

DRAFT (hours and location may change)

CL 106.02 Literary Theory and Criticism I

Instructor: Jameson Kismet Bell

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Course Schedule: TBA

Office: TB440

Office hours: By appointment. Please email.

Course Description

Analysis of the most significant theoretical statements on literature prior to the modern period, focusing on major critical works from the Classical, Medieval, and Early Modern periods, ending with the Eighteenth century.

Required and Suggested Texts:

Students will have access to both digital and printed versions of the texts. Hard copies are available at the library copy shop. Digital copies will be communicated electronically.

KNOW THYSELF: choose the best medium for you to read, engage, and respond.

Required:

All readings will be combined into one reader that will be available at the Library Copy Shop and on Moodle. The readings come from the following sources:

(ALC) *Ancient Literary Criticism* ed. by D.A. Russell and M. Winterbottom (Oxford, 1972)

(NA) *Norton Anthology of Theory & Criticism* ed. by V.B. Leitch (New York, 2001)

(O) Other sources

Suggested:

Hall, Vernon. *A Short History of Literary Criticism*. (Merlin Press, 1963)

Eagleton, Terry. *Literary Theory: An Introduction*. (University of Minnesota Press, 1996)

Grade Structure:

Attendance, Quizzes, Participation 10%

Written essays (2) 30%

Midterm Exam 30%

Final Exam 30%

Grading Scale:

AA 100-90: Exceeded course expectations and offered an outstanding performance in class participation, exams, writing, and other assignments.

BA 89-85: All course expectations were met with an excellent performance in class participation, exams, writing, and other assignments.

BB 84-80: Very good performance. Most course expectations were met with above average performance in class participation, exams, writing, and other assignments.

CB 79-75: Good performance: Most course expectations were met with above average performance in class, exams, writing, and other assignments.

CC 74-70: Average performance. Some course requirements were not met and student performance in class, exams, writing, and other assignments was neither remarkable nor inadequate.

DC 69-65: Inadequate performance. Many course requirements were not met and student offered a below average performance in class, exams, writing, and other assignments.

DD 64-60: Inadequate performance. Most course requirements were not met. Performance in class, exams, writing, and other assignments barely merit a passing grade.

F 59-0: Fail.

Class Expectations

Writing: Two essays will allow for further exploration of topics found in readings and lectures. Essays will be submitted using Turnitin.com: <http://www.turnitin.com/>

If you have difficulty writing clearly, you should visit the BU online writing lab (<http://www.buowl.boun.edu.tr/>) or the YADYOK website (<http://www.yadyok.boun.edu.tr/index.htm>) for help.

OR...visit me in office hours. Set up an appointment early rather than late in the semester.

Attendance: We will conduct all lectures during the scheduled time and you are expected to attend 75% of the classes each week. There will be announced and unannounced quizzes and responses in class. Please communicate any problems you have or missed classes (email). You are expected to be at all lectures unless you communicate with me a valid excuse.

Midterm & Final Essays: The format of exams will be written and face to face. These exams will be used to evaluate student progress, writing ability, and critical independent thought.

Academic Integrity (Plagiarism):

I expect all submitted work to be solely your own. In the event that you use someone else's ideas or information, or if you use wording that is not your own, you MUST provide a citation with a consistent style (MLA, Chicago, APA, Harvard, etc.). Representing someone else's work as your own is plagiarism and is a breach of academic integrity. (When in doubt, cite!) Plagiarism will automatically receive an F on the assignment. Depending on the severity, the student may possibly fail the course. Repeat offenders will be referred to the department and faculty disciplinary committees.

To encourage academic honesty and communication, all writing will be submitted through <http://www.turnitin.com/>

Weekly Schedule:

Classical Greek & Roman Theories

Week 1: (Feb 12 & 14) NA Introduction (1-13); ALC Plato, from *Ion* (39-50)

Week 2: (Feb 19 & 21) ALC Plato, from *The Republic* (50-75)

Week 3: (Feb 26 & 28) Plato, from *The Republic* (cont.) (50-75); *Phaedrus* (50-75)

Week 4: (March 4 & 6) ALC Aristotle, from *Poetics* (85-134)

First Essay Due

Week 5: (March 11 & 13) ALC Aristotle, from *Poetics* (85-134) (cont.)

Week 6: (March 18 & 20) ALC Longinus, from *On the Sublime* (460-477); from Anonymous, *Rhetorica ad Herennium* (205-213)

Week 7: (March 25 & 27) ALC Horace, from *Art of Poetry* (279-299); *Letter to Augustus* (272-275); (1st c. BCE) NA Quintilian, from *Institutes of Oratory* (155-162)

MIDTERM EXAM

Medieval & Renaissance Theories

Week 8: (April 1 & 3) NA Augustine, from *On Christian Doctrine* (185-191); NA Thomas Aquinas, from *Summa Theologica*, "Ninth Article" (240-244)

Spring Break (April 8-12)

Week 9: (April 15 & 17) NA Dante Alighieri, from *Il Convivio*; from *The Letter to Can Grande* (246-251); Giovanni Boccaccio, from *Genealogy of the Gentile Gods* (253-360)

Early Modern Theories

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Week 10: (April 22 & 24) NA Sir Philip Sydney, from *An Apology for Poetry* (323-362)

Second Essay Due

Week 11: (April 29 & May 1) NA Edmund Burke, from *A Philosophical Enquiry into the Origin of Our Ideas of the Sublime and Beautiful* (536-550); NA Immanuel Kant, from *A Critique of Judgment* (499-519)

May 1st (No class)

Week 12: (May 6 & 8) NA G. E. Lessing, from *Laocoon* (551-571)

Week 13: (May 13 & 15) TBA