

**DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES
AND CULTURAL STUDIES**

<https://uofa.ualberta.ca/modern-languages-and-cultural-studies>

2018-2019 C Lit 206 A1: History of Literary Theory I
(Fall Term)

Instructor: Daniel Fried
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Time: MWF 11-11:50
Place: T B 129
Office Hours: W 1-2:30,
or by appointment
Course Website: eClass

Course Prerequisite: no prerequisite

It is your responsibility as a student to ensure that you have the appropriate prerequisites for the course.

Course-based Ethics Approval in place regarding all research projects that involve human testing, questionnaires, etc.?

Yes No, not needed, no such projects approved.

Community Service Learning component

Required Optional None

Past or Representative Evaluative Course Material Available

- Exam registry – Students' Union
<http://www.su.ualberta.ca/services/infolink/exam/>
- See explanations below
- Document distributed in class
- Other (please specify)
- NA

Additional mandatory Instructional fees (approved by Board of Governors)

Yes No

Course Description, Objectives and Expected Learning Outcomes:

This course will cover the history of European literary theory, from classical Greece through the end of the 19th century. Materials will be treated in their own right, as a series of ongoing debates about what literature is, and what its proper role in society should be. However, the history of literary theory will also be discussed in relation to literature itself, and compositional and reading practices of each period; as well as to the larger social forces of each period which impelled writers and thinkers to set down their ideas about literature. At the end of this course, students will be able to analyze how authors' assumptions about what literature is relates to their actual creative practice, and will be able to explain how literary theory mediates between literary texts and the social

and political backgrounds of any given period.

Texts:

No texts are required for purchase; all readings will be available either for free online, or on Rutherford reserve. See detailed assignment schedule below for readings.

Grade Distribution (see “Explanatory Notes”):

Class Participation	30%	
Research Paper	30%	Friday, November 9
Final Exam	40%	9-11am, Tuesday, December 18

Date of Deferred Final Exam (if applicable):

Please consult the following site:

<https://calendar.ualberta.ca/content.php?catoid=6&navoid=806#Examinations> (Exams)

For information on how to apply for a deferred exam see [“I Missed my Final Exam, Now What?”](#)

Explanatory Notes on Assignments:

Class Participation: Regular attendance and participation are an important part of this course, and are assigned a major portion of the grade. Attendance will be taken quietly at the beginning of each class; students are allowed one free absence for the semester. In addition, each student will be expected to demonstrate that s/he has read the material and is capable of engaging with the professor and the rest of the class.

Research Paper: Students will be asked to write a brief research paper (2000 words, 4 secondary sources) on a topic to be assigned in class. Detailed instructions for the paper will be given in class, but the goal of the assignment is to ask students to think creatively about the historical role which literary theory has played in mediating between social and political needs, and literary practice.

Final Exam: There will be a final exam consisting entirely of 50 multiple-choice questions, each worth 2 points. Questions on the final exam will test basic knowledge of facts presented in the course, but also students’ understandings of the historical importance of our various theories, how they were used, and what their implications are.

Assignment Schedule

Wed, Sept 5 Introduction

Fri, Sept 7 Plato, *Ion*
<http://classics.mit.edu/Plato/ion.html>

Mon, Sept 10 Plato, *Republic* II-III 376a-398b (pp. 53-76)
http://www.inp.uw.edu.pl/mdsie/Political_Thought/Plato-Republic.pdf

- Wed, Sept 12 Plato, *Republic* X (277-303)
http://www.inp.uw.edu.pl/mdsie/Political_Thought/Plato-Republic.pdf
- Fri, Sept 14 Plato discussion
- Mon, Sept 17 Aristotle, *Poetics* sections 1-18
http://www.gutenberg.org/files/1974/1974-h/1974-h.htm#link2H_4_0028
- Wed, Sept 19 Aristotle, *Poetics* sections 19-24
http://www.gutenberg.org/files/1974/1974-h/1974-h.htm#link2H_4_0028
- Fri, Sept 21 Aristotle discussion
- Mon, Sept 24 Horace, *Ars Poetica*
<http://www.poetryfoundation.org/resources/learning/essays/detail/69381>
- Wed, Sept 26 Longinus, *On the Sublime* Chapters I-IX
<http://www.gutenberg.org/files/17957/17957-h/17957-h.htm>
- Fri, Sept 28 Horace & Longinus discussion
- Mon, Oct 1 *Guide to Writing Papers*
PAPER TOPICS ASSIGNED IN CLASS
- Wed, Oct 3 **PROF FRIED AT CONFERENCE; DO ASSIGNED READING, THEN WATCH VIDEO LECTURE ON ECLASS**
 pseudo-Cicero *Ad Herennium* Book I
http://penelope.uchicago.edu/Thayer/E/Roman/Texts/Rhetorica_ad_Herennium/1*.html
- Fri, Oct 5 **PROF FRIED AT CONFERENCE; DO ASSIGNED READING, THEN WATCH VIDEO LECTURE ON ECLASS**
 Augustine, *De Doctrina Christiana* Book 4 Ch. 1-6, 10-14, 17-19
<http://faculty.georgetown.edu/jod/augustine/ddc4.html>
- Mon, Oct 8 **THANKSGIVING, NO CLASS**
- Wed, Oct 10 late-classical rhetoric discussion
- Fri, Oct 12 **PAPER WORKSHOP; BRING 1st PARAGRAPH TO CLASS**
- Mon, Oct 15 Dante, *De Vulgari Eloquentia* Liber Primus
http://alighieri.letteraturaoperaomnia.org/translate_english/alighieri_dante_de_vulgari_eloquentia.html

- Wed, Oct 17 Du Bellay, *Defense and Illustration of the French Language* Book I
https://archive.org/stream/greatcritics030137mbp/greatcritics030137mbp_djvu.txt (search on page)
- Fri, Oct 19 Vernacular literature discussion
- Mon, Oct 22 Philip Sidney, *Defense of Poesy*
<http://www.bartleby.com/27/1.html>
- Wed, Oct 24 Philip Sidney, *Astrophil and Stella*, 1-10
<http://www.luminarium.org/renascence-editions/stella.html>
- Fri, Oct 26 Philip Sidney discussion
- Mon, Oct 29 Cervantes, *Don Quixote* Part I, Ch 1-6
<http://www.gutenberg.org/files/5921/5921-h/5921-h.htm#ch10>
- Wed, Oct 31 Pope, “An Essay on Criticism”
<http://www.poetryfoundation.org/resources/learning/essays/detail/69379>
- Fri, Nov 2 Cervantes/Pope discussion
- Mon, Nov 5 Wordsworth, “Preface to the *Lyrical Ballads*”
<http://www.gutenberg.org/cache/epub/8905/pg8905-images.html>
- Wed, Nov 7 Wordsworth, “Complaint of a Forsaken Indian Woman”; “We Are Seven”; “Lines written a few miles above Tintern Abbey”; Coleridge, “The Nightingale”
<http://www.gutenberg.org/cache/epub/8905/pg8905-images.html>
- Fri, Nov 9 **PAPERS DUE IN CLASS**
Lyrical Ballads discussion
- Mon, Nov 12 **READING WEEK, NO CLASS**
- Wed, Nov 14 **READING WEEK, NO CLASS**
- Fri, Nov 16 **READING WEEK, NO CLASS**
- Mon, Nov 19 Novalis, *Heinrich von Ofterdingen* Chapter 1
<http://www.gutenberg.org/files/31873/31873-h/31873-h.htm>
- Wed, Nov 21 Balzac, “The Unknown Masterpiece”
<http://www.gutenberg.org/files/23060/23060-h/23060-h.htm>

- Fri, Nov 23 Romantic symbol discussion
- Mon, Nov 26 Matthew Arnold, *Culture and Anarchy* Chapter 1
<http://www.gutenberg.org/cache/epub/4212/pg4212-images.html>
- Wed, Nov 28 Karl Marx, *The German Ideology* Part I.A
<https://www.marxists.org/archive/marx/works/1845/german-ideology/ch01a.htm>
- Fri, Nov 30 Late 19th-century discussion
- Mon, Dec 3 Overall summary discussion
- Wed, Dec 5 **REVIEW SESSION 1 : Plato-Du Bellay**
- Fri, Dec 7 **REVIEW SESSION 2 : Sidney-Marx**
- Tues, Dec 18 **FINAL EXAM, 9am-11am**

Required Notes:

Policy about course outlines can be found in the [Evaluation Procedures and Grading System](#) of the University Calendar.

Student Responsibilities:

Academic Integrity:

The University of Alberta is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect. Students are particularly urged to familiarize themselves with the provisions of the Code of Student Behaviour (online at www.governance.ualberta.ca) and avoid any behaviour that could potentially result in suspicions of cheating, plagiarism, misrepresentation of facts and/or participation in an offence. Academic dishonesty is a serious offence and can result in suspension or expulsion from the University.

All students should consult [the Academic Integrity website](#). If you have any questions, ask your instructor.

An instructor or coordinator who is convinced that a student has handed in work that he or she could not possibly reproduce without outside assistance is obliged, out of consideration of fairness to other students, to report the case to the Associate Dean of the Faculty. See the [Academic Discipline Process](#).

Learning and Working Environment:

The Faculty of Arts is committed to ensuring all students; faculty and staff are able to study and work in an environment that is safe and free from discrimination and harassment. It does not tolerate behaviour that undermines that environment. The Department urges anyone who feels that this policy is being violated to:

- Discuss the matter with the person whose behaviour is causing concern; or
- If that discussion is unsatisfactory, or there is concern that direct discussion is inappropriate or threatening, discuss it with the Chair of the Department.

For additional advice or assistance regarding this policy you may contact the [Office of the Student Ombuds](#). Information about the [University of Alberta Discrimination and Harassment Policy and Procedures](#) is described in [UAPPOL](#).

Territorial Statement:

“The University of Alberta acknowledges that we are located on Treaty 6 territory, and respects the histories, languages, and cultures of the First Nations, Métis, Inuit, and all First Peoples of Canada, whose presence continues to enrich our vibrant community.” (*from the beginning of the Calendar*).

University of Alberta Sexual Violence Policy:

The Sexual Violence Policy was approved by GFC in June 2017. It plays a vital role in ensuring a safe and respectful learning and working environment.

As defined in the policy, **sexual violence** is any sexual act or act of a sexual nature, or act targeting sexuality, whether physical or psychological, committed without consent. **Sexual violence** is a complex and serious problem in society and on university campuses. Sexual violence can affect individuals of all gender identities, gender expressions, and sexual orientations, as well as those from all ages, abilities, racial, cultural and economic backgrounds. Through this policy, the University of Alberta recognizes its responsibility to reduce sexual violence in the University community. The university aims to do so by fostering a culture of **consent** and support through education, training and policy. The University recognizes the possible effects of trauma on those who have experienced sexual violence and supports the efforts of individuals to seek support and recover.

To read the policy in more detail, please visit:

<https://policiesonline.ualberta.ca/PoliciesProcedures/Policies/Sexual-Violence-Policy.pdf>

Recording of Lectures:

Audio or video recording, digital or otherwise, of lectures, labs, seminars or any other teaching environment by students is allowed only with the prior written consent of the instructor or as a part of an approved accommodation plan.

Student or instructor content, digital or otherwise, created and/or used within the context of the course is to be used solely for personal study, and is not to be used or distributed for any other purpose without prior written consent from the content author(s).

Attendance, Absences, and Missed Grade Components:

Regular attendance is essential for optimal performance in any course. In cases of potentially excusable absences due to illness or domestic affliction, notify your instructor by e-mail within two days. Regarding absences that may be excusable and procedures for addressing course components missed as a result, consult sections [Attendance](#) and [Examinations](#) of the University Calendar. Be aware that unexcused absences will result in partial or total loss of the grade for the “attendance and participation” component(s) of a course, as well as for any assignments that are not handed-in or completed as a result.

Deferral of term work is a privilege and not a right; there is no guarantee that a deferral will be granted. Misrepresentation of facts to gain a deferral is a serious breach of the Code of Student Behaviour.

In this course, attendance and participation will be graded as specified above. Absences for medical causes or domestic affliction will be granted if accompanied by an absence affidavit, available in the Faculty of Arts Undergraduate Student Services Office (HC 1-17). Other opportunities to earn excused absences in exchange for doing good deeds (such as attending scholarly lectures, or making quantifiable contributions to campus life) will be announced during the term.

Policy for Late Assignments:

Extensions may be granted if negotiated with the instructor in advance of the due date. (These are more likely to be given if requested far in advance, with a good explanation of an unavoidable schedule conflict. “Having other things due at the same time” will not be considered valid grounds for an extension.) If an assignment is turned in late without an extension, then a penalty of one grade-step per day will be assessed. For example, if a paper which would otherwise earn an A- is turned in two days late, the grade given will be a B.

Disclaimer:

Any typographical errors in this syllabus are subject to change and will be announced in class and posted on eClass. The date of the final examination is set by the Registrar and takes precedence over the final examination date reported in this syllabus.

Student Resources:

The best all-purpose website for student services is: <https://www.ualberta.ca/current-students>.

Accessibility Resources: (1 – 80 SUB)

The University of Alberta is committed to creating work and learning communities that inspire and enable all people to reach their full potential. Accessibility Resources promotes an accessible, inclusive, and universally designed environment. For general information to register for services visit the [Accessibility Resources](#) webpage.

The Academic Success Centre: (1-80 SUB)

[The Academic Success Centre](#) offers a variety of workshops on effective study and exam strategies. There are in-person and online sessions available for a modest fee.

The Centre for Writers: (1-42 Assiniboia Hall)

The [Centre for Writers](#) offers free one-on-one writing support to students, faculty, and staff. Students can request consultation for a writing project at any stage of development. Instructors can request class visits and presentations.

Health and Wellness Support: There are many health and community services available to current students. For more information visit the [Health and Wellness Support](#) webpage.

Office of the Student Ombuds:

The [Office of the Student Ombuds](#) offers confidential interviews, advice and support to students facing academic, discipline, interpersonal and financial difficulties.

Grading:

Assessment of the individual course components may be in the form of numerical marks or letter grades. The final letter grade will be based on "a combination of absolute achievement and relative performance in a class" (University Calendar, [Evaluation Procedures and Grading System](#)). The University Grading Procedure mandates that "a student's level of achievement of the goals/outcomes of a course, their grade, and the descriptor of that grade must be aligned" (<https://policiesonline.ualberta.ca/>). The following guidelines have been adopted by the Department of Modern Languages and Cultural Studies:

“MLCS Undergraduate Grading Scale”

Descriptor	Letter Grade	Grade Point Value	%
Excellent. A+, A or A- is earned by work which is superior in content and form and demonstrates an exceptional grasp of the subject matter. The grade of A+ designates work that far exceeds course expectations. Grades in the A range are normally achieved by a small number of students.	A+	4.0	97-100
	A	4.0	93-96
	A-	3.7	90-92
Good. B+, B or B- is earned by work that demonstrates a thorough comprehension of the course material and a good command of relevant skills. Grades in the B range are normally achieved by the largest number of students.	B+	3.3	87-89
	B	3.0	83-86
	B-	2.7	80-82
Satisfactory. C+, C or C- is earned by work that demonstrates an adequate grasp of the course material and relevant skills. Grades in the C range designate work that has met the basic requirements of the course.	C+	2.3	77-79
	C	2.0	73-76
	C-	1.7	70-72

Poor/Minimal Pass. D+ or D is earned by work that demonstrates minimal familiarity with the course material. Grades in the D range generally indicate insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the subject matter.	D+	1.3	65-69
	D	1.0	60-64
Failure.	F	0.0	0-59

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