

Introduction to Critical Approaches
Autumn 2010
Thursday 3-5 p.m.
Moodle password: [critapc10](#)

Coordinators: A. Soltysik Monnet, N. Lawtoo
Office Hrs: Tue. 3-5 p.m. (ASM & NL)



Syllabus: Introduction to Critical Approaches

Course description: The objective of this course is to provide an overview of the main theoretical issues that currently inform the study of literature and language. After a general introduction, each subsequent session will focus on a different theoretical topic and will be taught by a different instructor.

Sept. 30: Introduction –Agnieszka and Nidesh

Oct. 7: Formalism & New Criticism-Kirsten Stirling

Oct. 17: Structuralism (in linguistics) –Andy Langlotz

Oct. 21: Structuralism (in literature)-Nidesh Lawtoo

Oct. 28: Feminism/Gender Studies-Valérie Cossy

Nov. 4: Workshop (*prepare written work and discuss in groups*)

Nov. 11: Psychoanalysis-Nidesh Lawtoo

Nov. 18: Political Criticism & Cultural Studies (Eagleton)-Agnieszka Soltysik Monnet

***Wed, Nov. 24:** Guest lecture by Terry Eagleton: “Politics, Ethics and Aesthetics,”
Anthropole 2013

Nov. 25: Post-structuralism-Boris (*1st written assignment due*)

Dec. 2: New Historicism (Foucault)-Denis Renevey

Dec. 9: Postcolonial Theory- Joanne Chassot

Dec. 15: Guest lecture by Prof. Bruce Robbins of Columbia University

Dec. 16: Eco-Poetics-Rachel Falconer

Dec. 23: Conclusions-Assessments (*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 Monday of that week)
- 3.) regular attendance and active participation in class discussions

Bibliography:

Required Reading (available at Basta!)

Michael Ryan, *Literary Theory: An Anthology*

Suggested Further Reading (on reserve at the BCU):

Barry, Peter. *Beginning Theory: An Introduction to Literary and Cultural Theory* (2nd 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.