Introduction to Graduate Literary Study (Fall 2013)
Tues. 5:30-8:10

Instructor: Manu Chander
Office: Hill Hall Rm. 516
Office Hours: Tuesdays 4-5:30 or by appointment
Email: mchander@rutgers.edu

Course Description: The primary objective of the course is to familiarize students with the history of literary theory and criticism and to provide the tools necessary for situating our own work in relation to key movements in twentieth-century literary studies. To this end, we explore changes in methodology and key issues in the discipline over the last hundred years. Students practice research and writing skills necessary to producing original critical works and reflect on their own reading practices. Topics include canon formation and revision; theories of authorship; and the study of race, class, and gender.

Readings:
The primary textbook for this class is Richard Lane, ed., Global Literary Theory: An Anthology (Routledge, 2013), which is available at the university bookstore. Additional readings will be available on Blackboard.

Course Requirements:
• 10 weekly reading responses will count for 20% of the final grade. These responses, 250 to 500 words each, are due on the dates indicated below (the Sunday before class) and should be posted to Blackboard by 9 p.m. You are expected to have read all of the posts before class.
• 1 in-class presentation will count for 20% of the final grade. Successful presentations may include discussion questions, short literary texts for collective analysis, and critical assessments of the theoretical texts under question. Please note: the week of your presentation, your discussion post is due 2 days earlier (i.e. Friday by 9 p.m.), so that respondents can address your main questions and arguments in their posts.
• 1 15-20 pp. paper due at the end of the semester will count for 30% of the final grade.
• Prior to submitting your final paper you will submit a 2-pp. proposal with an annotated bibliography that contains at least 5 secondary sources. This will be worth 20% of your final grade.
• You will additionally be required to provide feedback on one colleague’s proposal and bibliography, a one-paragraph response designed to help the author develop and refine her/his ideas. Your response will count as 10% of your final grade.

On Plagiarism:
Plagiarism is the representation of someone else’s work as your own, in large part or in small part. Someone else means anyone else. Plagiarism is also failure to give credit where credit is due. Do not plagiarize. Consequences for plagiarizing are severe.
Schedule (subject to change): Readings marked with an asterisk (*) are to be found on Blackboard in the “Course Documents” section

9/3 Introductions; 19th-Century Foundations of Literary Criticism

Week 1: Formalism Structuralism
9/8 Blackboard Posts Due 9 p.m. (discussion questions will be posted by 9/6)
9/10 Lane, General Introduction; Part I: Intro and chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6
Thylias Moss, “Lessons from a Mirror”*
Anne Sexton, “Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs”*

Week 2: Deconstruction, Poststructuralism
9/15 Blackboard Posts Due 9 p.m. (discussion questions will be posted by 9/13)
9/17 Lane Pt. II: Intro and chapters 8-11
Jorge Luis Borges, "On Exactitude in Science"*

Week 3: Media Culture, Postmodernism
9/22 Blackboard Posts Due 9 p.m.
9/24 Lane, Pt. III: Intro and chapters 14-17, 19, 21

Week 4: Psychoanalysis
9/29 Blackboard Posts Due 9 p.m.
10/1 Lane Pt. IV: Intro and chapters 23-27

Week 5: Marxism, Critical Theory, New Historicism
10/6 Blackboard Posts Due 9 p.m.
10/8 Lane Pt. V: Intro and chapters 30-32, 35-36

Week 6: Race, Ethnicity
10/13 Blackboard Posts Due 9 p.m.
10/15 Lane Pt. VI: Intro and chapters 37-39, 42-43

Week 7: Postcolonialism
10/20 Blackboard Posts Due 9 p.m.
10/22 Lane Pt. VII: Intro and chapters 44-49

Week 8: Gender, Queer Theory
10/27 Blackboard Posts Due 9 p.m.
10/29 Lane Pt. VIII: Intro and chapters 51-54, 56

Week 9: Feminism
11/3 Blackboard Posts Due 9 p.m.
11/5 Lane Pt. IX: Intro and chapters 57-60, 63
Week 9: New Textualities
11/10  Blackboard Posts Due 9 p.m.
11/12  Lane Pt. X: Intro and chapters 66-69, 72-73

Week 10: Globalization and Global Studies
11/19  Lane Pt. XI: Intro and chapters 75-79
       Proposal w Annotated Bibliography Due
       John Keats, “Ode on a Grecian Urn”*

Weeks 11 & 12: Writing Literary Criticism
12/3   Proposal Feedback Due
       Conferences
12/10  Final Paper Presentations/Progress Reports

**Final Papers Due on Blackboard by Dec. 17, 5 p.m.**