School of English and Theatre Studies

Course Code: ENGL*4890	Course Title: Contemporary Literary Theory	Date of Offering: **FALL 2017**

Course Instructor: E. Chang	Course Format: Seminar

Brief Course Synopsis (subject to change):
The representation of difference and the problem of difference in representation are central concerns of contemporary literary and cultural theory. In this seminar, we will consider articulations of these concerns in and beyond exemplary works of Marxist-materialist, poststructuralist, postcolonial and feminist theory. Ongoing issues and topics for discussion may include: speech-writing distinctions and the attribution of voice; the aesthetic and political dimensions and implications of representation; philosophical and ethical questions concerning otherness and "the other"; alterity, the environment and globalization; social and historical determinations of difference.

Methods of Evaluation and Weight (subject to change): Seminar Presentation & Short Paper (30%); Response to Seminar presentation (10%); Final Essay Proposal (10%); Research Paper based on individually devised research question 4500-6000 words (40%); Study Questions (10%)

Texts and/or Resources Required (e.g. Internet access, specific textbook title, lab kit, etc.) (subject to change): Fictional works may include J. M. Coetzee's *Foe*, Toni Morrison's *Beloved* and/or Chang-rae Lee's *On Such a Full Sea*. Theoretical works, mainly to be made available on Ares Course e-Rserve, may include authors such as G.W.F. Hegel, Karl Marx, Theodor Adorno, Walter Benjamin, Ian Watt, Michel Foucault, Homi Bhabha, Rey Chow, Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak, Barbara Johnson, Trinh T. Minh-ha, Arjun Appadurai, Hortense Spillers, Judith Butler, Slavoj Zizek, Mark Fisher.

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

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