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Fall 9-1-2000

ENLT 421.01: Foucault

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The University Of Montana

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FOUCAULT--ENLT 421.01--CRN 70743 (Fall, 2000)

MWF 3:10-4:00, LA 303

OFFICE HOURS: MF 8:30-10:00 AM, W 4-6 (and by appointment)

OFFICE: 216 LA, ph 243-2762, charles@selway.umt.edu

PASSWORD for Reserve Materials at Mansfield Library: ENLT421

Description: Foucault is a philosopher of the concept. The course seeks to understand his approach (structural? historical? sociological? epistemological?) to the fields of thought he has studied, at least to the fields of madness, human sciences (*The Order of Things*), the carceral (*Discipline and Punish*), the sexual, and finally the culture of the self. Foucault's anti-humanist insistence on the power of discourse during most of his career must be weighed critically against the care of the "self" that preoccupies the late Foucault, before his death from AIDS in 1984. Foucault's impact on new historicism, cultural studies, and queer theory presents the critical reader with a challenge to open up the processes of literary criticism. The course asks the student not only to understand Foucault but attempt to undertake his methodology.

We have three sets of "texts" to examine in light of Foucault's works: Morrison's *The Bluest Eye*, Shakespeare's *Measure for Measure*, and films and articles about Tina Brandon (*Boys Don't Cry*, *The Brandon Teena Story*, and articles).

Prerequisites: ENLT 301 of consent of the instructor

Requirements: 66% of your grade will come from an archival project in connection with one of the "texts" we are using. This essay will apply Foucault's notion of the "archive" in *The Archaeology of Knowledge* to one of the "texts" we are studying. This 12-15-page essay will analyze the fictional text not just in light of Foucauldian thought, but using the methods Foucault describes to show how parallel discourses can shed light on the text you work with. For example, not only might you show how Foucault's concept of normalization enters Morrison's novel, but you could also bring in normalizing texts from other discourses to comment on *The Bluest Eye*.

33% of your grade will come from response papers as well as participation and attendance.

Ground Rules: I do not accept late papers unless the student contacts me with a reasonable excuse before the beginning of the class on the day the paper is due. More than three unexcused absences will result in a lowering of the grade one full grade for each day missed after three. All papers must be typed, double-spaced, proofread, and regulated by the MLA style (including response papers).

There is no such thing as a stupid question--please ask and answer them whenever, wherever. I will have a conference with each student about their archive paper, but I invite you to visit me at 216 LA with any questions or comments you may have at any time during the semester. E-mail, call, show up at 216.

Goals: Learn how to discover the rules of formation that appertain to different statements and

discourses, including the discourse of outcome assessment. Improve reading, writing, and analytical skills, especially in describing the concepts that govern the formation of the subject, including the academic, gendered, juridical, sexualized, and normalized subject as well as the unmappable geography of the unassessable subject, the subject without outcome.

Required Texts:

Madness and Civilization (selections on reserve)
The Order of Things
The Archaeology of Knowledge
Discipline and Punish
History of Sexuality, Vols. 1-3
Interview and essays (on reserve)

Morrison, *The Bluest Eye*
Shakespeare, *Measure for Measure*
Tina Brandon materials (to be on reserve)
Deleuze, *Foucault* (recommended)

Syllabus: (subject to change)

9/6 Introduction
9/8 "The Minimalist Self," "What is an Author" (download off ERES Password ENLT421)

9/11 *Mental Illness and Psychology* (Chapter 6--on reserve); Rabinow, "Introduction," *The Foucault Reader* (on reserve)

9/13 *Madness and Civ.* ix-64 (Prefaces and Chap. 1 and 2)

9/15 *The Bluest Eye*

9/18 *Madness* 241-289 (Chap. 9 and Conclusion)

9/20 *The Order of Things*, xv-16

9/22 *Bluest*

9/25 *Order* 17-42

Last Day to Drop/Add with refund

9/27 *Order* 46-115

9/29 *Bluest*

10/2 *Order* 125-157

RESPONSE (Morrison and Foucault)

10/4 *Order* 217-243

10/6 *Order* 303-340

10/9 *Order* 344-386
10/11 *Measure for Measure*, Act One
10/13 *Discipline and Punish* 3-32

10/16 *Discipline* 33-72 RESPONSE (Last day to drop/add without refund)
10/18 *Discipline* 73-134
10/20 *Measure* Act Two

10/23 *Discipline*-194
10/25 *Discipline*-256
10/27 *Measure* Act Three

10/30 *Discipline* 258-end
11/1 *Measure* Act 4
11/3 *Measure* Act 5

11/6 *Archaeology of Knowledge* 3-20 RESPONSE (*Discipline* and *Measure*)
11/8 *Arch* 21-71
11/10 Holiday

11/13 Tina Brandon (on reserve)
11/15 *Arch* 79-126
11/17 *Boys Don't Cry*

ARCHIVE PAPER PROSPECTUS

11/20 *Arch* 79-126
Thanksgiving

11/27 *The Tina Brandon Story* (documentary)
11/29 *History of Sexuality, Vol I* p. 1-50
12/1 *History of Sex I* p. 51-74

12/4 *History of Sex I* p. 75-160 RESPONSE (Brandon and *History of Sex.*)
12/6 *History of Sexuality, Vol II: The Use of Pleasure* 1-94
12/8 *Vol II* p. 185-254

12/11 *History of Sexuality, Vol III: The Care of the Self* p. 37-144
12/13 *Vol III* p. 187-240
12/15 Three Essays and Interviews (on Reserve)

Tues, Dec 19 at 3:20 the class will meet to turn in the final paper. There is no final exam.