English 5300

Research Methods and Bibliography

(Bibliography, Research, and Critical Theory)

SPRING 2022

Professor: Dr. Rosemary Briseno
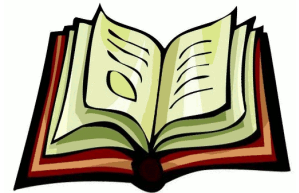**Office:** MAB 112-B
Office Hours: M-F 2-4 & by apt.
Phone: 432-837-8152 (fax 8714)
email: rbriseno@sulross.edu

"Research is to see what everybody else has seen, and to think what nobody else has thought."
---Albert Szent-Gyorgyi

"He who loves practice without theory is like the sailor who boards ship without a rudder and compass and never knows where he may cast."   *--- Leonardo da Vinci*

Required texts *(please ensure you acquire the correct edition(s)!)*
---~~Critical Theory: A Reader for Literary and Cultural Studies edited by Robert Dale Parker. ISBN#: 978-0-19-979777-6~~

*The Norton Anthology of Theory and Criticism (*Third Edition), Eds. Vincent B. Leitch, Cain, William E. ISBN-13：978-0393602951

---Several other required readings will be posted under READINGS or COURSE NOTES/HANDOUTS in Blackboard (Bb). Other material (such as PowerPoints, video clips, etc.) will be posted in Audio/Visual tab in Bb.

Course description
ENG 5300 Studies and Research Techniques in Bibliography and Critical Theory (3-0) is an introduction to graduate research methods in literature including experience in enumerative and analytical bibliography and to critical theory as applied to literature. This course is designed to introduce graduate students to the basic methods of research and literary study. This semester you will write two short essays (8-10 pages) and one longer, research paper (10-15 pgs). You will post on discussion boards, all of which will familiarize you with the nature of scholarly sources, with bibliography as a field of study, and with critical theory. You are required to participate in all online discussions. All assignments are due no later than 11:59 am on Blackboard on the specified due date, which normally falls on a **Sunday evening unless otherwise specified.** *This web course is not a self-paced course. Pay close attention to due dates (and times) for all assignments.* Web-delivered courses differ from face-to-face courses in that almost all contact between instructor and students and between

students will be electronic. If you have not taken a Web course before this semester, or if you need to refresh your memory about the electronic requirements for an online course and about the tools you will be required to use in Blackboard, review the "Getting Started" information on our course homepage. *You are expected to be familiar with Blackboard; not knowing how Blackboard works is not an excuse for turning in work late!* If you have difficulties submitting an assignment, contact me immediately NOT AFTER THE DUE DATE, as notifying me of a problem after the deadline negates any opportunity for possible makeup work.

In this course students will be expected to…
– demonstrate proficiency in finding and evaluating resources appropriate for graduate literary research
– learn the vocabulary and study the techniques of textual criticism
– identify and discriminate among different critical theories used in literary scholarship
– exhibit mastery of the essentials of the scholarship and bibliographic and manuscript forms required in graduate studies

ENGLISH (GRADUATE)
Graduate students will be able to

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the significance of major authors, literary works in different genres, and definitive literary movements in British and American literature
2. Explicate literary works representative of two periods or genres in British literature and two periods or genres in American literature
3. Employ methodology and terminology used in creative writing or linguistics
4. Conduct substantial research to support original interpretations of literary works, provide original applications of literary or linguistic theories, or present literature reviews of authors or genres that have inspired creative writing projects

   Marketable Skills:

   1. Students will communicate effectively in writing and speaking.
   2. Students will use different research strategies to address problems and develop ideas that engage a variety of perspectives.
   3. Students will recognize how social and cultural contexts shape meaning and language.

Absences
Sul Ross State University allows a maximum of 20% absences in a course before an instructor drops a student for excessive absences. In this online course, "excessive absences" is defined as non-participation in the course for three (3) weeks or more. Any student dropped for non-participation will receive an F in the course.

To avoid being dropped, you must participate regularly. Participation in the course is defined as

• logging in to the course to check activities and to read discussion boards,

• gaining access to and using supplemental materials,

• posting on discussion boards as scheduled, and

• turning in assignments in a timely manner.

Professor e-communication
I will communicate with the class through **Announcements and by e-mail**, so be sure to log in daily to check for announcements on the course home page and to check your Sul Ross e-mail account regularly. You will find specific assignment details, due dates, and times in Tentative Assignments.

How to Email Your Professor

Professor e-communication
I will communicate with the class through Announcements and by e-mail, so be sure to log in daily to check for announcements on the course home page and to check your Sul Ross e-mail account every day.

Email
In an effort to maintain respect and clarity in the virtual classroom setting, please follow these guidelines when emailing your professor:

Please follow these guidelines when emailing your professor:
1) Include a salutation (Dear Dr. Briseno)
2) Provide your name, class, and section
3) Clearly state the reason, problem/concern. Use full sentences; do a spellcheck.
4) Acknowledge that you have received my email with a simple, "Thank you" and a follow-up regarding your problem, issue, or concern; otherwise, I will be wondering whether or not your issue has been resolved.

Confirming Submission of Your Blackboard Assignments, Methods 1 and 2

METHOD 1: **Assignment Link**	Click on the Assignment link to view the submission history for that assignment. If you are allowed to make more than one submission, you will also see a **Submission History** that will display all your submissions by *date and time. This is important to note especially when you are required to turn in your work by a specific deadline. If you dispute the day and time in which you claim you submitted your work, but Blackboard cites a different time/date (i.e. past the due date), you negate any possibility for any makeup work.
METHOD 2: **My Grades Tool**	You can also confirm your Assignment submission by accessing the **My Grades** area of a course. A yellow circle with a white exclamation point in the center will appear next to any Assignment that has been successfully submitted. You can access the submission history page by clicking either the name of the assignment or the yellow circle/white exclamation point icon.

It is recommended you use both methods to ensure your work has been successfully submitted.

You may also contact Tim Parsons by email or phone, if you have problems or concerns about Blackboard.
tim.parsons @sulross.edu
432-837-8525

Or

Estella Vega:
estellav @sulross.edu
432-837-8247

For further assistance, please review the info located in the link below:
https://help.blackboard.com/Learn/Student/Assignments

Responsibility
It is your responsibility to check Blackboard and your email/Announcements frequently! I leave detailed instructions and details in the Announcements/email feature in Blackboard; it's up to you to check in and find out what's due, when, and how to turn in assignments.

Online Classroom Expectations
DAILY, FREQUENT CHECK-INS: You must check into Blackboard 9 frequently/daily. I write detailed

summaries of objectives for the day/week under the Announcements/email feature in Blackboard 9; it is your responsibility to read them. I will not review any assignment/lecture materials AFTER the due date.

REASONABLE TIME CHECKS: What this means is, don't contact me *late in the evenings* and expect me to respond. I have two sons (ages 5 and 2 years old), so I am in bed early and get up early,. It's best to contact me via email early in the morning, or during office hours. I will always email you in a timely fashion, so look for my response as soon as you contact me. If you need to speak with me, call me during office hours, and/or leave a message. For students living in Alpine, I encourage you to stop by my office! If my office hours don't work for you, you can always make an appointment with me. I'd be happy to meet you in person!

Community decorum: In respecting others opinions, we will cultivate a virtual classroom environment that fosters communal learning. No one is allowed to bully, intimidate, or make disparaging comments/remarks. Everyone is expected to maintain a level of respect which fosters a sense of community and equable learning. If you cannot maintain common decency, you will be barred from participating in online discussion for that session. If you continue disrespecting others, you will be barred from the course entirely, and you will earn an "F" for the course.

Individual decorum: Online courses do share some characteristics of traditional classroom environments, but are still quite unique in their operations, especially in that success in online courses depends on individual responsibility, more so than in a traditional face-to-face classroom. You are required to master time management, as well as make a conscious decision to CHECK IN DAILY. In order to achieve success in this course, please ensure you do the following:

-read assignments as they are assigned. Keeping up with the reading schedule is **absolutely vital to your success in this course**. If you do not consider the reading schedule a priority, your grade will suffer because quizzes, assignments, and major papers, revolve around the reading schedule

-turn in assignments by the due dates

-check your email/ Blackboard Announcements on a *daily* basis

-participate respectfully during forums. Your input, thoughts, and ideas relative to course readings and other course materials, are an important part of this course.

-DO NOT interfere with others' ability to learn; this means, you cannot monopolize the online classroom conversation, rudely interrupt others, shame or intimidate others, or otherwise prohibit or interrupt the learning process with disrespectful and/or disruptive behavior.

Makeup Work

Opportunities to make up assignments are available only in extreme, urgent circumstances, because I make every effort to post assignments in advance, even though this is not a self-paced course. It is your responsibility to turn in your work on or before the deadline (or revised deadline, whichever has been approved). If the assignment is not turned in by the deadline, work MIGHT be accepted but ONE WHOLE LETTER grade (10 points) will be deducted *per day* the assignment is late, weekends count. *Makeup work is granted at the professor's discretion.* To be eligible for possible makeup wok, you MUST contact me in a reasonable time BEFORE the deadline (not an hour before the deadline, not five mins before, and certainly not AFTER the deadline). *If you contact me after the deadline, you will not be considered eligible to makeup that assignment, so don't ask.*

No Late Work Policy

Late work is not accepted for any reason due to **student negligence** (forgetting to turn in an assignment, forgetting to log in, not knowing how to use Blackboard 9, etc).

Student integrity and responsibility

Web-delivered courses are similar to face-to-face courses in that students are expected to exhibit academic integrity by respecting the discussion of their colleagues in the class, presenting as their own work only content that they have generated, scrupulously attributing and documenting all outside sources in their papers and discussion, and, in general, adhering to the ethical standards of scholars. I expect you to be responsible for your own learning.

Academic Honesty

At the beginning of the semester, you will sign an **Academic Integrity Policy Statement**, which explains that the University has a responsibility to promote academic honesty and integrity and to develop procedures to deal effectively with instances of academic dishonesty. The policy form will represent that the student understands that they are solely responsible for the honest completion and representation of their work, for the appropriate citation of sources, and for respect of others' academic endeavors. Academic dishonesty is prohibited in all programs of the university, and will not be tolerated. You may find this form in its own tab titled Academic Integrity Policy. Students must also check the box which reads "I agree to submit my paper to the Global Reference Database." No essay/assignment will be graded unless this box is also checked.

I expect each student to strictly adhere to the rules and regulations regarding academic pursuits. The University expects all students to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is beyond reproach and to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of their classroom. The University may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty, including but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work, plagiarism, collusion, and the abuse of resource materials.

Please see page 82 in the SRSU **Student Handbook: for complete information**.
http://www.sulross.edu/sites/default/files//sites/default/files/users/docs/records_srsu/handbook_2012-2013-complete.pdf
1. "Cheating" includes:
a. Copying from another student's test paper, laboratory report,
other report, or computer files, data listings, and/or programs, or allowing another student to copy from same.
b. Using, during a test, materials not authorized by the person giving the test.
c. Collaborating, without authorization, with another person during an examination or in preparing academic work.
d. Knowingly, and without authorization, using, buying, selling, stealing, transporting, soliciting, copying, or possessing, in whole or in part, the contents of an unadministered test.
e. Substituting for another student; permitting any other person, or otherwise assisting any other person to substitute for oneself or for another student in the taking of an examination or test or the preparation of academic work to be submitted for academic credit.
f. Bribing another person to obtain an unadministered test or information about an unadministered test.
g. Purchasing, or otherwise acquiring and submitting as one's own work any research paper or other writing assignment prepared by an individual or firm. This section does not apply to the typing of the

rough and/or final versions of an assignment by a professional typist.

h. "Plagiarism" means the appropriation and the unacknowledged incorporation of another's work or idea in ones own written work offered for credit.

i. "Collusion" means the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing written work offered for credit.

j. "Abuse of resource materials" means the mutilation, destruction, concealment, theft or alteration of materials provided to assist students in the mastery of course materials.

k. "Academic work" means the preparation of an essay, dissertation, thesis, report, problem, assignment, or other project that the student submits as a course requirement or for a grade.

Plagiarism Policy

As a simple guideline, if you submit your own work, you will avoid all serious types of plagiarism. Nevertheless, a responsible student should also consider the less obvious variants of plagiarism, especially when writing research papers that require citations.

Instances of plagiarism, such as submitting an essay with sentences or passages cut and pasted from an online source, or a paper obtained from an online "paper mill," students in this course will automatically fail the assignment, receive a final grade of F, and be recommended for dismissal from the university. There is no excuse for serious plagiarism. I will also regard unattributed citations – verbatim copying of another's person's work without some indication of the source – as a serious form of plagiarism. In other words, don't insert any text in a paper that is not your own without also noting the source. You can email me with a question before an assignment is due, stop by my office during my office hours, or even parenthetically raise the question in your paper. *It's your responsibility to comply with principles of academic honesty; it's my responsibility to see that every student receives a fair and accurate grade.* Here is my policy on plagiarism for this course:

> The *first offense* of plagiarism, in part or in whole, will result in a <u>failing course grade of "F,"</u> and the student will be recommended for dismissal from the university. The student has the right to appeal to the Dept. Chair, then Provost, and eventually to the Provost and VP for Academic and Student Affairs before imposition of the penalty. The decision of the Provost and VP for Academic Affairs is final.

ADA Accommodation

Disabilities Statement: Persons with disabilities that may warrant academic accommodations should contact me as soon as possible so that we may make arrangements to ensure the most hospitable and learning environment as possible. Sul Ross State University is committed to equal access in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. It is the student's responsibility to initiate a request for accessibility services. Students seeking accessibility services must contact in Counseling and Accessibility Services, Ferguson Hall, Room 112.

 Here is the complete contact info to access counseling services:

Erzulie Clarke M.A., LPC

Counselor
Sul Ross State University

Ferguson Hall, Rm 112 C
erzulie.clarke@sulross.edu
432-837-8203

Graded course requirements

Short essays……………...30%
2 short essays(8-10 pages).

One final researched paper (10-15 pages)**..30%**
Students will need to include 5-10+ sources. Prompts will guide students, assisting them with purpose and direction. The completed paper must also include the following: 1) research proposal (200 words); 2) rationale essay (3-5 pages) explaining the parameters of your topic and briefly summarizes your findings (texts, readings, articles, etc.) and the rationale for your choices←you may use the info you have acquired in the Annotated Bib.

Discussion forum /participation (at least 3x)……………………………………20%
In an online course, discussion boards are designed to compensate for the lack of the in-class discussion that is so valuable to scholarly inquiry in graduate seminars. Therefore, your timely and thoughtful participation in the assigned discussion boards is essential. You will have a minimum of three discussion-board assignments, for each of which you must provide AT LEAST ONE RESPONSE, so make note of due dates. I suggest that you plan to log onto the course each day, Monday through Friday. If you miss the deadline for the postings for any specific discussion board, you may not make up that work. **Once a discussion board is closed, it will not be re-opened**.

You will be required to participate in discussion boards during the semester, usually with specific content, length, and participation requirements. In order to receive credit for discussion boards, you must post a minimum AT LEAST once. Generally, your postings should be **approximately 100 words** and must be comprised of statements that are on topic and of a depth and a scope sufficient to elicit thoughtful responses from your colleagues. Please end your initial posting with your name. Responses to other students must begin with that person's name; for example, a response might begin "Algernon, I agree that Voice of the Shuttle is a good place to go for critical theory resources, but I found a better source on the Internet at . . . ." Responses to the initial postings of other students that essentially say nothing but "I agree with Algernon" are unacceptable; be sure that your response adds to the discussion.

IMPORTANT: All postings must be in paragraph form, comprised of complete sentences, and couched in language that is courteous and respectful of others' opinions. Topics for discussion may be responses to specific assignments, discussion of each other's' papers, or responses to student questions about assignments. Generally, discussion boards will be concerned with the main objectives of the course, such as research sources and methods, bibliographic studies, and critical theory.

Annotated Bibliography……………………………………………………………..20%

This is a running collection of books and articles you will read, research, and group by subject, author, and/or critical theory. By the end of the semester you need to submit an Annotated Bibliography of no less than 15-20 books and articles. We will discuss this assignment at length during the semester.

Grades

A **90-100:** Outstanding performance in mastering of the subject. Achievement of superior quality. (4 grade : points per credit hour)

B **80-89:** Consistent performance in achievement beyond the usual requirements of the course. Achievement of high quality. (3 grade points per credit hour)

C **70-79:** Performance of a satisfactory nature. Achievement demonstrating an understanding of the subject sufficient for continued study in the discipline. (2 grade points per credit hour)

D **60-69:** Minimally acceptable performance. Achievement demonstrating below average understanding of the basic elements of the course. (1 grade point per credit hour)

F **50-59:** Achievement at a level insufficient to demonstrate understanding of the basic elements of the course. (0 grade points)

Incomplete grade(I):The grade of "I" is given by the instructor upon consultation with the student. The work to be completed and deadline for completion must be specified on the grade report to the Director of Records and Registration. A student may have a maximum of one academic year in which to remove an T during which time the "I" will not be calculated in the student's grade point average. f the work is not completed by the deadline set by the instructor, the "I" will be converted to an "F" and will be calculated n the student's grade point average for the semester in which the "I" was given. Normally, an incomplete grade will be awarded only for situations such as illness, family emergencies, or unusual circumstances which prevent a student from completing a course in a semester or summer term. Incomplete grades must be removed prior to graduation.

Withdrawal grade (W): The grade of "W" is given for courses dropped after the 12th/4th class days through the last day to drop a course with a "W" as published in the University's calendar. Students who wait until the published deadline must have complied with the class attendance policy of this catalog. An instructor is not obligated to recommend a "W" for a class if excessive absences have occurred. Students will not be permitted to drop a course or withdraw from the University after the published deadline.

Final Note

It's worth noting that there's a predictable and positive correlation between careful time management and academic success. I encourage you to make a wise decision as to what kind of student you will be early on and to plan accordingly. *No extra points, no extra credit work will be assigned, so don't ask.* **You are completely responsible for meeting all deadlines and keeping track of any changes made to the course schedule.** You have several resources made available to you to ensure your success in this course, so I strongly encourage you to take advantage of them.

Tentative Course Calendar

Subject to change

1/10: First day of spring semester. Review course syllabus, policies, and procedures. DUE Academic Integrity Policy, 1/16 @11:59 pm under Academic Integrity Policy.

2/6: Essay #1 DUE @11: 59 pm

3/7-3/11: SPRING BREAK

3/13: Major essay #2 DUE 3/18

4/2: GOOD FRIDAY, NO CLASSES

4/27: Last Class Day before finals; Major Essay #2 DUE @11:59

4/29: Dead Day

5/4: Longer Research Essay and Annotated Bibliography DUE 5/8, (T) @11:59 pm

-------END OF SPRING SEMESTER 2022------