



Course Specification

(Postgraduate)

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Course Title:	20th Century Literary Theories
Course Code:	LITR6065
Program:	M.A. in English Literature
Department:	Department of Languages and Translation
College:	College of Humanities and Social Sciences
Institution:	Northern Border University
Version:	2023
Last Revision Date:	12/10/2024



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A. General information about the course:

1. Course Identification:

1. Credit hours: (3hs)

2. Course type

- A. ☐ University ☐ College ☒ Department ☐ Track
- B. ☒ Required ☐ Elective

3. Level/Year at which this course is offered: (Second Semester – First Year)

4. Course General Description:

The course comprises 20th century literary theories and critical approaches beginning from World War I to the end of 20th century. The emphasis will be not only on imparting to the students deep understanding of literary theories and approaches but also on engaging them in the application of literary theories to the interpretation and evaluation of individual texts. The course is intended to help students formulate their own ideas about literature in general and individual literary texts in particular on the basis of the theories and critical approaches they will study.

The course will cover the 20th century literary theories starting from T. S. Eliot, I.A. Richards and the New Criticism to the post modernism, namely formalism, Marxism, psychoanalytical criticism, structuralism and deconstruction, phenomenology and hermeneutics, feminism, post-colonialism, new historicism, eco-criticism, ethnicity and race studies, and postmodernism. Lectures and discussions of every theory or critical approach will be followed by its application to particular literary texts.

5. Pre-requirements for this course (if any):

None

6. Co-requirements for this course (if any):

None

7. Course Main Objective(s):

- To familiarize students with the 20th century literary theories and approaches along with their advantages and disadvantages
- To train them to apply these theories to the interpretation and evaluation
- To make them aware of the richness of meaning of literary texts and variety of interpretations they are amenable to





- To broaden their understanding not only of texts but also of their society and culture
- To acquaint students with the major changes that led to the change of critical focus from the author to the text and then reader

2. Teaching Mode: (mark all that apply)

No	Mode of Instruction	Contact Hours	Percentage
1	Traditional classroom	39	86.7%
2	E-learning	6	13.3%
3	Hybrid Traditional classroom E-learning		
4	Distance learning		

3. Contact Hours: (based on the academic semester)

No	Activity	Contact Hours
1.	Lectures	33
2.	Laboratory/Studio	
3.	Field	6
4.	Tutorial	
5.	Others (Exams).....	6
	Total	45

B. Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs), Teaching Strategies and Assessment Methods:

Code	Course Learning Outcomes	Code of CLOs aligned with program	Teaching Strategies	Assessment Methods
1.0	Knowledge and understanding			
1.1	Describe the function and aims of criticism.	K1	Lectures Class Discussion Close reading and text analysis	Class participation Quizzes Writing assignments & presentation Midterm Exam Final Exam





Code	Course Learning Outcomes	Code of CLOs aligned with program	Teaching Strategies	Assessment Methods
			Collaborative learning and team work	
1.2	Identify the strengths and weaknesses of various literary theories that appeared in 20 th century.	K2	Lectures Class Discussion Close reading and text analysis Collaborative learning and team work	Class participation Quizzes Writing assignments & presentation Midterm Exam Final Exam
...	Comprehend major 20th century critics and their critical tenets.	K3	Lectures Class Discussion Close reading and text analysis Collaborative learning and team work	Class participation Quizzes Writing assignments & presentation Midterm Exam Final Exam
2.0	Skills			
2.1	Develop critical, analytical and communicative skills	S1	Class discussions and writing assignments on text interpretations and evaluation	Classroom performance evaluation and Written Exams
2.2	Determine the merits and demerits of various literary texts.	S3	Lectures Class Discussion Close reading and text analysis Collaborative learning and team work	Class participation Quizzes Writing assignments & presentation Midterm Exam Final Exam
2.3	Apply skills necessary to determine a writer's contributions to literature, his relation to tradition.	S3	Lectures Class Discussion Close reading and text analysis Collaborative learning and team work	Class participation Quizzes Writing assignments & presentation Midterm Exam Final Exam
3.0	Values, autonomy, and responsibility			
3.1	The ability to work independently.	V1	Presentation	Interview Observation
3.2	Collaborate and work in teams.	V2	Team/pair work Class Discussion	
3.3	Contribute efficiently to fostering	V3	Seminars Research Projects	





Code	Course Learning Outcomes	Code of CLOs aligned with program	Teaching Strategies	Assessment Methods
	community quality life.			

C. Course Contents:

No	List of Topics	Contact Hours
1	20 th century literary criticism: T S Eliot and IA Richards as the : founding fathers of New Criticism; New Criticism and Formalism: Main tenets and Methodologies	6
2	Structuralism and Narratology	3
3	Reader Response and Phenomenology	3
4	Post-structuralism, Deconstruction, Post-modernism	6
5	Midterm Exam	3
6	Psychoanalytical criticism	3
7	Feminism	3
8	New Historicism	3
9	Postcolonialism	3
10	Marxist Criticism	3
11	Colonial and Post-colonial Studies, Eco-criticism	6
12	Final Exam	3
Total		45

D. Students Assessment Activities:

No	Assessment Activities *	Assessment timing (in week no)	Percentage of Total Assessment Score
1.	Project 1	Week 5	15%
2.	Assignment with presentation 1	Week 7	15%
3.	Project 2	Week 10	15%
4.	Assignment with presentation 2	Week 12	15%
5.	Final exam	Week 15	40%

*Assessment Activities (i.e., Written test, oral test, oral presentation, group project, essay, etc.)

E. Learning Resources and Facilities:

1. References and Learning Resources:





Essential References	Bressler, Charles E. <i>Literary Criticism: An Introduction to Theory and Practice</i> . New Jersey: Pearson. Selden, Raman. et al. <i>A Reader's Guide to Contemporary Literary Theory</i> . Pearson Longman
Supportive References	
Electronic Materials	https://sdl.edu.sa/SDLPortal/en/Publishers.aspx
Other Learning Materials	

2. Educational and Research Facilities and Equipment Required:

Items	Resources
facilities (Classrooms, laboratories, exhibition rooms, simulation rooms, etc.)	Classrooms and demonstration rooms
Technology equipment (Projector, smart board, software)	Smart Board and Wi-Fi connectivity
Other equipment (Depending on the nature of the specialty)	

F. Assessment of Course Quality:

Assessment Areas/Issues	Assessor	Assessment Methods
Effectiveness of teaching	Students/Faculty	Questionnaires
Effectiveness of students assessment	Alumni/Faculty	Questionnaires
Quality of learning resources	Students/Faculty	Questionnaires
The extent to which CLOs have been achieved		
Other		

Assessor (Students, Faculty, Program Leaders, Peer Reviewer, Others (specify))

Assessment Methods (Direct, Indirect)

G. Specification Approval Data:

COUNCIL /COMMITTEE	Department Council
REFERENCE NO.	Session
DATE	

