

Fall 2019 Course Descriptions

Instructor: Dr. Robert Griffin

Course: ENGL 401

Title: Contemporary Critical Theory

Description: Critical theory and practice flourished in the twentieth century together with the study of vernacular literature in the university. This course covers many of the central texts in this development. The syllabus is organized under three key topics of investigation: text, author, and reader. These topics all lead to central questions about interpretation and epistemology, that is, the study of how we know what we know.

Proposed Readings: Authors include: Saussure, Althusser, Barthes, Derrida, Foucault, Cixous, Spivak, Butler, and Toni Morrison .