This course introduces students to the theories and methodologies that animate the disciplines of Germanic and Slavic Studies and may include topics such as professional skills, pedagogy and thesis writing.

The goals of this course are:

1. Critical overview of key theoretical aspects.
2. Timely program completion: Students will explore a variety of potentially relevant methodologies and will be required to submit a draft of the first chapter (research overview, methodology, and central questions) of their thesis by the end of the course.
3. Experiential learning by pairing up students with a departmental mentor in whose course they will be required to teach at least one class.
4. Expanding professionalization with emphasis on public speaking and dissemination of research at a graduate conference.

**Evaluation**

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<tr>
<th>Evaluation</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Grades</th>
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<tr>
<td>Participation and Preparation</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>A+ 90-100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Presentations</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>A 85-89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teaching Project</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>A- 80-84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conference Paper</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>B+ 77-79</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Paper</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>B 73-76</td>
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**All marks for this course shall be in number grades**

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<td>F</td>
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Participation and Preparation

This course follows up on “GMST 501: Introduction to the Disciplines of Germanic and Slavic Studies.” Based on this foundation course, we will focus on central theoretical and methodological aspects of literary and cultural studies as well as relevant practical applications, including in-class presentations, delivery of a conference paper, and teaching a class. You are expected to work through the readings in the course pack and to be well-prepared for in-depth discussions of the materials at hand.

Two Presentations

You will practice critical reading and public presentation skills with two presentations which will summarize and analyze the assigned readings as well as other relevant materials. You may also introduce an additional theory if you wish. The presentations should take about 20 minutes each.

Conference Paper

You will have the opportunity to present your thesis research at a graduate conference on March 4. Your talk should take approximately 15-20 minutes and will be followed by a 10-minute question and answer period. We will discuss your talks beforehand. Your abstract will be due February 3.

Final Paper

Your conference talk will be expanded into a 15-page term paper which could also serve as the first chapter of your thesis. It should include your thesis statement, an overview and summary of the research you have completed, a section on your methodological approach and the most important questions you want to address in your thesis.

Teaching Project

During the first two weeks of the term, you should contact a faculty member to talk about the class you will teach this term. Your mentor will supply appropriate materials (including material in the target language) and you will prepare a lesson plan for the class which you will teach in the second half of the term. You will present your lesson plan in our class and you will have a chance to discuss the class afterwards.

Sign up for:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Formalism</th>
<th>Structuralism</th>
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<tr>
<td>Psychoanalysis</td>
<td>Post-Structuralism</td>
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<td>Feminism</td>
<td>Marxism</td>
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<td>Film</td>
<td>Postmodernism</td>
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GMST 502 S2017 Theory and Practice

January: Theory: Methodology

January 6: Introduction.


February: Practice: Teaching

February 3: Kramsch: Teaching Foreign Languages in an Era of Globalization

CONFERENCE ABSTRACT AND TITLE OF PAPER DUE

February 10: LESSON PLANS AND TEACHING REPORTS

February 13-17 READING BREAK

February 24 CONFERENCE PREP

March: Practice: Conference

Saturday, March 4 Conference


March 24 Thesis chapter and bibliography.

March 31 Final paper due and wrap-up.
Learning Outcomes 502

1. Analytical Skills
   - Acquire and apply advanced skills to analyze literary and other texts
   - Understand and apply major literary theories
   - Observe and understand historical, political, social and cultural aspects of the texts in question

2. Research Skills
   - Locate and evaluate online and print materials
   - Utilize resources to support original research
   - Write and present research paper at the Annual Graduate Conference
   - Research and write thesis chapter

3. Teaching Skills
   - Prepare lesson plan and teach a class presently offered in GMST/SLST
   - Pre- and post-discussion with instructor of the class taught and the instructor of 502
   - Evaluate and discuss teaching methods and practical aspects

4. Oral and Written Communication Skills
   - Present ideas clearly and persuasively both orally and in writing
   - Effectively use visual and auditory materials in oral presentations
   - Communicate effectively to a wide range of audiences

5. Understanding the discipline
   - Understand key concepts of Germanic or Slavic Studies in the Canadian and international context
   - Formulate critical questions from a disciplinary and interdisciplinary perspective
To familiarize yourself with the UVic grading guidelines, please consult the University Calendar.

Accessibility Statement
Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course. In particular, if you have a disability/health consideration that may require accommodations, please feel free to approach me and/or the Resource Centre for Students with a Disability (RCSD) as soon as possible. RCSD staff members are available by appointment to assess specific needs, provide referrals and arrange appropriate accommodations. The sooner you let us know your needs the quicker we can assist you in achieving your learning goals in this course.

Concessions and Documentation
Students may ask for an academic concession, such as the rescheduling of a quiz or test or an extension for an assignment, upon providing proper documentation of a personal or medical affliction or of a time conflict. Proper documentation would include a doctor’s note or a memo from Counseling Services, or a memo from a coach, employer or faculty member. It must be dated before or close to the time of the missed work or classes.

Withdrawals and Deferrals
Students who miss substantial amounts of class and assignments without documentation will be asked to withdraw, or will receive an ‘N’ at the end of the semester. Even when the reasons for failing to meet course requirements are valid, it is not academically sound to allow students missing significant amounts of work to continue in the course.
Students are to familiarize themselves with the withdrawal dates in the current academic calendar.

A Note on Academic Integrity and Plagiarism
Actions such as plagiarism, multiple submissions, falsifying materials used in academic evaluations, cheating or aiding others to cheat violate University policies on academic integrity and are considered serious offence. You must inform yourself about the university regulations (see UVic Policy on Academic Integrity).

Classroom Conduct
Since the quality of the learning environment is paramount, every student has the right to learn and your instructor has the duty to perform his or her teaching duties in a cooperative, distraction-free and effective manner.
Activities that could disrupt the learning environment for you and your instructor would include the non-academic use of electronic devices. Students are expected to turn off their cell phones, PDAs and mp3 players during class.
Add/Drop Deadlines
It is the student’s responsibility to attend to ADD/DROP dates as published in the Calendar and the Undergraduate Registration Guide and Timetable. You will not be dropped automatically from a class that you do not attend.

I value your feedback on this course. Towards the end of term you will have the opportunity to complete a confidential course experience survey (CES) regarding your learning experience. The survey is vital to providing feedback to me regarding the course and my teaching, as well as to help the department improve the overall program for students in the future. When it is time for you to complete the survey, you will receive an email inviting you to do so. If you do not receive an email invitation, you can go directly to http://ces.uvic.ca. You will need to use your UVic NetLink ID to access the survey, which can be done on your laptop, tablet or mobile device. I will remind you nearer the time, but please be thinking about this important activity, especially the following three questions, during the course.

1. What strengths did your instructor demonstrate that helped you learn in this course?

2. Please provide specific suggestions as to how the instructor could have helped you learn more effectively.

3. Please provide specific suggestions as to how this course could be improved.