
* Course Title: Literary Criticism

* Course No.: 102216

* Instructor : Dr. Mustafa Ahmed

* Office hours: 12-1 Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday
2-3 Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday
3:30-5 Monday and Wednesday

* E-mail: msamaray@yahoo.com

* Course Description:

Although almost all of the criticism ever written dates from the 20th century, questions first posed by Plato and Aristotle are still of prime concern, and every critic who has attempted to justify the social value of literature has had to come to terms with the opposing argument made by Plot in The Republic The poet as a man and Poetry as a form of statement both seemed untrustworthy to Plato, who depicted the physical world as an imperfect copy of transcendent ideas and Poetry as a mere copy of the copy. Thus, literature could only mislead the seeker of truth. Plato credited the poet with divine inspiration, but this, too, was cause for worry; a man possessed by such madness would subvert the interests of a rational polity. Poets were therefore to be banished from the hypothetical republic.

* Objectives:

The course covers the main features of Literary criticism with special reference to the main period in English Literature.

References

Literary Theory: An Introduction

by Terry Eagleton

Published November 23rd 1996 by Blackwell Pub (first published 1983)

How to Read Literature Like a Professor: A Lively and Entertaining Guide to Reading Between the Lines

by Thomas C. Foster

Published February 18th 2003 by Harper Perennial (first published January 1st 2003)

Mimesis: The Representation of Reality in Western Literature

by Erich Auerbach, Willard R. Trask (Translator), Edward W. Said (Introduction)

Published April 27th 2003 by Princeton University Press (first published 1946)

Anatomy of Criticism: Four Essays

by Northrop Frye

Published October 15th 2000 by Princeton University Press (first published May 21st 1957)

Poetics

by Aristotle, Malcolm Heath (Translator)

Published September 26th 1996 by Penguin Classics

| Week | Dates | Ch. & PP. | Remarks |
|--------|---------------|-------------------------|---------|
| First | 18-22/10/2015 | Introduction | |
| Second | 25-29/10/2015 | The main Literary terms | |

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|-------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Third | 1-5/11/2015 | Aristotle | |
| Fourth | 8-12/11/2015 | Plato | |
| Fifth | 15-19/11/2015 | The Renaissance Critics | |
| Sixth | 22-11 up to 6-12/2015 | | The first Exam |
| Seventh | | | |
| Eighth | | | |
| Ninth | 13-17/12/2015 | Ben Jonson | |
| Tenth | 20-24/12/2015 | The Neo-Classic | |
| Eleventh | 27-12-2015 up to 10-1-2016 | | The second Exam |
| Twelfth | | | |
| Thirteenth | | | |
| Fourteenth | 17-21/1/2016 | The Romantic Critics | |
| Fifteenth | 24-28/1/2016 | Summing up | |
| Sixteen | 31-1 up to 11-2-2016 | | The Final Exam |

*** Assessment instruments**

1. Short reports and / or presentation, and / or short research projects.
2. First and second exams
3. Attendance and participations
4. Final exam

| Grade Distribution | |
|-------------------------------|--------------|
| Assessment instruments | Marks |
| First examination | 25 |
| Second Examination | 25 |
| Participation | 10 |
| Final examination | 40 |
| Total | 100 |

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*** Textbook and Supporting Material**