

SSI '02

**Course Syllabus
Critical Thinking
Summer, 2002**

Course /Day/Time/Place: PH 103 / MTWRF/ 9:30-10:50/ H202
Instructor: Dr. Lilia Castle
Office Hours: R 11-12 (or by an appointment)
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Course Description:

Philosophy is the most fascinating and important subjects that anyone can study. In our course students will be introduced to both philosophy and literary theory, learn about various types of critical thinking. The logical techniques will help students to analyze literary and artistic forms of culture (a poem, a novel, a painting, a music, a film, an advertisement, etc.)

Study objectives.

Students will be able to:

- I. Understand the sense of the following artistic terms: design, viewpoint, subject matter, method, genre, symbol, etc.
- II. Identify artistic method: Classicism, Romanticism Critical Realism, Socialist Realism, Modernism, Impressionism Expressionism, Cubism
- III. Differentiate artistic genres: Landscape, Portrait, Historical, Marine (seascape)
- IV. Operate with major elements of literary analysis: Symbol, Metaphor, Allegory, Irony, Paradox, Tragedy, Plot.
- V. Know how to write the following type of critiques:
 1. Critical Realism
 2. Liberal Humanist critique
 3. Marxist and Materialist Analysis
 4. Psychoanalytic Analysis
 5. Feminist Analysis
 6. Gay/Lesbian Analysis
 7. Pluralistic Cultural critique
 8. Modernist critique
- VI. Recognize the symbolism in art and Universe.

Exams and Essays:

1. There will be mid-term and final exams
2. Students will also make presentations and take part in discussions.

Attendance: Students are expected to attend all classes, to be prepared, and participate if they wish to receive full credit for the course.

Course Grading:

The exams will be given specific letter and number grades, and will count for a percentage of the total grade, as follows:

90-100	A
80-89	B
70-79	C
60-69	D
Below 60	F

Mid-term exam – 30%

Final exam-30%

Student's presentation-10%

Class discussions- 30%

Course Text:

Donald E.Hall, *Literary and cultural theory*, Houghton Mifflin Company, NY, 2001

COURSE SCHEDULE

May 20,21: Introduction to the course. Why our thinking has to be *critical*? Message, method, metaphor. How to analyze images? (Ch.1)

Discussion #1: "Cup" by Michael Lermontov,
Pictures of different genres and styles

May 22-24: Critical realism. Reader-Response Analysis. Liberal Humanist critique (ch.2)

Discussion #2. "Sleepy Eye", by Chekhov, A.P.
Video "Crime and Punishment" by Dostoevsky

May 27-28: Marxist and Materialist Analysis (ch.3)

Discussion #3: "Millionaire" by Maxim Gorky
Video: "Potemkin", by Eizenshtein

May 29-31 Music and symbols in film.

"Romeo and Juliet": 1) by Tchaikovsky; 2) by Zefferelli
Discussion #4.

June 3 Midterm exam

June 4,5: Psychoanalytic Analysis. Workshop on psychoanalysis

Discussion #5: "The Cask of Amontillado", by Edgar Allan Poe

June 6-14: Psychological analysis. Learn to read the detail.

Analyze the character: groups' presentations
"Three sisters" by Chekhov, A.P.

June 17,18 Final paper due.

Symbolism. The sense of life.
Discussion #6: Analyze the video
Andrei Tarkovsky "The Bell".

June 19-21 Feminist Analysis. Gay, Lesbian critique

Video. Story analysis

June 24-28 Critical analysis of mass media. Students' presentations.