



Course Materials

**Required Text:**

*The Norton Anthology of Theory & Criticism*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Vincent B. Leitch et al, eds. New York: Norton, 2010.

**Resources:**

*Undergraduate Introduction to Critical Theory* (Dino F. Felluga, Purdue University)  
<http://www.purdue.edu/guidetotheory>

*The Johns Hopkins Guide to Literary Theory and Criticism*. Ed. Michael Groden and Martin Kreiswirth. <http://www.lib.uwo.ca/> search in Weldon Library catalogue for title and click “connect to internet resource”

*Literary Sources Theory* (Jack Lynch, Rutgers University)  
<http://andromeda.rutgers.edu/~jlynch/Lit/theory.html>

I will also provide handouts of poems and other shorts texts, sometimes images, that we will discuss in class.

**Late Assignments:**

Late essays will be penalized 2% per day late. I will not accept essays that are more than one week late.

**Quizzes:**

6 unannounced quizzes will be given throughout the semester. They will be based on the assigned reading for that class and will be largely factual. They are intended to ensure that you have completed and understood the reading, and might also include a question or two that requires more analysis or application of the concepts in the reading.

The quizzes represent a great opportunity for you to bolster your grade: if you come prepared to class, there is absolutely no reason why you should not do very, very well on them. Also, of the 6 quizzes I will count your 5 best grades (each for 3% of the final grade for a total of 15%).

**Short Papers:**

This paper will give you the opportunity to engage with the texts and concepts taken up throughout the course. You will be asked to consider a problem raised in the work of an author or authors, how the author handles the idea, what the author's presuppositions are, how the argument develops (and perhaps falls apart), and perhaps to put two or more authors in dialogue.

The first two papers will be 750 words in length, and the last 1200 words.

Timetable

Unless otherwise noted, the readings are from the *Norton Anthology of Theory and Criticism*. I encourage you also to read the introductions to the texts and authors in the anthology.

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|-----------|-----|--|
| September | 11: | Introduction   |
|           | 13: | Plato, from the <i>Republic</i> , books III, VII (pp. 45-77) |
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| September | 18: | <b>NO CLASS</b>  |
|           | 20: | Plato, cont'd  |
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| September | 25: | Aristotle, <i>Poetics</i> (pp. 88-115)                       |
|           | 27: | Aristotle, <i>Poetics</i>                                    |
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| October   | 2:  | Sidney, from <i>Defence of Poesy</i> (pp. 254-283)           |
|           | 4:  | Hume, <i>Of the Standard of Taste</i> (pp. 392-406)          |

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October 9: **FALL READING WEEK: NO CLASS**

11: **FALL READING WEEK: NO CLASS**

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October 16: Kant, from *Critique of Judgment* (pp. 411-450)

18: Kant, cont'd **PAPER # 1 DUE**

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October 23:

