STUDIES IN DIFFERENCE, POWER, AND DISCRIMINATION
ENG 420/520
4 credits

Rationale for conversion: By adding readings, intermediate assignments leading to a substantial seminar-length final paper, and a wider array of research methodologies - including the use of digital archives - the conversion will promote the study of difference, power, and discrimination in an interdisciplinary perspective. Via the intermediate assignments, scholarly perspectives on the topic will be analyzed and understood in relation to larger trends in literary and cultural studies.

This course continues to meet all outcomes for DPD.

Course Description:
Comparative studies in literature documenting or illuminating institutional and systematic discrimination. Not offered every year.

Student learning outcomes:
- Identify and analyze the ways in which literature reflects political, social and historical investitures of power and the dynamics of discrimination;
- Relate literary founus, styles, and content to the cultural contexts of power and discrimination in which works were written, published, and read;
- Account for literary representations of power and discrimination as those representations may challenge but also reflect stereotypes and bias;
- Understand the processes of canonization in selecting and shaping literary texts;
- Generate connections between texts studied in the course and wider patterns of literary history.

Differentiation of Graduate Student learning outcomes for English 585:

Identify and analyze the ways in which literature reflects political, social and historical investitures of power and the dynamics of discrimination;
read, analyze, and cite critical articles and monographs;
synopsize and thoughtfully engage contrasting views of the development of literature through its culture situation;
Relate literary founus, styles, and content to the cultural contexts of power and discrimination in which works were written, published, and read;
Account for literary representations of power and discrimination as those representations may challenge but also reflect stereotypes and bias
Efficiently convey the major tenus of critical debates in written work and/or oral presentations;
Gain mastery of the critical discussions surrounding difference, power, and discrimination.
Learning Outcomes for Difference, Power, and Discrimination:
1. Understand and analyze the pressures and power inequities brought to bear on writers by dominant publishing industries and normative standards of literary canonization;
2. Describe how literature negotiates, resists, or otherwise engages the institutions and ideologies of power and discrimination;
3. Demonstrate facility in explaining how cultural patterns of understanding difference give rise to structural, institutional, and ideological discrimination;
4. Analyze the mechanisms of power and discrimination from literary perspectives as well as by using methodologies drawn from history, art history, and sociology.

Evaluation of student performance: Intermediate essays treating the historical, political, social, and visual contexts of a chosen topic (10% each, for a total of 40%); midterm (20%); final, seminar-length paper (40%).

Statement regarding students with disabilities: Students with accommodations approved through SSD are responsible for contacting the faculty member in charge of the course prior to or during the first week of the term to discuss accommodations. Students who believe they are eligible for accommodations but who have not yet obtained approval through SSD should contact SSD immediately at 737-4098.

Link to Statement of Expectations for Student Conduct:
http://oregonstate.edu/admin/stucon/achon.htm

Topic: Ideology in Late Twentieth-Century Literature and Theory

Required Texts:

Amis, Money
Adorno et al, Aesthetics and Power
Burgess, A Clockwork Orange
Carter, The Bloody Chamber and Other Stories
Eagleton, The Ideology of the Aesthetic
Delillo, White Noise
Yoshimoto, Kitchen

SCHEDULE OF ASSIGNED READINGS

Week One: Benjamin and Adorno essays in Aesthetics and Power; online, Jehlen, introduction to Ideology and Classic American Literature

Week Two: Amis, Money

Week Three: Amis, Money, cont.; Bloch, in Aesthetics and Power
Week Four: Yoshimoto, *Kitchen*; online, Althusser, "Ideology and Ideological State Apparatuses"

Week Five: Cather, *The Bloody Chamber*

Week Six: DeLillo, *White Noise*

Week Seven: DeLillo, *White Noise*; Brecht, in *Aesthetics and Power*

Week Eight: Eagleton, *The Ideology of the Aesthetic*

Week Nine: Eagleton, cont.; Burgess, *A Clockwork Orange*

Week Ten: Burgess, *A Clockwork Orange*