UPPER-LEVEL AND GRADUATE COURSES (ENGLISH DEPARTMENT)

SUMMER AND FALL 2011

SUMMER 2011

ENG 413 Genre Study: Detective Fiction July 05-August 05
Instructor: Margaret Judith Sullivan

ENG 572: Drama Studies: Social Realism in Modern Drama: Ibsen, Shaw, and Miller
Instructor: Dr. Çiğdem Üsekes
Time: Monday and Thursday, 5:30–9:40 pm (May 31-July 1, 2011)
Email: usekesc@wcsu.edu
Phone: 203-837-9379

Course Description
This course focuses on the origins and evolution of social realism in modern drama with special emphasis on the works of Henrik Ibsen, Bernard Shaw, and Arthur Miller. We will investigate the challenges facing the dramatist as social critic by considering the following questions: In what ways is the theatre an effective—or ineffective—medium for social change? How did these playwrights attempt to make their social criticism both instructive and entertaining? How did these experiments change over time? These questions will be considered in the context of pressing social concerns of the time, such as marriage, women’s rights, prostitution, and the Holocaust.

Textbooks
Ibsen, The Complete Major Prose Plays, translated by Rolf Fjelde
Shaw, Plays Unpleasant, Candida, Major Barbara & The Quintessence of Ibsenism
Miller, All My Sons, The Price, The Crucible & Incident at Vichy

FALL 2011

English 450: Toni Morrison: The Storyteller Speaks Love
Instructor: Dr. Ingrid Pruss
Time: TR 12:30 pm-01:45 pm
Email: prussi@wcsu.edu
Phone: 203-837-9071

Course Description
Using Toni Morrison’s Nobel acceptance speech in which she highlights the importance of the storyteller today, we will read five of Morrison’s novels –The Bluest Eye, Song of Solomon, Sula, Beloved, and Love -- attending to the role of the teller and to Morrison’s engagement with the historical era of each book and with the historical moment at which she is writing.
I am particularly interested in exploring how love or its lack is represented in Morrison’s works, and what the possibilities for love and its development are in different socio-historical and socio-cultural circumstances covered in these works. What strategies does Morrison use to explore love as a literary trope and as a central and continuing concern for formerly enslaved Americans and their descendants?

ENG 453: Special Topics in Literature/Social Realism in Modern Drama: Ibsen, Shaw, and Miller
Instructor: Dr. Çiğdem Üsekes
Time: Wednesday, 5:25-7:55 pm
Email: usekesc@wesu.edu
Phone: 203-837-9379

Course Description
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ENG 453 Desire in 20th Century Fiction
Instructor: Dr. Heather A. Levy

ENG 532: English Literature 1660-1800: The Politics of Family Romance
Instructor: Dr. Michael Chappell
Time: 5:25-7:55pm, Monday
Email: chappellm@wcsu.edu
Phone: 203-837-9366

This course will examine the politics of family romance with special attention to the mother-daughter plot in late eighteenth-century fiction written by women. Using Susan Greenfield’s Mothering Daughters: Novels and the Politics of Family Romance as a critical foundation and base for further research, we will read, discuss, and write about the following novels: Evelina (Frances Burney), The Italian (Ann Radcliffe), The Wrongs of Woman; or Maria (Mary Wollstonecraft), Belinda (Maria Edgeworth), Adeline Mowbray (Amelia Opie), and Emma (Jane Austen). A few of the issues in these texts
that we will discuss are the problem of mother-daughter separation and the impact of this separation on desire; the interactions of maternity and materiality; the role played by sexuality and pregnancy; the impact of racial and colonial difference; and authority and control over the female body. These texts lay the foundation for many women novelists, English and American, in the next century. Contact Dr. Chappell regarding copies of the Greenfield text.

ENG 534: 19th-Century British Literature: The Brontë Sisters: Texts, Contexts, And Intertexts

Instructor: Dr. Shouhua Qi
Time: 5:25-7:55pm, Wednesday
Email: qis@wcsu.edu
Phone: 203-837-9048

Course Description
In this fall 2011 edition of the course we will study the extraordinary phenomenon in the 19th-Century English literature called the Brontë Sisters, exploring the intricate dynamics between/amongst the texts (e.g., \textit{Jane Eyre}, \textit{Wuthering Heights}, \textit{Agnes Grey}), contexts (biographical, socioeconomic, and literary), and intertexts (e.g., \textit{Rebecca}, \textit{The Wild Sargasso Sea}, film adaptations of \textit{Jane Eyre} and \textit{Wuthering Heights}), through various critical lenses—Marxist, feminist, post-colonial, intertextuality. The goal is to develop a deeper and more critically informed appreciation of the Brontë Sisters

Required Texts:

Register early to help ensure that all the courses will actually run. If you have any questions about any given course, please contact the professor directly.