

# Reading, Writing, & Research

EH 301-NH, Summer '09  
Tu, Th 5:30-7:35, HB 436

Kyle Grimes  
HB 207F, 934-8580  
Hours: Tu/Th 7:35-8:35, W 11:30-12:30  
kgrimes@uab.edu  
<http://homepage.uab.edu/kgrimes>

## Having completed EH 301, students should be able to...

...conduct effective library research in secondary sources using databases such as the Modern Language Association International Bibliography (MLA) and the Annual Bibliography of English Language and Literature (ABELL). They should also be able to use JSTOR and other full-text repositories of critical materials, and they should of course be able to locate and use materials from the Sterne Library collection. It is understood that a student who has developed these abilities can also recognize both the legitimate uses and the limitations of such tertiary sources as "SparkNotes" or other students' guides.

...write a critical essay which situates an original thesis in an appropriate and wellinformed scholarly context. Students should be able to incorporate both primary and secondary source material into their own writing and then accurately document the essay using the MLA documentation system.

...read closely such that they can recognize and describe the significant features of a given literary text. This skill presumes that the student has command over the basic terminology used in literary and rhetorical criticism and has a fundamental understanding of the major literary genres.

...recognize the aims and principles of some of the central theoretical approaches to literary analysis that have been prominent in recent critical writing. While EH 301 is not a course in literary theory, students should gain sufficient exposure to prominent theoretical approaches so as to be able to recognize when a critic is writing within, for example, a psychoanalytic or feminist or poststructuralist or other context.

## Materials:

Abrams, M. H. *A Glossary of Literary Terms*. 8<sup>th</sup> ed. If possible, though the 6<sup>th</sup> or 7<sup>th</sup> will suffice if necessary.

Bronte, Emily. *Wuthering Heights*. Ed. Linda H. Peterson. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Boston: Bedford, 2003.

Gibaldi, Joseph. *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*. At least the 6<sup>th</sup> edition.

Graff, Gerald, and Cathy Birkenstein. *They Say/I Say: The Moves that Matter in Academic Discourse*. New York: Norton, 2005.

You should have access to a word-processor, and to the internet. Familiarity with the internet—both the Web and the Sterne Library databases—will be an essential element of the course; you will need a "blazerID" and password in order to take part in the online discussions for EH 301.

## Requirements and Grading:

Your grade in EH 301 will depend on your performance on several different research and writing tasks. I have divided the various assignments according to a 1000-point scale. At the end of the quarter, I'll simply total up your score—if you have 900 points or above, you'll get an A; 800-899 will earn a B; 700-799 will earn a C; and so forth.

Bibliography . . . . .	200	Critical/Research Paper . . . . .	250
Mid-term exam . . . . .	150	Final Exam . . . . .	150
RP Proposal . . . . .	100	Exercises/Participation . . . . .	150

Each of these tasks will be thoroughly explained as the semester progresses. I should note here, however, that I would like you to keep all of the exercises together in one folder to turn in at the end of the semester for a final grade. (There will be at least 8 of these exercises over the semester.) At any time during the semester if you are ever puzzled about a score, or if you simply want information about just how your work measures up, feel free to ask. Also, though the assignment does not "count" in terms of points, you will be required to complete the advising assignment in order to pass the class.

### Rules:

- § Please try to attend each class session. We will, for the most part, be operating without a textbook as a guide, so your attendance is essential. In any event, *you will not be able to make up missed exercises, regardless of the reason for your absence.* Likewise, the exams and some out-of-class exercises will build on classroom lectures and discussions; if you are not in class, you will not do well on the exams.
- § Please bring your copy of *Wuthering Heights* to class each day. We will frequently refer to the book—especially the critical and historical essays collected toward the back—as examples of the principles discussed in class.
- § All out-of-class assignments should be printed and turned in on time. Late papers will be penalized unless, *prior to the due date*, you have arranged with me for an extension.
- § And finally (sad but necessary): Plagiarism on any work completed for EH 301 is grounds for failure in the class. If you have any doubts about plagiarism, please feel free to ask the instructor for clarification; likewise, students should all be familiar with the UAB Honor Code that sets forth the ethical principles that all members of the UAB academic community are expected to follow. Should it become necessary, instances of plagiarism will be handled in accordance with the School of Arts and Humanities policy which states:

Plagiarism is using the words or thoughts of another person without proper citation; specifically, it is submitting as one's own work any portion of a book, magazine, journal, handout, original creation, speech, lecture, oral communication, paper or examination written by someone else. Plagiarism is a serious offense. All members of the education community must carefully avoid plagiarism by fully acknowledging the sources of studies, projects and ideas which have been produced by another person.

A student who commits plagiarism should receive an "F" in the course in which the offense has been committed. When a student is accused of cheating, the Department Chair should be notified in writing with copies to the Dean, the Vice President, and the Registrar. If the faculty member wishes to recommend any other action than assigning an "F," this recommendation should go to the Department Chair and the Dean. Students who wish to appeal the faculty member's action should first go to the Department Chair, then, if still dissatisfied, to the Dean, and then to the Vice President of Academic Appeals.

### DSS accommodations:

If you are registered with Disability Support Services, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible to discuss accommodations that may be necessary. If you have a disability but have not contacted Disability Support Services, please call 934-4205 or visit DSS at 516 Hill University Center.

Students who may need course accommodations are welcome to make an appointment to see me during office hours. Students with disabilities must be registered with DSS (HUC 516, 934-4205) and provide an accommodation request letter before receiving academic adjustments.