



School of English, Journalism
& European Languages

Unit Outline

HEA330 Literary Theory

Semester 2, 2009

<http://www.utas.edu.au/english>

Unit coordinator:	Dr Lisa Fletcher	
Contact details:	Room:	560
	Building:	Humanities
	Campus:	Sandy Bay, Hobart
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Consultation times:	Monday 12-1pm Tuesday 11-1pm	
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 including structuralism, Marxism, feminism, post-structuralism, psychoanalysis, postmodernism and queer theory.	

Unit aims and objectives:	<p>The aims of this unit are to enable students to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. develop the skills of close reading, critical thinking and textual analysis through the examination of a range of theoretical texts; 2. review the historical development of key branches of literary theory listed in the Unit Description; and 3. evaluate the relevance and value of key concepts in theory to the study of literature.
Learning outcomes:	<p>On completion of this unit you should be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. demonstrate and apply knowledge of key terms in literary theory; 2. interpret and explain the core principles and methodologies of the branches of literary theory listed in the Unit Description; 3. appraise and critique the relevance and effectiveness of theoretical models for reading literature; and 4. communicate through: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. oral participation in tutorials; b. short answer exercises; c. essays; and d. exams.
Required texts:	<p>Unit Reader Selden, Raman. <i>A Reader's Guide to Contemporary Literary Theory</i>. Pearson Longman, 2005.</p>
Timetable:	<p>The timetable for this unit can be viewed online at: http://student.admin.utas.edu.au/coursesenrolment/timetable/</p>
Assessment:	<p>1,000 word reading assignment(s) (20%); 2,000-word essay (40%); 2-hr exam (40%)</p>

LECTURE / SEMINAR SCHEDULE

Week	Date	Topic
14	13 July	What is "Theory" and Why Does it Matter?
15	20 July	Dead Theory? (Or Theory Before "Theory")
16	27 July	Structuralism
17	3 August	Marxism
18	10 August	Structuralism → Poststructuralism: Roland Barthes
19	17 August	Psychoanalysis
20	24 August	Deconstruction: Jacques Derrida
31 August – 5 September: MID-SEMESTER BREAK		
21	7 September	Michel Foucault
22	14 September	Feminism
23	21 September	Postmodernism
24	28 September	Postcolonialism
25	5 October	Queer Theory
26	12 October	Post-Theory (or, What Happens "After Theory"?)

ASSESSMENT

Task	Due	Percentage
Reading Assignments	The Reading Assignments are to be submitted by 4pm on the Monday following the relevant tutorial.	20% total (Each Reading Assignment is worth 10%)
Essay	4pm, Monday 19 October	40%
2 Hour Exam		40%

Assessment task 1: Reading Assignments	
Task description	<p>You are required to complete 2 (TWO) Reading Assignments in this unit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ <i>Reading Assignments are designed to equip students with the skills to read theoretical texts critically and to use this reading to enrich their own studies of literature.</i> ➤ For every tutorial from week 16 (week beginning 27 July) to week 25 (week beginning 5 October) there is one Reading Assignment question. The questions relate directly to the tutorial reading. ➤ Questions are included in the Unit Reader
Task length	2 x 500 word assignments (1000 words)
Links to learning outcomes	The Reading Assignments assess learning outcomes 1, 2 and 4b.
Assessment criteria	<p>To complete the Reading Assignments you should:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. demonstrate and apply knowledge of key terms in literary theory; 2. interpret and explain the principles and methodologies which underpin the relevant Required Reading; and 3. communicate in the form of a short piece of writing using: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. a logical and appropriate essay structure

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b. clear expression c. accurate grammar, punctuation and spelling d. referencing that conforms to MLA style
Submission instructions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ You must submit at least one Reading Assignment before the mid-semester break. ➤ Assignments are to be submitted in hard copy AND electronically. See the “Important Information” section at the end of this Unit Outline for instructions on submitting the hard copy. ➤ Assignments must be submitted electronically within one week of hard copy submission. The electronic and hard copy assignments must be identical. Essays which are not submitted electronically within one week of hard copy submission will not be marked. ➤ You are required to submit assignments electronically using the MyLO site “HEA330 – Literary Theory,” via the “Submissions” folder located on the Unit’s home page. Within the “Submissions” folder are two icons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. “Reading Assignments” 2. “Essays” <p>To submit an assignment, click on the appropriately named icon within this folder, which will connect you to the Turnitin service and step you through submitting your assignment.</p> ➤ Turnitin is one of the tools used by the University of Tasmania to help staff and students manage issues related to academic integrity. For further information see http://www.utas.edu.au/turnitin/student_s/.

Assessment task 2: Essay	
Task description	<p>You are required to complete 1 (ONE) essay in this unit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ <i>This assignment gives students the opportunity to add depth to their understanding of one of the literary theories studied during the semester.</i>

	<p>You have two options:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Option A (“Pure Theory”) involves writing an essay which evaluates or critiques one area of literary theory studied during semester. Questions are included in the Unit Reader. You are welcome to devise your own topic; however, this must be approved by the Unit Coordinator. 2. Option B (“Applied Theory”) involves writing an essay which uses one area of literary theory studied this semester to respond to a literary text. You must select your primary text from the list provided in the Unit Reader. If who wish to write on a text not listed here, you must gain the Unit Coordinator’s permission.
Task length	2,000 words
Links to learning outcomes	The Essay will assess learning outcomes 1, 2, 3 and 4c.
Assessment criteria	<p>To complete the Essay you should:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. demonstrate and apply knowledge of key terms in literary theory; 2. interpret and explain the core principles and methodologies of the branch of literary theory selected for the assignment; 3. appraise and critique the relevance and effectiveness of the branch of literary theory selected for the assignment; 4. <u>Option B</u>: select and use an appropriate aspect of literary theory to analyse a literary text; and 5. communicate in the form of an essay using: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. a logical and appropriate essay structure; b. clear expression; c. accurate grammar, punctuation and spelling; and d. referencing that conforms to MLA style.
Submission instructions	See “Submission Instructions” for Assessment Task 1.

Assessment task 3: Examination	
Task description	<i>The exam will assess students' understanding of key concepts studied during semester and their capacity to read complex theoretical texts closely and critically.</i>
Task length	2 hours
Links to learning outcomes	The examination will assess learning outcomes 1, 2 and 4d.
Assessment criteria	<p>To complete the Exam you should:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. demonstrate and apply knowledge of key terms in literary theory; 2. interpret and explain the core principles and methodologies of the branches of literary theory studied during semester; and 3. communicate in short answer and essay form using: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. a logical and appropriate structure; b. clear expression; and c. accurate grammar, punctuation and spelling.

School of English, Journalism and European Languages

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Submission of assignments

Students are required to submit a signed assignment cover sheet with every assignment. The cover sheet includes a declaration that all material submitted is your own work except where there is clear acknowledgement or reference to the work of others. Assignment cover sheets are available from the School office or the School website. **Assignments submitted without a completed, 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 should be completed within two weeks of the assignment due date. Assignments must be submitted in hard copy (not by email) via the assignment slot at the School office. If there are additional submission requirements (eg the use of Turnitin) this will be specified in your unit outline. Students are required to keep copies of all submitted assignments.

Late assignments

Undergraduate units (100, 200 and 300 level)

Late submissions will be penalised as follows: 5% of the available marks for the first day, and then 2% per working day thereafter.

Honours and postgraduate coursework units (400, 500 and 600 level)

Late submissions will be penalised as follows: 10% of the available marks per day for the first five (5) working days and 50% on the following day.

Honours and postgraduate research project units (400 and 700 level)

Honours and postgraduate research project submission due dates are treated as the equivalent of exam dates and therefore, late submissions will not be accepted.

Late work will be accepted without penalty if accompanied by a medical certificate for the relevant period or equivalent documentation in the case of a serious non-medical reason but you must contact the unit coordinator prior to the assignment due date.

Return of marked 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. In some cases, particularly where an assignment is the final, exam equivalent piece of assessment, the marked assignment may not be returned until after final unit results have been released.

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.academicintegrity.utas.edu.au/>. 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.

Referencing

The English, French and German disciplines and the Screen Studies major use MLA Style. The Journalism, Media and Communications discipline uses the Harvard style of referencing. For more information about referencing, and brief introductory guides for each of these styles, please refer to: <http://www.utas.edu.au/ejel/referencing.html>

Marking scale

Undergraduate and Postgraduate Coursework units

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

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

Honours

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

- First Class (HF)—80-100%
- Second Class upper division (HU)—70-79%
- Second Class lower division (HL)—60-69%
- Third Class (HT)—50-59%
- Fail (HN)—0-49%

All marks are subject to moderation.

Equipment loans

Please note that some units taught in the school may require access to sound and/or video recording equipment. Although access to equipment may be provided during tutorials, access to equipment outside of tutorials is not guaranteed. Where the loan of equipment is possible students will be required to sign and agree to the terms and conditions of the loan, including the penalties for late return, as presented at the time of the loan.

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 Student Services staff as soon as possible. Please see <http://www.studentservices.utas.edu.au> for more information about the support services available to students.

IT support

MyLO: <http://www.utas.edu.au/coursesonline/>

IT help desk: <http://www.utas.edu.au/servicedesk/student/index.html>