**English 251B; Criticism 2, Section 001**  
**Mondays and Wednesdays 1:00-2:20, PAS 1229**  
**Dr. Shannon Hartling**  
**Office: ML 254C**  
**Email: shartling@uwaterloo.ca**  
**Office Hours: M/W 12:30-12:55**

**Required text:**  
Lodge and Wood, eds.  
*Modern Criticism and Theory: A Reader* (Third Edition)

Shelley, Mary  

**Recommended Text:**  
Aaron, Jane and Murray McArthur  
*The Little, Brown Compact Handbook*

*Note: you must purchase the correct editions of both *Modern Criticism and Theory*, and *Frankenstein*. Older or alternate editions will be inadequate for the purposes of study.*

**Course Description:**  
*Calendar: An introduction to the theorizing of literary and non-literary texts. Emphasizing contemporary theories, the course will focus on the text, the reader, and culture.*  
This course offers an introduction to critical theory and its relationship to the study of texts. We will emphasize late-twentieth and early twenty-first-century theory, although a background to early twentieth-century theory will be established. As well as studying excerpts from the writings of key critical theorists, we will engage in a sustained examination of a literary text and of critical readings responding to that text.

**Course Objectives:** You will develop your understanding of some of the major trends that inform current critical theory, and engage in a sustained analysis of a literary text through the lens of theory. You will develop the ability to discuss and perhaps debate critical concepts and you will have the opportunity to apply theory to a text of your choice.

**Method of Instruction**  
This course will be taught via lectures and augmented by student responses to the material and by class discussion. All students are required to come to class having read the material assigned for that day and prepared to engage in an informed discussion of that material.

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<tr>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Response Assignments (4)</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>Throughout term</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midterm</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>June 09</td>
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<td>Essay</td>
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<td>July 26</td>
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<td>Exam</td>
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<td>August exam period</td>
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Midterm
The midterm will involve a selection of definitions and short answer questions relating to all of the work studied in class to that date. No aids will be permitted. No alternate arrangements for the midterm can be made without appropriate documentation.

Response Assignments
Four times during the term, on any four separate days in which there is a scheduled reading and discussion (you may not hand in an assignment on the midterm or review, and no response assignments will be accepted after the last day of class), you will hand in a short (maximum one page, single-spaced) response to an aspect of the day’s reading. The response must include a direct quotation, and can respond in any way that interests you (unpack a difficult term, relate a theoretical concept to the literary text we are examining, pose a relevant question) but it must be able to spark discussion for that day’s class. All response assignments are due on the day that the pertinent material is being discussed: since you have many opportunities to hand these in during the term, no response assignments will be accepted late.

Essay
The essay will be roughly 5-6 pages (1250-1500 words) in length and will deal with application of one of the schools of theory we have learned to a literary or non-literary text. You may not analyze a text you are analyzing for another course this term. You must append the text, or segment of text, that is the focus of your analysis to your essay.

Exam
The exam will be held during the August exam period. It will involve definition and short answer, and either an analysis of a text provided for the purpose of the test or an essay question. No aids will be permitted. No alternate arrangements for the exam can be made without appropriate documentation.

Late Policy
Late essays and assignments will be penalized by 5% per school day unless I grant an extension prior to the due date, or appropriate documentation accompanies the extension request. Absolutely no essays will be accepted, barring agreed-upon extensions or documented emergencies, after August 03.

Cross-Listed Course
Please note that a cross-listed course will count in all respective averages no matter under which rubric it has been taken. For example, a PHIL/PSCI cross-list will count in a Philosophy major average, even if the course was taken under the political science rubric.

Academic Integrity:
Academic Integrity: In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility.

Discipline: A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing academic offenses, and to take responsibility for his/her actions. A student who is unsure if an action constitutes an offense, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offenses,
(e.g. plagiarism, cheating) or about “rules” for group work/collaboration should seek guidance from the course professor, academic advisor, or the Undergraduate Associate Dean. When misconduct has been found to have occurred, disciplinary penalties will be imposed under Policy 71—Student Discipline. For information on categories of offenses and types of penalties, students should refer to Policy 71—Student Discipline, http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy71.htm

**Grievance:** A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of his/her university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read Policy 70—Student Petitions and Grievances, Section 4, http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy70.htm

**Appeals:** A student may appeal the finding and/or penalty of a decision made under Policy 70—Student Petitions and Grievances (other than regarding a petition) or Policy 71—Student Discipline if a ground for an appeal can be established. Read Policy 72—Student Appeals, http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy72.htm

**Academic Integrity Website (Arts):** http://www.uwaterloo.ca/arts/ugrad/academic_responsibility.html

**Academic Integrity Office (UW):** http://uwaterloo.ca/academicintegrity/

**Accommodation for Students with Disabilities:**

**Note for students with disabilities:** The office for Persons with Disabilities (OPD), located in Needles Hall, Room 1132, collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with the OPD at the beginning of each academic term.
Class Schedule and List of Readings
(schedule subject to change)

May 03: Introduction and Syllabus
May 05: Introduction to Theoretical Schools
  *Frankenstein*, Volume I
May 10: Saussure: The Object of Study
  *Frankenstein*, Volume II
May 12: Bakhtin: From the prehistory of novelistic discourse
  *Frankenstein* Volume III
May 17: Freud: The manifest content of dreams and the latent dream-thoughts
May 19: (from Hunter) Poovey: “My Hideous Progeny:” The Lady and the Monster
May 26: Iser: The reading process: a phenomenological approach
  Fish: Interpreting the *Variorum*
May 31: Derrida: Structure, sign and play in the discourse of the human sciences
June 02: J. Hillis Miller: The critic as host
June 07: Foucault: What is an author?
June 09: **Midterm**
June 14: Irigaray: The bodily encounter with the mother
  (from Hunter) Moers: Female Gothic: The Monster’s Mother
June 16: Schweickart: Reading ourselves: toward a feminist theory of reading
June 21: (from Hunter) Veeder: The Women of *Frankenstein*
June 23: Said: Crisis [in orientalism]
June 28: Spivak: Questions of multi-culturalism
June 30: Sedgwick: The beast in the closet
July 05: Butler: critically queer
July 07: March 26: Greenblatt: The circulation of social energy
July 12: (from Hunter) Butler: *Frankenstein* and Radical Science
July 14: Eco: *Casablanca*: Cult movies and intertextual collage
July 19: Buell: Place
July 21: (from Hunter) Mellow: Possessing Nature: The Female in *Frankenstein*
July 26: Stille: Writing and the creation of the past
  Essays due