



English (ENGL) 316

Approaches to Literary Theory and Criticism (Revision 2)

Status: Replaced with new revision, see the **course listing** [↗](#) for the current revision **✖**

Delivery mode: Individualized study online [↗](#) with eText [↗](#)

Credits: 3

Areas of study: Arts or Humanities

Prerequisites: ENGL 211 and ENGL 212 or equivalent first year English course(s).

Precluded: None

Challenge: ENGL 316 is not available for challenge.

Faculty: Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences [↗](#)



Overview

ENGL 316 is an introductory level course designed to familiarize you with a variety of critical perspectives and help you understand literary works more profoundly by integrating literary theory in your response to these works. ENGL 316 also aims to prepare English program students for ENGL 423, which deals with some of the more contemporary literary theories covered in English 316 in more depth.

Outline

- Chapter 1: Defining Criticism, Theory, and Literature
- Chapter 2: A Historical Survey of Literary Criticism
- Chapter 3: Russian Formalism and New Criticism
- Chapter 4: Reader-Oriented Criticism
- Chapter 5: Modernity and Postmodernism: Structuralism and Deconstruction
- Chapter 6: Psychoanalytic Criticism
- Chapter 7: Feminism
- Chapter 8: Marxism
- Chapter 9: Cultural Poetics or New Historicism
- Chapter 10: Cultural Studies: Postcolonialism, African-American Criticism, and Queer Theory

Evaluation

To **receive credit**  for ENGL 316, you must complete two essay assignments, two discussion forum posts, and a final examination. In order to pass the course, you must achieve a composite grade of at least **D (50 percent)**  and a minimum grade of “D” (50 percent) on the final exam.


Activity	Weight
First discussion forum post	5%
First Essay	20%
Second discussion forum post	5%
Second Essay	20%
Final Exam	50%
Total	100%


The **final examination** for this course must be taken online with an AU-approved exam invigilator at an approved invigilation centre. It is your responsibility to ensure your chosen invigilation centre can accommodate online exams. For a list of invigilators who can accommodate online exams, visit the **Exam Invigilation Network** [↗](#).



To learn more about assignments and examinations, please refer to Athabasca University's **online Calendar** [↗](#).



Materials

Abrams, M. H. and Geoffrey Galt Harpham. *A Glossary of Literary Terms*. 11th ed. Boston: Wadsworth Cengage Learning, 2013.  (eText)



Bressler, Charles, E. ;*Literary Criticism: An Introduction to Theory and Practice*. 5th ;ed. Upper Saddle River, New Jersey: Pearson Prentice Hall.  (Print)

Gibaldi, Joseph. *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*. 8th ed. New York: The Modern Language Association of America, 2016.  (Print)

Lodge, David and Nigel Wood, eds. *Modern Criticism and Theory: A Reader*. 3rd ed. London: Pearson Longman, 2008.   (Print)

Stott, Jon C., Raymond E. Jones, and Rick Bowers, eds. *The Harbrace Anthology of Short Fiction*. 4th ed. Toronto: Nelson Thomson Learning, 2006.   (Print)





eText

Registration in this course includes an electronic textbook. For more information on **electronic textbooks**  , please refer to our **eText Initiative site**  .

Other Materials

The course materials also include a student manual/study guide.

Important links

- › **Academic advising** 
- › **Program planning** 
- › **Request assistance** 
- › **Support services** 

Athabasca University reserves the right to amend course outlines occasionally and without notice. Courses offered by other delivery methods may vary from their individualized study counterparts.

Opened in Revision 2, January 5, 2016

Updated April 25, 2023

View **previous revision** 

