Introduction to Critical Approaches

Coordinators: A. Soltysik Monnet & B. Vejdovsky

Autumn 2013 Thursday 3-5 p.m.

Office Hrs: Tue 3-5 p.m. (or by appointment)

Moodle password: theory



# **Syllabus: Introduction to Critical Approaches**

Sept. 26: Introduction – Agnieszka and Boris

Oct. 3: Formalism & New Criticism – Kirsten

Oct. 10: Structuralism -- Andi

Oct 17: Feminism/Gender Studies – Enit

Oct. 24: Special Guest lecture: Prof. DON PEASE (Dartmouth)-- "Between the Camp and the Commons: the Bio-Politics of Frederick Douglass and Walt Whitman"

Oct. 31: Theory and American Studies – Boris

Nov. 7: Queer Theory -- Agnieszka

Nov. 13, 5 p.m.: Special Guest Lecture: JUDITH BUTLER, "Is Gender (Un)translatable?" (room tba)

Nov. 14: Post-structuralism -- Boris

Nov. 21: New Historicism – Denis

Nov. 28: Postcolonial Theory – Joanne

- Dec. 5: Marxism and Cultural Studies—Agnieszka
- Dec. 12: Mikhail Bakhtin: Dialogism and the Novel Rachel Falconer
- Dec. 19: Discussion and Reflection (second written assignment due)

#### **Course Requirements:**

- 1.) Two short take-home written assignments (both must be taken and passed)
- 2.) Preparation of class discussion questions (once, by sign-up, and questions should be sent to the instructor in charge of that subject by Tuesday of that week) (3-4 questions: 1 close reading)
- 3.) regular attendance and active participation in class discussions, including the preparation of a comprehension question to bring to every lecture on the reading for that week

### **Bibliography:**

## Required Reading (available at Basta!)

Michael Ryan, Literary Theory: An Anthology

### Suggested Further Reading (available at the BCU or in the English section library):

Barry, Peter. *Beginning Theory: An Introduction to Literary and Cultural Theory* (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.). Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2002.

Bertens, Hans. Literary Theory: The Basics. London & New York: Tylor and Francis, 2008.

Castel, Gregory. The Blackwell Guide to Literary Theory. Malden M.A.: Blackwell, 2007.

Culler, Jonathan. *Literary Theory: A Very Short Introduction*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1997.

Eagleton, Terry. *Literary Theory: An Introduction*. Minnesota: University of Minnesota Press, 2008.

Ryan, Michael. *An Introduction to Criticism: Literature/Film/Culture*. Blackwell-Wiley, 2012

#### **Bedford-St. Martin Case studies**