

Preliminary Web Course Description

*Please note: This is a preliminary web course description only. The department reserves the right to change without notice any information in this description. The final, binding course outline will be distributed in the first class of the semester.

School of English and Theatre Studies

Course Code: ENGL*2120*01	Course Title: Seminar: Critical Practices	Date of Offering: FALL 2018
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Course Instructor: Dr. Jade Ferguson	Course Format: Seminar
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Brief Course Synopsis:

Theories of the Self: Power and Resistance from Sigmund Freud to Judith Butler

This course guides students through a range of theoretical models and approaches to understanding subjectivity and explores their implications for readings of a limited number of cultural productions. The seminar's main areas of concentration are: (1) close reading and critical analysis, focusing on the way a particular film *Fight Club* (1999) works in its details and structure; (2) theoretical approaches and models of subject formation, including readings that cover Psychoanalysis, Marxism, Poststructuralism, Critical Race Studies, Gender and Queer theory; and (3) essay writing and oral communication skills. This course is both writing and presentation intensive.

Methods of Evaluation and Weight:

Group Presentation	15%
In-Class Short Essay	15%
Critical Concepts Exam I	15%
Critical Concepts Exam II	15%
Final Paper (2000-2500 words)	30%
Participation	10%

Texts and/or Resources Required (e.g. Internet access, specific textbook title, lab kit, etc.)

David Fincher	<i>Fight Club</i>
Karl Marx & Friedrich Engels	<i>The Communist Manifesto</i>
Sigmund Freud	<i>Civilization and Its Discontents</i>
Michel Foucault	<i>Discipline & Punish</i>
Judith Butler	<i>Gender Trouble</i>
Judith (Jack) Halberstam	<i>The Queer Art of Failure</i>

Other information that you wish share about the course (optional):

List the distribution requirements that this course fulfills: 20th/21st Century