

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: W20
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Course Instructor: Jade Ferguson	Course Format: Seminar
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Brief Course Synopsis:

Theories of the Self: Power and Resistance from Freud to *Pixar*

This course guides students through a range of critical approaches and explores their implications for readings of a limited number of creative texts. This seminar's main areas of concentration are (1) close readings, centering on the way the film *Fight Club* (1999) works in its details and overall structure; (2) core concepts in critical theory, which include the body of ideas and methods in psychoanalysis, Marxism, poststructuralism, feminism, gender and queer theory; and (3) critical writing and discussion.

Methods of Evaluation and Weight:

Group Seminar - Presentation and Discussion (15%)
Critical Concepts Exams I, II, and III (45%)
In-Class Short Essay (15%, 1000 words)
Final Paper (15%, 2500 words)
Investment (10%)

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

Sigmund Freud, *Civilization and Its Discontents*
Michel Foucault, *Discipline & Punish*
Judith Butler, *Gender Trouble*
Judith (Jack) Halberstam, *The Queer Art of Failure*
Fight Club (1999)

This course counts towards the following distribution requirement(s) for students who registered at the University prior to the Fall of 2018:

No distribution requirements

Other information about the course (optional):

*Students who registered at the University of Guelph after Fall 2018 must fulfill the “new” major and minor requirements. Students who registered at the University of Guelph prior to Fall 2018 must fulfill the requirements of the Calendar in effect when they first enrolled unless they have filed a Schedule of Studies Change Request to change to the 2018-2019 calendar. For more information, please consult the major and minor checklists at <https://www.uoguelph.ca/arts/sets/undergraduate/english/current-student-information>.