



Instructor: Mark Crimmins

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Course Number: ENG280H5F

Course Title: Critical Approaches to Literature

Course description: This course will examine a number of critical approaches to literature that have deeply affected the way we study literature in the classroom and the way we approach texts. We will begin with a careful consideration of the New Criticism before proceeding to examine critical approaches to literature that challenged the premises of New Criticism, including a variety of feminist and Marxist approaches, Postcolonial Theory, Queer Theory, and Postmodernist criticism.

Required Reading: The Norton Anthology of Theory and Criticism, Second Edition.

First Three Texts/Authors to be Studied: T. S. Eliot, Wimsatt and Beardsley, Brooks.

Method of Instruction: Lecture and Discussion.

Method of Evaluation: Two short theoretical position papers: 20% each; Midterm Test: 15%; Final Exam: 35%; Participation: 10%.