**USC Dornsife**

**Engl 501**

**Intro to Grad Studies**

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**Fall 2018/M 2:40 pm/Taper Hall 205**

**Instructor:** Dr. Devin Griffiths/Taper 402K

**Email:** devin.griffiths@usc.edu

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**Required Books**

- Rita Felski, *Uses of Literature* 978-1405147248
- Szemensa, *Graduate Study for the 21st Century* 978-0230100336
- Eric Hayot, *Elements of Academic Style* 978-0230100336
- Mark McGurl, *The Program Era* 978-0674062092
- David Finkelstein and Alistair Mc Cleery, *Introduction to Book History*, 2nd ed. 978-0415688062

**Additional Readings**

Posted to the class dropbox folder: link.

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/xswae4gld6qdhm4/AADQMnKzcaVxUW_XNha_dno2a?dl=0

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**Weekly Schedule (subject to change as schedules necessitate)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 1</th>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Readings</th>
<th>Deliverable/Due Dates</th>
<th>Presentation Groups</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

| Week 2  | Reading & Asking Good Questions (Group1) | Felski, *The Uses of Literature*; Kyla Wazana Tompkins, “How to Ask Good Questions” Guests: Cruz and Meagan, Trisha Tucker | | Leesa Fenderson & Brian Lin |

| Week 3  | Labor Day | | | |


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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 5</td>
<td>9/17</td>
<td>Workshop: Article Precis on “Situated Knowledges”</td>
<td>Hayot, <em>Elements of Academic Style</em> Part 1; Guest: Zofia Lesinska</td>
<td>Schedule a meeting with me this week to talk about how class is going</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 6</td>
<td>9/24</td>
<td>Book History &amp; Print Culture; Visit to the Cassidy collection, USC Special Collections.* (Group 4)</td>
<td>Walter Benjamin, “Unpacking my Library.” <em>Introduction to Book History</em> Guest: Zofia Lesinska</td>
<td>Austen Rosenfeld &amp; Matt Kessler</td>
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<td>Week 7</td>
<td>10/1</td>
<td>Theory Now: Ecocriticism &amp; the Anthropocene* (Group5)</td>
<td>Chakrabarty; Anna Tsing; Stacey Alaimo; Stefanie LeMenager. + reader… (By now have skimmed Culler, <em>Literary Theory: An Introduction</em>)</td>
<td>David Hullinger</td>
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<td>Week 9</td>
<td>10/15</td>
<td>Workshop: Book Review</td>
<td>Szemenza; Readings from “Communicating Science”; Heather Love on “Close Reading and Thin Description”; Kyla Wazana Tompkins on “Promiscuous Reading.” Guest: Kyla Wazana Tompkins</td>
<td>Grace Franklin &amp; Missy Rogers</td>
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<td>Week 11</td>
<td>10/29</td>
<td>Theory Now: Formalism* (Group8)</td>
<td>200 word Conference Proposal Due 11/7 Rachel Heimowitz &amp; Chris Adamson</td>
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<td>Week 12</td>
<td>11/5</td>
<td>Academic Writing and Style</td>
<td>Hayot, <em>Elements of Academic Style</em> Part II&amp;IV; Szemenza; Bit from the Scientific Article collection; Bruno Latour: “Why has Critique Run out of Steam?”</td>
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PRESENTATIONS working in groups of two, each pair of students will be responsible for leading class discussion for roughly the first hour (working around guests) for the readings one week. Please feel free to develop any format/exercise you like for that hour.

FINAL PROJECT due (via email) on Wednesday December 12 (a list of possible final projects will be circulated early in the semester).

*Additional Backgrounds (scanned in course dropbox folder):

All (except the Chakrabarty) to be found in The Norton Anthology of Criticism and Theory 3rd ed., Leitch. (2018).


Attendance: Attendance is mandatory for the class. If you know that you are going to be absent on a specific day for a valid reason (school trips, etc.), please discuss it with me in advance. For each absence beyond two your grade will be reduced by 1/2 letter.

Statement on Academic Conduct and Support Systems

Academic Conduct
Plagiarism – presenting someone else’s ideas as your own, either verbatim or recast in your own words – is a serious academic offense with serious consequences. Please familiarize yourself with the discussion of plagiarism in SCampus in Section 11, Behavior Violating University Standardshttps://scampus.usc.edu/1100-behavior-violating-university-standards-and-appropriate-sanctions/. Other forms of academic dishonesty are equally unacceptable. See additional information in SCampus and university policies on scientific misconduct, http://policy.usc.edu/scientific-misconduct/.

Discrimination, sexual assault, and harassment are not tolerated by the university. You are encouraged to report any incidents to the Office of Equity and Diversity http://equity.usc.edu/ or to the Department of Public Safety http://capsnet.usc.edu/department/department-public-safety/online-forms/contact-us. This is important for the safety whole USC community. Another member of the university community – such as a friend, classmate, advisor, or faculty member – can help initiate the report, or can initiate the report on behalf of another person. The Center for Women and Men http://www.usc.edu/student-affairs/cwm/ provides 24/7 confidential support, and the sexual assault resource center webpage sarc@usc.edu describes reporting options and other resources.

Support Systems
A number of USC’s schools provide support for students who need help with scholarly writing. Check with your advisor or program staff to find out more. Students whose primary language is not English should check with the American Language Institute http://dornsife.usc.edu/ali, which sponsors courses and workshops specifically for international graduate students. The Office of Disability Services and Programs http://sait.usc.edu/academicsupport/centerprograms/dsp/home_index.html provides certification for students with disabilities and helps arrange the relevant accommodations. If
an officially declared emergency makes travel to campus infeasible, USC Emergency Information http://emergency.usc.edu/ will provide safety and other updates, including ways in which instruction will be continued by means of blackboard, teleconferencing, and other technology.