ÇANKAYA UNIVERSITY

**DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE**

**2020-2021 FALL SEMESTER**

ELL 391 Dr. Özlem Uzundemir

Literary Theory I Office Hours: Thu. 15:20-16:10

**COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES:**

This course provides a foundation for Literary Theory II. The aim of these courses is to give students a clear understanding of some of the issues involved in interpreting literature today, through asking basic questions: What is an author, and how do we recognize a text’s “intention”? What is a text, and how do we locate its meaning? What is its relation to reality, and how do we know what “reality” is? What criteria or standards are there for deciding what a genre or a style is, what good or bad literature is, or high and low literature? How do we separate fiction from non-fiction, and what is the relation between a literary text and history? What is literature, and why study it? Students will be required to read original, primary, theoretical and critical texts (in English translation), and not rely on second-hand introductions or summaries. The course is a survey of literary theory from classical Greek and Roman understandings of “literature” and “language,” through medieval and Renaissance interpretive traditions, to neo-classical, Romantic, and Victorian theory.

**TEXTBOOK:**

The textbook for this course is *The Norton Anthology of Theory and Criticism*. Readings from other sources will be sent to students.

**COURSE REQIREMENTS AND MEANS OF EVALUATION:**

Students are expected to attend all classes with cameras and microphones and on time. Required texts must be read before each class, and mobile phones should be switched off. **Students who are found to have committed cheating in an examination or plagiarism on an assignment will fail the examination or assignment.** Students’ contribution to and participation in class discussions will be taken into consideration in assigning their final grades.

The course percentage breakdown is as follows:

1. 10% class participation with cameras
2. 20% quizzes and assignments
3. 35% midterm exam (Week 9)
4. 35% final exam

READING LIST FOR ELL 391

**2020-2021 FALL SEMESTER**

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| **Week 1:** | Introduction: what is criticism and what is theory?  Heraclitus |
| **Week 2:** | Introduction to mimetic theory  Plato, *Republic,* Book 7 |
| **Week 3:** | Plato, *Republic,* Book 10 (Norton)  Plato, “Ion” (Norton) |
| **Week 4:** | Aristotle, *Poetics* (Norton) |
| **Week 5:** | Analysis of Sophocles’ *Oedipus Rex* |
| **Week 6:** | Horace, *Ars Poetica* (Norton)  Longinus, *On Sublimity* (Norton) |
| **Week 7:** | Sidney, from *An Apology for Poetry* (Norton)  Pope, from “An Essay on Criticism” (Norton) |
| **Week 8:** | Kant, from *Critique of Judgment* (Norton)  Novalis, “Monologue” |
| **Week 9:** | **MIDTERM EXAM** |
| **Week 10:** | Hegel from *Lectures on Fine Art* (Norton)  Introduction to expressive theory  Wordsworth, from Preface to *Lyrical Ballads* (Norton) |
| **Week 11:** | Analysis of poems by Wordsworth  Coleridge, from *Biographia Literaria* (Norton)  Shelley, from *A Defence of Poetry* (Norton) |
| **Week 12:** | Analysis of poems by Keats and Shelley |
| **Week 13:** | Nietzsche, “On Truth and Lie in an Extra-Moral Sense”; from *The Birth of Tragedy*  (Norton) |
| **Week 14:** | New Year |