



Course Meetings: Fridays, periods 3-5 (9:35 AM-12:35 PM); in TUR 4112

Instructor: Professor Susan Hegeman / shegeman@ufl.edu (<mailto:shegeman@ufl.edu>) / 352-294-2815 / TUR 4119

Office hours: Tuesdays, 11:35-1:35, or by appointment

Course Description

What is value(d), and how do we make evaluative judgments, as literary or film critics, as academics, and as social actors? In this course, we will study classic positions in the theory of aesthetic judgment (Hume, Kant). We will also read more recent works in the theory of value and evaluation, and works in the sociology of value and taste, covering such topics as the formation of canons, and protocols of academic judgment. We will look into the culture and politics of accountability, in higher education and in society in general. Finally, we will read works of literary history and criticism that address problems of evaluation. This course is widely interdisciplinary, and should be of interest to students wanting to expand their knowledge of the history and theory of criticism and aesthetics, and to explore social-scientific approaches to the study of culture.

Course Goals and Objectives

Through genuine and persistent engagement with course materials, activities, and discussions, students will:

- gain a critical understanding of some key theoretical concepts and debates related to aesthetic, philosophical, social, and cultural approaches to value and evaluation
- gain fluency in current critical debates about, and key approaches in, literary history and criticism
- develop knowledge of and skills in interpreting, discussing, and writing critically about key texts in critical theory
- develop skills in academic writing, research, and argumentation

Required Course Materials

The following books are required for the course. They are listed in the order in which we will read them. I will not require you to use the editions listed below, but I do ask that you make sure you are reading the specified translations.

- David Graeber, *Toward an Anthropological Theory of Value* (Palgrave, 2001) 9780312240455
- Mikhail Bakhtin, *Rabelais and his World*, Trans. Hélène Iswolsky (Indiana, 1984)
- Pascale Casanova, *The World Republic of Letters* Trans. M.B. DeBevoise (Harvard, 2004) 139780674013452
- Mark McGurl, *The Program Era: Postwar Fiction and the Rise of Creative Writing* (Harvard, 2009) 9780674033191
- Sianne Ngai, *Our Aesthetic Categories: Zany, Cute, Interesting* (Harvard, 2015) 9780674046580

All other course materials—other required and supplementary readings, syllabus, documents, assignments, course calendar and discussion prompts—are posted on the course's Canvas e-learning website.

Canvas E-Learning

You are required to have access to Canvas for accessing course materials and turning in assignments. Canvas e-learning can be accessed via the following link: "E-Learning Support Services" (<https://lss.at.ufl.edu> [↗](https://lss.at.ufl.edu) [\(https://lss.at.ufl.edu/\)](https://lss.at.ufl.edu/)). Click on the orange "log in to e-learning" button. You will then be asked to log in using your GatorLink username and password. If for some reason have trouble using your GatorLink account, go to the GatorLink website (<http://gatorlink.ufl.edu> [↗](http://gatorlink.ufl.edu) [\(http://gatorlink.ufl.edu/\)](http://gatorlink.ufl.edu/)).

For help with Canvas, contact the UF Computing Help Desk:

Web: <http://helpdesk.ufl.edu> [↗](http://helpdesk.ufl.edu) [\(http://helpdesk.ufl.edu/\)](http://helpdesk.ufl.edu/)

Walk-in: HUB 132

Phone: (352) 392-HELP (4357)

Email: helpdesk@ufl.edu (<mailto:helpdesk@ufl.edu>)

Any requests for accommodations (i.e. credit for overdue work) due to technical issues must be accompanied by the ticket number received from LSS when the

problem was reported to them. The ticket number will document the time and date of the problem.

Course Requirements

- Attendance and active participation in the seminar is expected. You should be prepared to be called upon. You will also be asked to informally introduce the readings for a given week.
- You will hand in 25-30 pages (7500-9000 words) of written work over the course of the semester. Depending on your needs and goals for the course, this may be in the form of three short papers of 8-10 pages in length, one long paper, or a long and a short paper. Students choosing to write one long paper should be in consultation with me early in the semester and show me a prospectus of 1-2 pages by November. I recommend that advanced students working on extended projects related to the course material write one long paper. Students whose goals are to develop a strong familiarity with the material should consider writing shorter papers of a more explicatory sort.

Due dates

October 1, November 1 : dates for turning in short papers

November 1: prospectuses for longer papers due; students writing two shorter papers must turn the first paper in by this date

December 6: last day to turn in papers and receive comments before the end of the semester

December 13: last day to turn in a paper and receive a GRADE for the semester.

Course policy on Incompletes: I am willing to let students take Incompletes to have more time to complete a long final research paper. However, I will accept seminar papers and grade them for full credit until the end of the spring 2020 semester. Students who turn in papers after this date will not receive an "A" in the course.

Accommodations for Disabilities

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor. Students needing accommodations should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

Academic Honesty Policy

Students are required to review the university's Academic Honor Code (<https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code> [↗](https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code) (<https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>)). Plagiarism or any other form of academic dishonesty will result in an automatic failure of the assignment and the filing of a report in your academic file.

Course Evaluation

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/> (<https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>). Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/> (https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A_ufl.bluera.com_ufl_&d=DwMFAg&c=sJ6xIWYx-zLMB3EPkvcnVg&r=y2HjEMjRMHJhfdvLrqJZIYczRsfp5e4TfQjHuc5rVHg&m=WXko6OK_Ha6T00ZVAsEaSh99qRXHOgMNFrywCoehRho&s=itVU46DDJjnlg4CW6efJOOLgPjdz). Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/> (<https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>).

Campus Resources

Health and Wellness

U Matter, We Care: If you or a friend is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu (<mailto:umatter@ufl.edu>) or 352 392-1575 so that a team member can reach out to the student.

Counseling and Wellness Center: <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc> [↗](http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc) (<http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/>), and 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS): Student Health Care Center, 392-1161.

University Police Department at 392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies), or <http://www.police.ufl.edu/> [↗](http://www.police.ufl.edu/) (<http://www.police.ufl.edu/>).

Academic Resources

E-learning technical support: 352-392-4357 (select option 2) or e-mail to Learning-support@ufl.edu (<mailto:Learning-support@ufl.edu>) / <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml> [↗](https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml) (<https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml/>)

Career Resource Center: Reitz Union, 392-1601. Career assistance and counseling. <https://www.crc.ufl.edu/> [\(https://www.crc.ufl.edu/\)](https://www.crc.ufl.edu/).

Library Support: <http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask> [\(http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask\)](http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask). Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.
















Teaching Center: Broward Hall, 392-2010 or 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring. <https://teachingcenter.ufl.edu/> [\(https://teachingcenter.ufl.edu/\)](https://teachingcenter.ufl.edu/)

Writing Studio: 302 Tigert Hall, 846-1138. Help with brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers. <https://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/> [\(https://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/\)](https://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/).

Schedule of Readings and Discussions

The schedule, located on the Canvas calendar, represents my current plans for readings and discussions. As we go through the semester, those plans may need to change based on the interests and needs of the class as a whole. Any such changes will be communicated early, in class and via Canvas. Students are responsible for staying informed about any changes in the class schedule by regularly consulting e-learning.

Course Summary:

| Date | Details | |
|------------------|--|-------------------|
| Fri Aug 23, 2019 |  Course introduction (https://ufl.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=835600&include_contexts=course_370523) | 9:35am to 12:35pm |
| Fri Aug 30, 2019 |  Hume and Kant (https://ufl.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=835601&include_contexts=course_370523) | 9:35am to 12:35pm |
| Fri Sep 6, 2019 |  I.A. Richards and Clement Greenberg (https://ufl.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=835602&include_contexts=course_370523) | 9:35am to 12:35pm |
| Fri Sep 13, 2019 |  BH Smith and Sontag (https://ufl.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=835622&include_contexts=course_370523) | 9:35am to 12:35pm |
| Fri Sep 20, 2019 |  Graeber, Toward an Anthropological Theory of Value (https://ufl.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=835623&include_contexts=course_370523) | 9:35am to 12:35pm |
| Fri Sep 27, 2019 |  Lamont, How Professors Think (https://ufl.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=835624&include_contexts=course_370523) | 9:35am to 12:35pm |
| Fri Oct 4, 2019 |  No class: Homecoming (https://ufl.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=835625&include_contexts=course_370523) | 9:35am to 12:35pm |
| Fri Oct 11, 2019 |  Bakhtin, Rabelais and His World, part 1 (https://ufl.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=835626&include_contexts=course_370523) | 9:35am to 12:35pm |
| Fri Oct 18, 2019 |  Bakhtin, Rabelais part 2 (https://ufl.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=835627&include_contexts=course_370523) | 9:35am to 12:35pm |
| Fri Oct 25, 2019 |  Casanova, The World Republic of Letters, Part 1 (https://ufl.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=835628&include_contexts=course_370523) | 9:35am to 12:35pm |
| Fri Nov 1, 2019 |  Casanova part 2 (https://ufl.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=835629&include_contexts=course_370523) | 9:35am to 12:35pm |
| Fri Nov 8, 2019 |  McGurl, The Program era part 1 (https://ufl.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=835630&include_contexts=course_370523) | 9:35am to 12:35pm |
| Fri Nov 15, 2019 |  McGurl, The Program Era part 2 (https://ufl.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=835631&include_contexts=course_370523) | 9:35am to 12:35pm |
| Fri Nov 22, 2019 |  Ngai, Our Aesthetic Categories (https://ufl.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=835632&include_contexts=course_370523) | 9:35am to 12:35pm |
| Fri Nov 29, 2019 |  No Class: Thanksgiving Holiday (https://ufl.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=835633&include_contexts=course_370523) | 12am |