



School of English, Journalism
& European Languages

Unit Outline

HEA330
Literary Theory
Semester 2, 2007
<http://www.utas.edu.au/english>

Convenor:	Dr Jenna Mead Room: HUM 545 Phone: 6226 7160 Email: Jenna.Mead@utas.edu.au
Consultation Hours:	Wed 1:00-2:00 pm Thurs 1:00-2:00 pm
Unit Description:	This unit examines the development of literary theory from the middle of the twentieth century to the present. It aims to provide students with the skills to read theory critically and to develop informed arguments in response to literary and critical texts. The unit focuses on a range of approaches to reading literature selected from among structuralism, Marxism, feminism, post-structuralism, psychoanalysis, postmodernism and queer theory.
Unit Aims and Objectives:	The aims of this unit are to enable students to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• develop the skills of close reading, critical thinking and textual analysis through the examination of a range of theoretical texts;• become familiar with key approaches to the study of literature as listed in the Unit Description; and• develop knowledge of the historical development of literary theory and an awareness of major current debates.
Learning Outcomes:	Students taking this unit will: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. build <i>knowledge</i> in the areas described in the Unit Aims and Objectives (above);2. enhance skills in<ol style="list-style-type: none">a) written <i>communication</i>, with special emphasis on writing practice in the form of essays; andb) oral <i>communication</i>, through participation in seminar activities; and3. enhance skills in <i>problem solving</i> through assessment tasks and seminar activities, which develop critical analysis techniques in English.

Required Texts:	Unit Reader Bronte, Charlotte, <i>Jane Eyre</i> (Red Classic, Penguin)
Recommended Texts:	Selden, Raman, Peter Widdowson, and Peter Brooker. <i>A Reader's Guide to Contemporary Literary Theory</i> . 5th ed. Harlow, England: Pearson Longman, 2005. Barry, Peter. <i>Beginning Theory</i> . 2 nd edn. Manchester and New York: Manchester UP, 2002.
When Taught:	<u>Lecture</u> Tue 12.00pm-12:50 pm, Law229.LT1* <u>Seminar</u> (1x 1.5-hr weekly) Wed 2.10pm-3.30pm, SB.Hum477B Thu 2.10pm-3.30pm, SocSci322 * The School will record lectures through iLecture and sound files will be available via the Web. However, we are not able to guarantee the quality or reliability of these recordings.
Assessment:	1,000 word reading assignment(s) (20%); 2,000-word essay (40%); 2-hr exam (40%)

LECTURE/SEMINAR SCHEDULE

Wk: Date	Topic	Comment
14: 17 Jul	Charlotte Brontë, <i>Jane Eyre. An Autobiography</i> [1847]; <i>Jane Eyre</i> , sec. edn [1847]; third edn [1848].	Introduction to text, author, reading
15: 24 Jul	Jonathan Culler, 'What is theory?', <i>Literary theory. A Very Short Introduction</i> , Oxford: Oxford UP, 1997. 1-17.	Introduction to theory; AVAILABLE ON eRESERVE
16: 31 Jul	READING ASSESSMENT DUE FRI 3 AUG <i>Jane Eyre</i> and liberal humanism: F. B. Pinion, 'Jane Eyre,' in <i>A Brontë Companion. Literary Assessment, Background, and Reference</i> , London: Macmillan, 1975. 105-21.	Liberal humanism, the canon and reading practice
17: 07 Aug	<i>Jane Eyre</i> as feminist text: Sandra M. Gilbert and Susan Gubar, 'A dialogue of self and soul: Plain Jane's progress,' <i>The Madwoman in the Attic. The woman Writer and the Nineteenth-Century Imagination</i> , New Haven and London: Yale UP, 1979. 36-71.	Critiques of liberal humanism: feminism Essay questions available. HECS CENSUS 10 Aug
18: 14 Aug	<i>Jane Eyre</i> and historicism: Mary Poovey, 'The anathematized race: The governess and <i>Jane Eyre</i> ,' <i>Uneven Developments. The Ideological Work of Gender in Mid-Victorian England</i> , London: Virago, 1989. 126-60.	Critiques of liberal humanism: historicism; AVAILABLE ON eRESERVE
19: 21 Aug	<i>Jane Eyre</i> and formalism: Peter Allan Dale, 'Charlotte Brontë's "tale half-told." The disruption of narrative structure in <i>Jane Eyre</i> ,' <i>Modern Language Quarterly</i> 47(1986): 108-28.	Reading the text; AVAILABLE VIA eRESERVE
20: 28 Aug	NO LECTURE OR SEMINARS: ESSAY DUE 31 AUG	
3 Sept – 9 Sept	MID-SEMESTER BREAK	
21: 11 Sept	Varieties of post-marked theory: poststructural, postmodern, postcolonial	Introduction to revised theory
22: 18 Sept	Marginalised <i>Jane Eyre</i> : Gaytri Chakravorty Spivak, 'Three women's texts and a critique of imperialism,' Bill Ashcroft, Gareth Griffiths and Helen Tiffin eds, <i>The Postcolonial Studies Reader</i> , London and New York: Routledge, 1995. 269-72.	Postcolonial critique
23: 25 Sept	Looking at <i>Jane Eyre</i> : Peter J. Bellis, 'In the window-seat: vision and power in <i>Jane Eyre</i> ,' <i>ELH</i> 54.3(1987): 639-52.	Psychoanalysis and reading; AVAILABLE VIA JSTOR
24: 02 Oct	Remaking the text: Gardner Campbell, 'The presence of Orson Wells in Robert Stevenson's <i>Jane Eyre</i> (1944),' <i>Literature/Film Quarterly</i> 31.1(2003): 2ff.	Film theory and novel; AVAILABLE VIA PROQUEST
25: 09 Oct	Rereading materialism: 'Jane Eyre,' Terry Eagleton, <i>Myths of Power. A Marxist Study of the Brontës</i> , Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 2005. 15-32.	Marxism rehistoricised
26: 16 Oct	Rereading theory: concluding remarks	
	Study Period: 22 Oct – 26 Oct	
	Examination Period: 27 Oct – 13 Nov	

Attendance requirements

Regular seminar attendance is required and an attendance roll will be taken. If you fail to satisfy the attendance requirements and/or complete all assessments you may be deemed ineligible to sit the exam or be required to submit additional work.

ASSESSMENT

Assessment in this unit takes the form of two short answer responses (reading assignments), one essay to be submitted during the semester, and a formal examination in the examination period.

READING ASSESSMENT (1000 words)

The reading assessment is due by 4:00 pm on **FRI 3 AUG**.

The assessment is worth 20% of your final mark.

This assessment is based on the lectures, seminars and readings for the first three weeks. My aim is to mark and return this assessment before the census date so that you have some indication of your progress in this unit.

EITHER

Write an analysis of Jonathan Culler's 'What is theory?' answering his question.

OR

Analyse F. B. Pinion's essay '*Jane Eyre*,' identifying the kind of theory that underpins the essay and giving a clear account of that theory.

This assessment will assess learning outcomes 1, 2a, and 3.

ESSAY (2000 words)

The essay is due by 4pm on **FRI 31 AUG**.

This assignment is worth 40% of the overall grade.

Essay questions will available in the lecture in WEEK 17 (07 Aug).

This essay will assess learning outcomes 1, 2a, and 3.

EXAMINATION

The examination will be scheduled in the official examination period. The examination timetable is published on the UTAS website.

The examination is worth 40% of your final mark.

The examination will assess learning outcomes 1, 2a, and 3.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Submission of Assignments

Students are required to submit a signed cover sheet with every assignment. This includes a declaration that all material submitted is their own work except where there is clear acknowledgement or reference to the work of others and that they have read the University statement on Academic Misconduct (Plagiarism) on the University website at www.utas.edu.au/plagiarism or in the Student Information Handbook.

Assignment cover sheets are available from the School office or the School website. **Assignments submitted without a signed cover sheet will not be marked.** Students who submit assignments without a signed cover sheet will be contacted once via their UTAS email address; in such instances the cover sheet must be completed within two weeks of the due date.

All assignments must be submitted in hard-copy (not by email) and placed in the essay box at the School office on or before 5pm on the due date. Students are required to keep copies of all submitted assignments. Assignments submitted on time will be returned within three weeks of the due date; once on time assignments have been returned no further late assignments will be accepted. All marked assignments will be returned in tutorials unless otherwise advised.

Late Assignments

Late submissions will be penalized as follows: 5% of the available marks for the first day, and then 2% per working day thereafter. Late work will be accepted without penalty if accompanied by a medical certificate for the relevant period or a letter from a counsellor in the case of a serious non-medical reason.

Difficulties with your Studies

If you are experiencing difficulties with your studies or assignments, have personal or life planning issues, disability or illness which may affect your course of study, you should raise these with your lecturer and/or one of the following Student Services staff as soon as possible:

- Learning Skills Adviser
- Disability Adviser
- Careers Adviser
- Student Counsellor

University Statement on Plagiarism and Academic Integrity

"Plagiarism is a form of cheating. It is taking and using someone else's thoughts, writings or inventions and representing them as your own; for example, using an author's words without putting them in quotation marks and citing the source, using an author's ideas without proper acknowledgment and citation, copying another student's work.

If you have any doubts about how to refer to the work of others in your assignments, please consult your lecturer or tutor for relevant referencing guidelines, and the academic integrity resources on the web at <http://www.utas.edu.au/tl/supporting/academicintegrity/index.html>.

The intentional copying of someone else's work as one's own is a serious offence punishable by penalties that may range from a fine or deduction/cancellation of marks and, in the most serious of cases, to exclusion from a unit, a course or the University. Details of penalties that can be imposed are available in the Ordinance of Student Discipline – Part 3 Academic Misconduct, see <http://www.utas.edu.au/universitycouncil/legislation/>.

The University and any persons authorised by the University may submit your assessable works to a plagiarism checking service, to obtain a report on possible instances of plagiarism. Assessable works may also be included in a reference database. It is a condition of this arrangement that the original author's permission is required before a work within the database can be viewed.

Assignment Presentation

The English discipline uses MLA Style, which is characterized by in-text referencing and a list of works cited. See the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*, 6th ed. Ed. Joseph Gibaldi (New York: The Modern Language Association of America, 2003). For a brief introduction, refer to http://www.utas.edu.au/english/english1/mla_citation_syst.doc, MLA Citations System: A Brief Guide.

Marking Scale

The following distribution of marks and grades is applied in assessing your work:

- High Distinction (HD)—80-100%
- Distinction (DN)—70-79%
- Credit (CR)—60-69%
- Pass (PP)—50-59%
- Fail (NN)—0-49%

All marks are subject to moderation.

Assessment Criteria

The following criteria apply to assessment of the essay:

- Effectiveness of introduction
- Relevance and coherence of argument
- Effectiveness of conclusion
- Scope of textual referencing
- Use of critics
- Attention to expression, spelling, proof-reading and stylesheet.

IT Support

Learning online—for online learning and Vista support – <http://www.utas.edu.au/coursesonline/>
Information Technology Services—for general IT Support (includes link to UTAS download website)
<http://www.utas.edu.au/servicedesk/student/index.html>

Library Services—for information literacy support – <http://www.utas.edu.au/library/>
Help Desk (email HelpDesk@utas.edu.au or 6226 1818, within University 1818)