

**BRESCIA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE**  
at THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO  
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH  
UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES  
September--December 2014  
Brian Diemert  
office 301c  
ext. 28387

English 2200F  
History of Theory and Criticism

Half course; second term.

Antirequisites: English 215a/b, and the former English 200 or 201a/b.

**Description and Objectives:**

This course aims to provide students with a solid introduction to some of the key issues and debates surrounding thinking about the arts, and literature in particular, from Plato up to the early twentieth century. Thus, while the course readings trace something of a historical trajectory, the course also aims to come to an understanding of some of the most crucial and contentious issues throughout and across the tradition: the charge that literature is a "lie"; the question of beauty; the role of the author; gender; and so forth. Reading literary theory is a different experience from that of reading literature and can be challenging. Students in this course will enhance their abilities to read critically, think critically, and write proficiently

Successful students will discover some of the reasons to study literature and its value. Ancient arguments about representation, cultural production, politics, civility, and morality have modern day applications that students will explore in discussion and assignments. Students will continue to develop and use the vocabulary of literary analysis in written work that uses clear and grammatically correct prose. Critical thinking skills will be enhanced through your engagement with the assigned readings and through your assigned work.

**Objectives:**

By the end of this course, students will recognize continuity in literary debate.

Students will enhance their writing skills.

Students will discover the value of literary study as it has been explained through history.

Students will discover various methodologies that can be used in the discussion of literary texts.

Students will expand their reading of literary material beyond the genres of fiction, poetry, and drama.

Texts:

David H. Richter ed., The Critical Tradition: Classic Texts and Contemporary Trends 3rd ed.. (St. Martin's)

Assignments

Four Reflections	10%
Test	20%
Essay	<u>30%</u>
Final	<u>40%</u>
	100%

Essays should be submitted in class. The penalty for late essays is 2 marks per working day.

Students are required to pass both the term work and the final exam to pass the course.

Fall 2014 BRESCIA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE B. Diemert

English 2200F  
Tuesday 10:30-11:30  
Thursday 9:30-11:30  
rm 302

Office 301c  
Ext #28387

**History of Literary Theory and Criticism**

Readings and Assignments (N.B. --This schedule is tentative and will have small handouts incorporated into it-- \* indicates a Reflection piece is due on the Thursday of that week)

Week of

Sept. 4 Introduction.

9 Plato, Republic, Book 10; Ion

16 Aristotle, Poetics ct.; Dante, "Letter"

23\* Sidney, An Apology for Poetry;

30 Dryden, Essay of Dramatic Poesy; Pope, "Essay on Criticism"

- Oct. 7 Pope; Johnson, The Rambler, No. 4; Wordsworth, Preface to Lyrical Ballads;  
 14\* Wordworth; Shelley, "A Defense of Poetry"  
 21 Arnold, "The Function of Criticism at the Present Time"; Eliot  
 28 Eliot, "Tradition and the Individual Talent". **No class Oct. 30**
- Nov. 4 **TERM TEST–Nov. 4**; Brooks, "Irony as a Principle of Structure"
- 11\* Wimsatt and Beardsley, "The Intentional Fallacy"; Freud, "Creative Writers and Daydreaming"
- 18 Frye "The Archetypes of Literature"; Marx, "Consciousness Derived from Material Conditions", "On Greek Art in its Time" **ESSAY DUE–Nov. 20**
- 25 Marx, "Consciousness Derived from Material Conditions", "On Greek Art in its Time"; Benjamin, "The Work of Art in the Age of Mechanical Reproduction";
- Dec. 2 Woolf, all three selections in Richter's text

### Assignments

Four reflections.	10%
Nov. 4 Mid-term test	20%
Nov. 20 Essay	<u>30%</u>
Final	<u>40%</u>
	100%

Essays should be submitted in class. The penalty for late essays is 2 marks per working day. Medical documentation is required for missed tests or quizzes. A missed quiz cannot be made up.

It is the student's responsibility to ensure that all prerequisites are completed before taking this course. All Academic Offences will be dealt with in accordance with Brescia's policy which is formulated in accordance with the University of Western Ontario's regulations.

## **BRESCIA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE ACADEMIC POLICIES AND REGULATIONS**

### **1. POLICY REGARDING MAKEUP EXAMS AND EXTENSIONS OF DEADLINES**

When a student requests academic accommodation (e.g., extension of a deadline, a makeup exam) for work representing 10% or more of the student's overall grade in the course, it is the responsibility of

the student to provide acceptable documentation to support a medical or compassionate claim. All such requests for academic accommodation **must** be made through an Academic Advisor and include supporting documentation. Academic accommodation on medical grounds will be granted only if the documentation indicates that the onset, duration and severity of the illness are such that the student could not reasonably be expected to complete her academic responsibilities. Appropriate academic accommodation will be determined by the Dean's Office in consultation with the student's instructor(s). Please note that personal commitments (e.g., vacation flight bookings, work schedule) which conflict with a scheduled test, exam or course requirement are not grounds for academic accommodation.

A UWO Student Medical Certificate (SMC) is **required** if a student is seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds. This documentation should be obtained at the time of the initial consultation with the physician/nurse practitioner or walk-in clinic. A SMC can be downloaded under the Medical Documentation heading of the following website: <https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm> . If it is not possible to have an SMC completed by the attending physician/nurse practitioner, the student must request documentation sufficient to demonstrate that her ability to meet academic responsibilities was seriously affected. Please note that under University Senate regulations documentation stating simply that the student "was seen for a medical reason" or "was ill" is **not** adequate to support a request for academic accommodation. All documentation is to be submitted to an Academic Advisor.

Whenever possible, requests for academic accommodation should be initiated in advance of due dates, examination dates, etc. Students must follow up with their professors and Academic Advisor in a timely manner.

The full statement of University policy regarding extensions of deadlines or makeup exams can be found at <http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2014/pg117.html>

## 2. ACADEMIC CONCERNS

If you feel that you have a medical or personal problem that is interfering with your work, contact your instructor and Academic Advisor as soon as possible. Problems may then be documented and possible arrangements to assist you can be discussed at the time of occurrence rather than on a retroactive basis. Retroactive requests for academic accommodation on medical or compassionate grounds may not be considered.

If you think that you are too far behind to catch up or that your work load is not manageable, you should consult an Academic Advisor. If you consider reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses, this must be done by the appropriate deadlines (refer to the Registrar's website, [www.registrar.uwo.ca](http://www.registrar.uwo.ca), for official dates). You should consult with the course instructor and the Academic Advisor who can help you consider alternatives to dropping one or more courses. *Note that dropping a course may affect OSAP eligibility and/or Entrance Scholarship eligibility.*

The Dean may refuse permission to write the final examination in a course if the student has failed to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year or for too frequent absence from the class or laboratory.

## 3. ABSENCES

**Short Absences:** If you miss a class due to a minor illness or other problems, check your course outline for information regarding attendance requirements and make sure you are not missing a test or assignment. Cover any readings and arrange to borrow notes from a classmate. Contact the course instructor if you have any questions.

**Extended Absences:** If you have an extended absence, you should contact the course instructor and an Academic Advisor. Your course instructor and Academic Advisor can discuss ways for you to catch up on missed work and arrange academic accommodations, if appropriate.

## 4. POLICY ON CHEATING & ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site: [http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_undergrad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf).

Students are responsible for understanding the nature of and avoiding the occurrence of plagiarism and other academic offences. Students are urged to read the section on Scholastic Offences in the Academic Calendar. Note that such offences include plagiarism, cheating on an examination, submitting false or fraudulent assignments or credentials, impersonating a candidate, or submitting for credit in any course without the knowledge and approval of the instructor to whom it is submitted, any academic work for which credit has previously been obtained or is being sought in another course in the University or elsewhere. Students are advised to consult the section on Academic Misconduct in the Western Academic Calendar.

If you are in doubt about whether what you are doing is inappropriate or not, consult your instructor, the Student Services Centre, or the Registrar. A claim that "you didn't know it was wrong" is not accepted as an excuse.

The penalties for a student guilty of a scholastic offence (including plagiarism) include refusal of a passing grade in the assignment, refusal of a passing grade in the course, suspension from the University, and expulsion from the University.

#### **Plagiarism:**

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar).

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com.

#### **Computer-marked Tests/exams:**

Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating. Software currently in use to score computer-marked multiple-choice tests and exams performs a similarity review as part of standard exam analysis.

### **5. PROCEDURES FOR APPEALING ACADEMIC EVALUATIONS**

All appeals of a grade must be directed first to the course instructor. If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the course instructor, a written appeal signed by the student must be sent to the Department Chair. If the response of the department is considered unsatisfactory to the student, she may then submit a signed, written appeal to the Office of the Dean. Only after receiving a final decision from the Dean may a student appeal to the Senate Review Board Academic. A Guide to Appeals is available from the Ombudsperson's Office, or you can consult an Academic Advisor. Students are advised to consult the section on Academic Rights and Responsibilities in the Western Academic Calendar.

### **6. PREREQUISITES AND ANTIREQUISITES**

Unless you have either the prerequisites for a course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you will be removed from the course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

Similarly, you will also be deleted from a class list if you have previously taken an antirequisite course unless this has the approval of the Dean. These decisions may not be appealed. You will receive no

adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course because you have taken an antirequisite course.

## **7. SUPPORT SERVICES**

The Brescia University College Registrar's website, with a link to Academic Advisors, is at [http://www.brescia.uwo.ca/academics/registrar\\_services/index.html](http://www.brescia.uwo.ca/academics/registrar_services/index.html) . The Western Registrar's website is at <http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/index.cfm> . The website for the Student Development Centre at Western is at <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/> . Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health @ Western <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

---

Portions of this document were taken from the Academic Calendar, the Handbook of Academic and Scholarship Policy and the Academic Handbook of Senate Regulations. This document is a summary of relevant regulations and does not supersede the academic policies and regulations of the Senate of the University of Western Ontario.