



English 399.001: Literary and Research Methods

Fall 2014

Dr. Susan Louise Stewart

Hall of Languages 314
susan.stewart@tamuc.edu

903-468-8624 (office phone)
903-886-5260 (dept. phone)
903-886-5980 (fax)

Office Hours:

Tues/Thursday 10-11, Tues., 3:30-5:30., or by appointment. I will generally respond to e-mails within 24 hours of receiving them Monday-Thursday. If I receive your e-mail early enough on Friday, I'll try to respond that day.

Catalog Description:

This course provides an advanced study of the basic principles and methods of literary analysis. Emphasis is placed on the mastery of formal literary terminology, a coverage of basic critical methodologies, and a thorough understanding of research techniques specific to the field.

Required of all English majors.

Prerequisite ENG 1302 and sophomore standing

Required Texts:

Klages, *Literary Theory: A Guide for the Perplexed*, ISBN 9780826490735

Gibaldi, *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research papers*, ISBN 9781603290241

Stern, *What Every Student Should Know about Avoiding Plagiarism*, ISBN: 9780321446893

Student Learning Outcomes:

Learners will demonstrate that:

- They can identify useful and appropriate scholarly sources for academic writing;
- They can properly incorporate (quote, paraphrase, cite, etc.) appropriate scholarship in their own texts
- They are resourceful investigators

Student Benefits:

The course will help majors and non-majors navigate and evaluate the various resources available to them, which is important to any student who is expected to engage in any kind of research.

The course will provide information regarding theoretical approaches to literature, which will help them in other courses that require students to use a theoretical "lens" in their work.

Students will engage in “close readings,” which helps them approach any text in an informed and critical manner.

Assignments and Grading

90-100%=A

80-89%=B

70-79%=C

60-69%=D

59% and below=F

Assignments (for descriptions, see calendar)

Misc. Assignments/Quizzes (5-50 pts each)

Plagiarism: 40 pts.

Need to Know: 20 pts

Deadwood Scholarship: 40 pts

Week 6 Exam: 40 pts

Structuralism: 20 pts

Psychoanalysis: 20 pts

Feminism 20 pts

Althusser: 20 pts

Final Project: 50 pts

Course Policies

Academic Honesty Policy: Texas A&M University-Commerce does not tolerate **plagiarism** and other forms of academic **dishonesty**. Conduct that violates generally accepted standards of academic honesty is defined as academic dishonesty. "Academic dishonesty" includes, but is not limited to, plagiarism (the appropriation or stealing of the ideas or words of another and passing them off as one's own), recycling papers written for other classes, cheating on exams or other course assignments, collusion (the unauthorized collaboration with others in preparing course assignments), and abuse (destruction, defacing, or removal) of resource material. See the following helpful resources regarding plagiarism:

1. your *MLA Handbook*
2. <http://www.plagiarism.org/>
3. <http://www.unc.edu/depts/wcweb/handouts/plagiarism.html>
<http://www.indiana.edu/~wts/pamphlets/plagiarism.shtml>

Egregious plagiarism such as recycling a paper, turning in a paper that you did not write, or similar actions will result in one or more of the following: a 0 for the assignment, an F for the class, disciplinary action administered by the university.

Late Papers, Attendance, and Incomplete Grades Policies: I seldom accept late papers, and if I do, it is at my discretion. Additionally, expect no better than a C on a paper that is turned in late.

Be here. I do not allow for make-ups on quizzes or exams. There is no extra credit. If you miss 4 classes or more, expect no better than a C. If you miss 6 classes, expect to fail the course.

Only under exceptional circumstances will I grant an incomplete for the course, and then it depends on the Dean as to whether or not the incomplete will be permitted. You will have to supply documentation in order to obtain an incomplete. That doesn't come from me. It comes from the dean.

Civility and Etiquette: Students are expected to be civil, polite, and accommodating to differences of opinion and will follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See 'Code of Student Conduct' from *Student Guide Handbook* located on page 31 at <http://www.tamu-commerce.edu/studentlife/guidebook2009-2010.pdf>. University policy provides the means for dismissing students who do not meet these requirements, and I take politeness very seriously.

Technology Requirements:

This course is supported by e-College, the Learning Management System used by Texas A&M University-Commerce. Various readings and the grade book are available through eCollege. You will also turn in assignments through dropbox function of eCollege.

The following information has been provided to assist you in preparing to use technology successfully in this course. You will need access to the following technologies:

1. Internet access/connection – high speed recommended
2. Word Processor: MS Word [doc or docx]. If you do not have MS word, you can save your texts as rtf (rich text format) or txt (plain txt). Be aware that saving documents in rtf or txt will possibly cause problems with formatting, and formatting is important in this class in this class. If saving your document in txt or rtf, contact me, and I will identify a solution.

Our campus is optimized to work in a Microsoft Windows environment. This means our courses work best if you use a Windows operating system (XP or newer) and a recent version of Microsoft Internet Explorer (8.0).

Your courses will also work with Macintosh OS X along with a recent version of Safari 2.0 or better. Along with Internet Explorer and Safari, eCollege also supports the Firefox browser (3.0) on both Windows and Mac operating systems.

I strongly recommend that you perform a "Browser Test" prior to the start of your course. To launch a browser test, login in to eCollege, click on the "myCourses" tab, and then select the "Browser Test" link under Support Services.

What to Do First:

1. Come to class
2. Read the syllabus

3. I will announce and explain assignments in class, but you should browse the course content so that you will know what is coming up

Communication and Support and Primary Communication Tools

I rely mainly on office hours, e-mail, and comments on assignments to communicate with students.

While I reply to individual e-mails with non-campus e-mail addresses, if I send out a mass e-mail, it will go to the email address identified in eCollege. Please check your campus e-mail frequently.

eCollege Student Technical Support:

Texas A&M University-Commerce provides students technical support in the use of eCollege. The student help desk may be reached by the following means 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Chat Support: Click on “Live Support” on the tool bar within your course to chat with an eCollege Representative.

Phone: 1-866-656-5511 (Toll Free) to speak with eCollege Technical Support Representative.

Email: helpdesk@online.tamuc.org to initiate a support request with eCollege Technical Support Representative.

Help: Click on the “Help” button on the toolbar for information regarding working with eCollege (i.e. How to submit to dropbox, How to post to discussions etc...)

University Student Technical Support

The writing center located in the Hall of Languages is a great resource. Be sure to take advantage of their expertise.

University Procedures/Policies

Drop a Course: Students may drop a course by logging into their myLEO account and clicking on the hyperlink labeled “Drop a class” from among the choices found under the myLEO section of the Web page.

Administrative Withdrawal: I reserve the right to administratively drop students for excessive absences.

Students with Disabilities: The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Gee Library 132

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

e-mail: StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu

Website: Student Disability Resources & Services at <http://web.tamuc.edu/studentLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/>

Very Tentative Course Schedule

Please note this is subject to change, but I will give notice. Make sure you're in class or you might miss schedule revisions!

- Always bring your *MLA Handbook* with you
- Never use Wikipedia or similar sources.
- Assignments are due prior to class unless otherwise noted.
- I will take up to 50% off of materials that aren't documented according to MLA; you're shooting for meticulous documentation.
- I will very possibly add assignments to the following, depending on the needs of the class.
- Word counts do not include Works Cited.

Week	Day	Date	
1	Tues	26-Aug	Getting Acquainted
			Always expect a quiz. Find and read the text, "The Plagiarism Spectrum: Instructor Insights into the 10 Types of Plagiarism." You don't have to print it but you do need to make notes about it prior to class and have access to those notes and to the text.
	Thurs	28-Aug	
			Plagiarism Assignment (see above under Plagiarism Assignment: Plagiarism Assignment: In class: What do you need to know? Read the following:
2	Tues	2-Sep	http://www.nytimes.com/2006/09/11/arts/11conn.html?pagewanted=all&_r=2&
	Thurs	4-Sep	Meet in library
3	Tues	1-Sep	Stern, Preface through Loyalty to Sources Finding information
			Stern, Preface through Blending Quotations into a Paper Finding information
	Thurs	11-Sep	
4	Tues	16-Sep	Stern, Remainder Finding information

	Thurs	18-Sep	<p>Download (free!) and read Chapters 1-10 of <i>Deadwood Dick, The Prince of the Road or, The Black Rider of the Black Hills</i> located at http://www.amazon.com/Deadwood-Prince-Black-Rider-Hills-ebook/dp/B0084BB60A/ref=sr_1_2?ie=UTF8&qid=1408913154&sr=8-2&keywords=deadwood+dick+prince</p> <p>Make a list of 5 items that you need to know <u>and why</u> in order to best understand the text. Upload to Deadwood Need to Know Dropbox before class.</p>
5	Tues	23-Sep	<p>Remainder of Deadwood Dick.</p> <p>In class: "Always historicize!" (come to class prepared to explain who made that phrase famous in academic circles and its significance.) Accessing historical documents for context</p>
	Thurs	25-Sep	<p>You are interested in writing a paper about the role of marriage in the Deadwood Dick novels, but first you need to know the scholarship that is available regarding the Deadwood Dick novels. Provide a bibliography of scholarship on Wheeler's Deadwood Dick novels Upload to Deadwood Scholarship Dropbox before class. Student papers will establish the grading bar on this.</p>
6	Tues	30-Sep	<p><i>The Awakening</i> located at https://play.google.com/books/reader?id=awYRAAAAYAAJ&printsec=frontcover&output=reader&authuser=0&hl=en&pg=GBS.PA33.w.1.0.0</p>
	Thurs	2-Oct	<p>Class dismissed. Use this time to work on your exam which is due at 11:59 pm Friday, October 3. Upload to Week 6 Exam Dropbox</p>
7	Tues	7-Oct	Klages, Chapters 1, 2
	Thurs	9-Oct	
8	Tues	14-Oct	<p>Klages, Chapter 3, Interlude, and 4</p> <p>Read http://orias.berkeley.edu/hero/JourneyStages.pdf</p>

	Thurs	16-Oct	<p>Find the article “Power Literature and the Myth of Racial Memory.” Print it out & read it. Annotate it and in a short essay (400-500) words identify what the article has to do with structuralism. Be sure to quote from the article and from Klages. Upload the assignment to the Structuralism Dropbox. Bring the printed, annotated article with you to class.</p>
9	Tues	21-Oct	Klages, Chapter 5 & Interlude
			<p>Find, print, read, and annotate the article “Neverland of Id.” Annotate it and in a short essay (400-500) words identify what the article has to do with Psychoanalysis Be sure to quote from the article and from Klages. Upload the assignment to the Psychoanalysis Dropbox. Bring the printed, annotated article with you to class.</p>
	Thurs	23-Oct	
10	Tues	28-Oct	Klages, Chapter 6, 7, and Interlude
			<p>Find, print, and read a scholarly article of your choice that deals with feminism. Annotate it and in a short essay (400-500) words identify what the article has to do with feminism. <u>Pay particular attention to the argument and the secondary sources that seem most important to furthering the author’s argument.</u> Be sure to quote from the article and from Klages. Upload the assignment to the Feminism Dropbox. Bring the printed, annotated article with you to class. <u>Be sure to find an article that you can discuss, one that you can get a handle on.</u></p>
	Thurs	30-Oct	
11	Tues	4-Nov	Klages, Chapter 8

	Thurs	6-Nov	Find, print, and read a scholarly article that deals with Althusser and interpellation. Print, read, and annotate the article. Annotate it and in a short essay (400-500) words identify what the article has to do with Marxism. Pay particular attention to the argument and the secondary sources that seem most important to furthering the author's argument. Be sure to quote from the article and from Klages. Upload the assignment to the Marxism Dropbox. Bring the printed, annotated article with you to class. Be sure to find an article that you can discuss, one that you can get a handle on.
12	Tues	11-Nov	Klages Chapter 9
	Thurs	13-Nov	Klages Chapter 10 and Coda
13	Tues	18-Nov	TBA
	Thurs	20-Nov	TBA
14	Tues	25-Nov	TBA
	Thurs	27-Nov	Class Dismissed: Thanksgiving!
15	Tues	2-Dec	TBA
	Thurs	4-Dec	TBA
Finals Week	Thurs	11-Dec	Final, 10:30-12:30, though I might give a take-home