Required Texts:
NOTE: Materials for this class contain adult language and discuss adult situations.

Bressler, Charles. Literary Criticism. ISBN: 978-0-205-21214-9 (NOTE: this is the one with the black and white cover)
Carter, Angela. The Bloody Chamber and Other Stories. ISBN: 978-0140178210

Other open-source texts will be available through Dropbox, which I encourage you to download if you haven’t already. You’ll be using it to turn in and to share your work as well.

Course Description:
This course is designed to introduce you to, or to further your acquaintance with, a few basic theoretical approaches to literature as it hones your ability to write scholarly criticism.

Course Goals as Set by the Department:
• Students will cultivate skills in reading, writing, and critical analysis appropriate for the advanced English major.
• Students will understand major critical approaches that are employed in the field of literary studies.
• Students will be able to read, discuss, and analyze literary works using a variety of critical perspectives.
• Students will articulate how these perspectives both inform and direct our understanding and appreciation of literature.
• Students will develop competence in literary analysis from at least three different critical perspectives.
• Students will organize and complete a substantive research paper that demonstrates the ability to engage effectively in critical research and writing.
• Students will demonstrate in both oral and written work a discipline-specific critical facility through convincing and well-supported analysis of course-related material.
• Students will demonstrate their command of academic English and of the tenets of sound composition by means of thesis-driven analytical prose.

Assignments and Grades

Class participation: based on attendance and tardiness, preparation, willingness to talk, general attitude about the class and the work.
Readings: Over the course of the semester, you will be asked to write essay-length responses to your reading.
Reading tests: You will have three reading tests, covering each of the three theoretical approaches we’ll be studying. These will be objective and short answer tests.
Short papers: You will write three short papers (2-3 pages) all criticism of the course’s primary texts read through the theoretical lenses we’ll be learning. You will read these papers out loud, talk and listen to critique about them, and then revise them for a grade.
Long final paper portfolio: You will revise one short paper into a 10-12 page final paper that integrates at least five non-internet sources (we’ll talk about what these are). When you turn in your portfolio, it will include:
   1. Two complete drafts of the paper (one can be a graded short paper)
   2. The long paper;
   3. An annotated bibliography of your five sources;
   4. Photocopies of your sources.

All work for this course must conform to MLA 7th edition guidelines for citation style and works cited. You have access to the guide in the library; as we move along, I’ll scan relevant passages and drop them into an MLA folder on Dropbox. Work not conforming to MLA citation style may be returned ungraded or simply marked down as I see fit. Gross violations of citation style may constitute plagiarism (forgetting parenthetical citations or not providing a works cited, for instance), so be careful out there.

Grades:
Work used for other courses will not count in this one. Generally speaking I offer no extra credit.

I use a standard, 10-point grading scale. I do not curve grades or drop low scores.

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<th>Assignment</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class Participation</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<td>Reading Tests</td>
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<tr>
<td>Responses</td>
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<td>Task</td>
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<tr>
<td>Short papers (10% each)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Long Final Paper Portfolio</td>
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