

ENGL 706 (Jordynn Jack): Rhetorical Theory and Practice. W 11:15

A study of rhetorical theories and practices from classical to modern times. Emphasis is on translation of theories into instructional practice for teaching in the college writing classroom.

ENGL 709 (Heidi Kim): Technologies of Literary Production. Tu 12:00

This course will survey archival theory and practice, not limited by period or national literature. In addition to readings from a variety of disciplines on definitions and construction of the archive, we will engage in archival research in UNC's holdings and learn about the major archival centers (digital and physical) available for scholarly work.

ENGL 805 (Candace Epps-Robertson): Studies in Rhetoric and Composition. Tu 3:30

Students will survey the ways in which African Americans have used a variety of communicative practices and discourses to construct and represent themselves, advance social justice platforms, and as a means of survival. Readings will cover a range of rhetorical practices, themes, and time periods.

ENGL 821 (Taylor Cowdery): Seminar in Middle English Literature. W 3:35

Intensive study of major Middle English authors or genres or of medieval cultural influences. Topics have included Malory, Piers Plowman and its tradition, drama, and intellectual backgrounds of medieval literature.

ENGL 825 (Jessica Wolfe): Renaissance Literature in Context. Th 9:30

This course will offer doctoral students a broad, multi-genre survey of Elizabethan literature (epic, lyric, prose fiction, dialogue, educational literature, controversial writings, plays, masques and entertainments), focusing on works responding to topical political events including but not limited to the Anjou ('French') match, the trial and execution of Mary, Queen of Scots, the invasion of the Spanish Armada, the Saint Bartholomew's Day Massacre and the French religious wars, the Dutch wars of Independence and the death of Philip Sidney, and the trial and execution of the Earl of Essex. Although our focus will be on three canonical writers -- Sidney, Spenser, and Marlowe -- we will also read works by Foxe, Ascham and Mulcaster, Churchyard, Gascoigne, Lyly, Nashe, Greville, Deloney, Bacon, and Chapman. Students should secure on their own an unabridged copy of Spenser's Faerie Queene (we will be reading selections from Books 3, 4, and 5); remaining assigned texts will be ordered through UNC student stores.

ENGL 835 (James Thompson): 18th-Century Fiction. M 2:30

This is a Jane Austen course which will focus first on her 6 novels, juvenilia and short works, and second on her reception from 1817 to the present, the stages by which Austen's writings became identified with nostalgic pleasure for a lost agrarian green world, to the Britishness defended in WWI to an Alt-Right fantasy of hierarchy and deference. So too, we will look at the translation of Austen into, on the one hand, prequels and sequels, and, on the other, stage and screen. Over the course of two centuries she moves from what we would call a mid-list author, to a figure who can be monetized in every way imaginable from tea-towels to web series. Along the way, she is transformed from the elite pleasure of the few to a mass-market matinee ideal.