English 251B
Criticism 2
Winter 2006
Course Syllabus

Instructor: Dr. Shannon Hartling
Email: shartling@rogers.com
Office Hours: TBA

This course offers an introduction to critical theory and its relationship to the study of literature. We will emphasize twentieth-century theory and focus upon the text, the reader, and culture.

Required text:
David Lodge, ed.  
Modern Criticism and Theory: A Reader (Second Edition)

Jane E. Aaron and Murray McArthur  
The Little, Brown Compact Handbook*

You will also be responsible for material I present or hand out to the class. Material from student presentations will not be on the exam.

Method of Instruction
This course will be taught via lectures and augmented by student presentations and class discussion. Aside from the required texts, we will read material brought in by myself or by other students. 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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<th>Assignments</th>
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<th>Due Date</th>
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<td>Midterm Quiz</td>
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<td>Feb. 15</td>
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<td>Summaries</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<td>Group Presentation</td>
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<td>Essay</td>
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<td>Exam</td>
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<td>April exam period</td>
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*All proceeds from the sale of The Little, Brown Compact Handbook go to the Department of English Scholarship Fund.

Midterm Quiz
The midterm exam will take place in regularly scheduled class time, and 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.

Group Presentation
Working in small groups (of approx. 3 students), you will present an analysis of a literary or non-literary text, based on critical theories currently under discussion. The group presentations will be approximately 15 minutes in length, followed by a short discussion period, and will be comprised
of the following: a handout to the class; the presentation itself, which will incorporate a short (max. 5 min.) recap of the critical theory involved, an analysis of the text itself, with a one-page synopsis of the presentation, handed in to me; and an annotated bibliography. Each group must meet with me beforehand in order to clarify the focus of their presentation.

**Summaries**
Four short (one-page maximum, typed) summaries are due throughout the term, and will reflect a major concept dealt with in the reading to be discussed during class (because of this, summaries are due at the beginning of the class on the day the material will be discussed. No late summaries will be accepted). Each summary is worth 5%.

**Essay**
The short essay will be roughly 1000 words in length and will deal with the critical school you have worked with in your group presentation. You may either expand on theoretical issues raised in your presentation, or present another application of theory in analysis of a literary or non-literary work. The essay is due one week after your presentation.

**Exam**
The exam will be held during the April 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 3% 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 April 07.

**Avoidance of Academic Offenses**
Note on avoidance of academic offences: All students registered in the courses of the Faculty of Arts are expected to know what constitutes an academic offence, to avoid committing academic offences, and to take responsibility for their academic actions. When the commission of an offence is established, disciplinary penalties will be imposed in accord with Policy #71 (Student Academic Discipline). For information on categories of offences and types of penalties, students are directed to consult the summary of Policy #71 which is supplied in the Undergraduate Calendar (section 1; on the Web at http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy71.htm.). If you need help in learning how to avoid offences such as plagiarism, cheating, and double submission, or if you need clarification of aspects of the discipline policy, ask your TA or course instructor for guidance. Other resources regarding the discipline policy are your academic advisor and the Undergraduate Associate Dean.

Students who believe that they have been wrongfully or unjustly penalized have the right to grieve; refer to Policy #70, Student Grievance, http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy70.htm.

If you have any questions about academic offences, consult with the Arts Faculty Web page, “Avoiding Academic Offences” http://arts.uwaterloo.ca/arts/ugrad/academic_responsibility.html, or consult with me.