

Course Descriptions for Graduate English Classes January Intersession 2015

ENGL 5173, Topics in Medieval Literature and Culture: The Contest for Criseyde

Teacher: William A. Quinn

Texts Required:

Stephen A. Barney, ed. *Troilus and Criseyde* (New York: Norton, 2006)
modern English

<http://machias.edu/faculty/necastro/chaucer/translation/tr/tr1.html>

Henryson's "Testament"

<http://www.lib.rochester.edu/camelot/teams/pdrhtcn.htm>

"Epistle"

<http://www.lib.rochester.edu/camelot/teams/appendix.htm>

Shakespeare:

http://www.opensourceshakespeare.org/views/plays/play_view.php?WorkID=troilus&Scope=entire&pleasewait=1&msg=pl

Description:

This course will be an intense study of conflicting characterizations of an unfaithful woman as portrayed by three of the greatest European authors (and a few lesser lights). Our common inquiry will be the conflicting perspectives of medieval vs. modern writers and male vs. female readers. See schedule below.

Undergraduate Requirements:

Participation (graded A-F based on the basis of attendance and active contributions to class discussion) = 75% ; In-Class Final Exam = 25%

Honors and Graduate Requirements:

Undergraduates enrolled for honors credit and graduate students will be required to write an extra 5 pp. research or critical paper assignment as part of the "participation" grade.

M.A. Advisory Code: A (See last page of course descriptions.)

**ENGL 5923, Topics in Popular Culture and Popular Genres: Postmodernist Film /
Advanced Studies in Film and Media: Postmodernist Film****Teacher: Keith Booker**

Texts Required: M. Keith Booker, *Postmodern Hollywood*. (digital copy provided to students without charge)

Description: This course will provide a survey of postmodern film, with an emphasis on American postmodern film. Much of the course will simply involve viewing films. In order to provide a structure within which to view and discuss the films, a brief introduction to theories of postmodernism will also be provided. Topics (and associated key films) will be as follows, though actual films to be viewed as part of the class may still be subject to change.

I. Introduction to Postmodernism

Pulp Fiction

II. Fragmentation in Postmodern Film

Fight Club

Lola rennt

Memento

Timecode

III. Nostalgia and the Postmodern Loss of Historical Sense

Inglourious Basterds

Marie Antoinette

Moulin Rouge!

IV. Pastiche and Genre in Postmodern Film

Drag Me to Hell

The Man Who Wasn't There

Mulholland Drive

The Player

V. Television, Media, and Postmodern Film

Being There

Gamer

Natural Born Killers

Pleasantville

Undergraduate Requirements: A take-home examination, handed out on the first day of class, will be due on the final day of class. Each student will be expected to make at least one post on the class blog each class day and to participate in the on-line comment thread on these posts and the posts of other students.

Graduate Requirements: A take-home examination, handed out on the first day of class, will be due on the final day of class. Each student will be expected to make at least one post on the class blog each class day and to participate in the on-line comment thread on these posts and the posts of other students. Each student will make a brief presentation to the class on a film viewed outside the syllabus, relating that film to the material covered on the syllabus.

M.A. Advisory Code: G (See last page of course descriptions.)

M.A. Advisory Coding

The advisory codes indicate what course distribution requirement(s) will be satisfied by the designated listing. If more than one code is listed in the description for a particular class, a student may satisfy only one of those distribution requirements with that class.

- A Satisfies Medieval literature and culture requirement
- B Satisfies Renaissance literature and culture requirement
- C Satisfies Restoration and 18th-century literature and culture requirement
- D Satisfies 19th-century British literature and culture requirement
- E Satisfies British literature and culture after 1900 requirement
- F Satisfies American literature and culture before 1900 requirement
- G Satisfies American literature and culture after 1900 requirement
- H Satisfies world literature and culture written in English requirement
- I Satisfies theory requirement