

**ÇANKAYA UNIVERSITY**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE**  
**2025-2026 SPRING**

ELL 392 Literary Theory II

Dr. Özlem Uzundemir  
Office Hours: Tue. 14:00–16:00  
Fri. 10:00–11:00

**COURSE SYLLABUS**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES:**

This course builds on the foundation provided in Literary Theory I. The aim of these courses is to give students a clear understanding of some of the issues involved in interpreting literature today; and as in the previous course, students will read original, primary, theoretical and critical texts (in English translation, where necessary). Topics and texts for this course will focus on the various perspectives of New Criticism and Russian Formalism, structuralism, psychoanalytic criticism, phenomenology, structuralism, Marxisms, post-structuralisms, reader-response and reception theory, feminisms and gender studies, postcolonialisms, ecofeminism and posthumanism.

**COURSE MATERIAL:**

Photocopy pack

**REFERENCES:**

Adams, Hazard, and Leroy Searle, eds. *Critical Theory Since 1965*. Florida State UP, 1989.  
Bressler, Charles E. *Literary Criticism: An Introduction to Theory and Practice*. 4<sup>th</sup> Ed. Pearson Prentice Hall, 2007.  
Fry, Paul H. *Theory of Literature*. Yale UP, 2012.  
Newton, K. M., ed. *Twentieth Century Literary Theory: A Reader*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. St. Martin's P, 1997.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND MEANS OF EVALUATION:**

100% attendance is recommended at all classes. Students have to attend at least 60% of the classes. This means that students may have no more than 15 hours of absence. Those who do not meet this requirement will not be permitted to take the final examination. Students are responsible for keeping track of their own attendance.

Students are expected to read the assigned texts before coming to class, and they should bring the text and a notebook to class. They should take notes during lectures and switch off their mobile phones. Class participating is vital for success in this class.

**Students who are found to have committed cheating in an examination or plagiarism on an assignment will fail the examination.** Discrepancy between examples of the student's writing, suspected plagiarism or unethical use of AI technology will be evaluated by the professor and the department academic board, and measures will be taken accordingly. Plagiarism is a serious offense and will not be tolerated. **Further action will also be taken if necessary. Please see university regulations.**

The course percentage breakdown is as follows:

- a. 20% quizzes, assignments and in-class writing activities
- b. 40% midterm exam
- c. 40% final exam

**WEEKLY SCHEDULE FOR ELL 392  
2025-2026 SPRING**

<b>Week 1:</b>	Introduction: Defining Criticism and Theory; Historical Survey of Literary Criticism
<b>Week 2:</b>	<b>Russian Formalism and New Criticism</b> Shklovsky, "Art as Technique" Brooks, "The Formalist Critic"
<b>Week 3:</b>	<b>Reader-Oriented Criticism and Phenomenology</b> Poulet, "Phenomenology of Reading" Fish, "Is There a Text in this Class?"
<b>Week 4:</b>	<b>Structuralism</b> de Saussure, from <i>Course in General Linguistics</i> , Ch. 1 Barthes, from <i>Mythologies</i>
<b>Week 5:</b>	Barthes, "The Death of the Author" Foucault, "What is an Author?"
<b>Week 6:</b>	<b>Poststructuralism and Deconstruction</b> Derrida, "Structure, Sign and Play in the Discourse of the Human Sciences"
<b>Week 7:</b>	<b>Revision and MIDTERM EXAM</b>
<b>Week 8:</b>	<b>Postmodernism</b>
<b>Week 9:</b>	<b>Psychoanalysis</b> Lacan, "The Mirror Stage"
<b>Week 10:</b>	<b>Marxisms</b> Kojève, "In Place of an Introduction," <i>Introduction to the Reading of Hegel</i> Althusser, "Ideology and Ideological State Apparatuses"
<b>Week 11:</b>	<b>Feminisms and Gender Studies</b> Michel Foucault, from <i>Discipline and Punish</i> Irigaray, "The Power of Discourse and the Subordination of the Feminine" Butler, from <i>Gender Trouble</i>
<b>Week 12:</b>	<b>Postcolonial Theory</b> Said, "Introduction," <i>Orientalism</i> Bhabha, "Of Mimicry and Man"
<b>Week 13:</b>	<b>Ecocriticism and Posthumanism</b> Glotfelty "Literary Studies in an Age of Environmental Crisis"
<b>Week 14:</b>	Revision

**I WISH US ALL A SUCCESSFUL TERM**