Subject: CRÍTICA LITERÀRIA ANGLESA

Code: **28449**

Credits: 6
Semester: 1
Groups: 1

Teacher: Joan Curbet

Tutorials: Tuesdays 18.00-19.00

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BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF CONTENT:

The aim of this course is to give students an overall view of what critical theory is, but also of the historical development that has led into its configuration as a field of intellectual discussion. Many students think that critical theory is an abstract concept that has little to do with reality, and that it is possible to study literature without considering it.

OBJECTIVES

The subject will attempt to make critical theory suggestive and accessible, but this will also be done by showing how theory has always been at the heart of wider discussions on aesthetics and politics from its beginnings, and how its historical development has been directly related to the general development of critical thought since the Enlightenment.

SYLLABUS

The structure of the semester will take the form of a revision of the progress of literary theory during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The main subjects here will be: 1) Forms of Neoclassical theory 2) the evolution of biblical criticism 3) Marxism as aesthetic and political analysis 4) Psychoanalysis and the crisis of the bourgeois subject 5) Forms of feminist theory. The course will conclude with a discussion of post-structuralism, which will attempt to present this development not as a revolution in critical practice, but rather as a direct consequence of the historical evolution of theory and criticism.

TUTORIALS

Will take place every Tuesday from 6 to 7 pm.

METHOD OF ASSESSMENT:

20% class participation, 20% presentation, 60% exam

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Most of the theoretical material will be extracted from the following collections:

M.M. Bakhtin. *The Dialogic Imagination*. Austin: University of Texas Press, 1981. Frank Kermode and Robert Alter. *The Literary Guide to the Bible*. London: Harper and Collins, 1990.

David Lodge. Twentieth Century Literary Criticism. London: Longman, 1987 (revised ed.) Julie Rivkin and Michael Ryan. Literary Theory: An Anthology. Oxford: Blackwell, 1998.

The theoretical texts will be discussed in relation to a selection of literary material that will be provided in the form of a reading pack.