

**ENG 9008a Contemporary Theory in Literary and Cultural Studies
Fall 2015**

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Class Times: Thursdays 12:30-3:30PM

Office Hours: Wednesdays 1:00-3:30, Thursdays 11:00-12:00PM, or by appointment.

Course Description

This course will provide a survey of contemporary theory and its precursors in nineteenth and

exploring your own position on it. Further, you should be working toward developing useful or provocative questions that will help lead the subsequent class discussion.

Respondent to the Seminar -

Formalism: Shlovsky, "Art as Technique"; Brooks "The Language of Paradox"; Frye "Archetypes of Literature"

September 24:

Structuralism/Linguistic Turn: Saussure, "Course in General Linguistics," Jakobson, "Two Aspects of Language"; Roland Barthes, "Mythologies"; Foucault, "The Archaeology of Knowledge"

October 1:

Deconstruction: Derrida, "Différance"; Paul de Man, "Semiology and Rhetoric," Derrida, "Structure, Sign and Play in the Discourse of the Human Sciences"

October 8

Psychoanalysis: Freud, "The Interpretation of Dreams," "Beyond the Pleasure Principle," "The

Historicisms: Williams, “The Country and the City”; Foucault, “Discipline and Punish”; Armstrong, “Some Call it Fiction”; Greenblatt, “Shakespeare and the Exorcists”

November 19: **NO CLASS!**

November 26:

Postmodernism and Culture: Lyotard, “The Postmodern Condition”; Baudrillard, “Simulations and Simulacra”; Deleuze and Guattari, “A Thousand Plateaus”; de Certeau, “The Practice of Everyday Life”; Hebdige, “Subculture: The Meaning of Style”

December 3:

Postcolonial and Transnational Studies: Said, “Jane Austen and Empire,” Bhabha, “Signs Taken for Wonders”; Loomba, “Situating Colonial and Postcolonial Studies”

December 10:

Eco-Criticism: Glotfelty, “Literary Studies in an Age of Environmental Crisis”; Plumwood, “Nature, Self, and Gender” (**MAJOR RESEARCH PAPER DUE ONE WEEK AFTER COURSE ENDS**)