**ENGLISH 481A**  
Burkean Criticism: Theory and Practice  
**WINTER 1998**

"Every way of seeing is a way of not seeing." K. Burke

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<tr>
<th>Instructor Information:</th>
<th>Dr. G. Stillar</th>
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**Course Description and Goals**  
This course consists of close reading and exegesis of Burke's key writings on language and symbolic action and their application in the criticism of everyday texts. We will explore how Burke's 'dramatistic', 'rhetorical', and 'logological' theories provide students of language and rhetoric with explicit, critical, and reflexive models for the analysis of non-literary texts in their social contexts.

**Course Policies**  
Keeping up with readings and participating in class through questions, comments, and discussion are central to this course. You will be learning and practicing a *meta-language* (a language about language), so it is vital to attend lectures and workshops. Missed or late assignments require appropriate medical documentation.

**Required Text**  

**Assignments and Evaluation**  
1. In Class Seminar - 35% (Précis and Commentary on a Week's Readings)  
2. Class Participation - 20%  
3. Term Paper - 45% (2000 words)

**Course Outline**  
The course covers five basic topics. (Rough text chapter divisions follow):  
1. Introduction to Burke (Introduction, 5, 6, 7)  
2. Dramatistic Grammar (8, 9, 10, 14)  
3. Rhetoric (11, 12, 13)  
4. Logology (2, 19, 20)  
5. Summary of Burkology  

Note: Readings related to these topics will be assigned on a weekly basis.