Studies in Criticism
Eng 475/575
4 Course Credits
No prerequisites

Rationale for conversion: The conversion will give students a more learning-intensive and integrated approach to using online archives in the study of literary and cultural theory. A text will be added and an assignment demonstrating appropriate uses of the Johns Hopkins Online Dictionary of Literary Criticism will be required.

Course Description: Particular critics, critical movements, issues, and histories of criticism. Topics change from term to term; see Schedule of Classes. May be repeated for a maximum of 12 credits. Not offered every year.

475 Course Outcomes:
- Understand the ideas and perspectives of some of the major academic theorists and critics who have written about 9/11 and its aftermath
- Develop critical perspectives on the theoretical and symbolic significances of 9/11 and its repercussions

Additional 575 Course Outcomes:
- Analyze and appraise the relevancy and productivity of contemporary theoretical schools (e.g., deconstruction, phenomenology, psychoanalysis) with regard to the study of and response to contemporary events like 9/11 and its aftermath

Evaluation of 475 Student Performance:
Students will demonstrate learning through:
- Participation (10%); Mid-term Exam (20%); Essay (25%); Final Exam (30%)
- Johns Hopkins Online Assignment (15%) [new assignment]

Evaluation of 575 Student Performance:
Students will demonstrate learning through:
- Participation (15%); Mid-term Exam (25%); Leadership of Class Discussion (15%); Essay OR Response Papers (30%); Johns Hopkins Online Assignment (15%) [new assignment]

Learning Resources:
The following texts are required for 475/575:
- Agamben, State of Exception (Chicago); Appadurai, Fear of Small Numbers (Duke); Asad, On Suicide Bombing (Columbia); Baudrillard, The Spirit of Terrorism (Verso); Borradori, ed., Philosophy in a Time of Terror (Chicago); Butler, Precarious Life (Verso); Simpson, 9/11: The Culture of Commemoration (Chicago); Zizek, Welcome to the Desert of the Real (Verso)
The following additional texts are required for 575:
Virilio, *Ground Zero* (Verso); Zizek, *Iraq, or The Borrowed Kettle* (Verso)

Statement regarding students with disabilities:
Accommodations are collaborative efforts between students, faculty, and Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD). Students with accommodations approved through SSD are responsible for contacting the faculty member 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.

University expectations for student conduct can be found at http://oregonstate.edu/admin/stucon/achon/htm

**Syllabus**
Week One: Baudrillard, *The Spirit of Terrorism*

Week Two: Zizek, *Welcome to the Desert of the Real*

**Due: 575 Response Paper #1**

-- additional 575 reading: Virilio, *Ground Zero*

Week Five: Asad, *On Suicide Bombing*
**475/ 575 Mid-Term Exam**

Week Six: Butler, *Precarious Life*
**Due: 575 Response Paper #2**

Week Seven: Agamben, *State of Exception*

Week Eight: Appadurai, *Fear of Small Numbers: An Essay on the Geography of Anger*
**Due: 475/ 575 Johns Hopkins Online Guide assignment**

Week Nine: Simpson, *9/11: The Culture of Commemoration*
-- additional 575 reading: Zizek, *Iraq, or The Borrowed Kettle*
**Due: 575 Response Paper #3**

Week Ten: Cronenberg (dir.), *A History of Violence* (film)
**Due: 475/ 575 Essay**
**475 Final Exam during Exam Week**