## Graduate Programs—COURSE CHANGE REQUEST

**DEPARTMENT:** COMPARATIVE STUDIES  
**COLLEGE:** ARTS & LETTERS

### COURSE PREFIX AND NUMBER: CST 7309
### CURRENT COURSE TITLE: THEORY AND CRITICISM

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<th>CHANGE(s) ARE TO BE EFFECTIVE (LIST TERM):</th>
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This course examines critical and theoretical issues and approaches to various analyses of texts of different types from an historical and comparative point of view. Topics may include structuralism, poststructuralism, semiotics, gender, race and ethnicity and postcolonialism. **Variable subtitle.** May be repeated up to four times.

### CHANGE PREREQUISITES/minimum grades to*: 
### CHANGE COREQUISITES to*: 

### CHANGE REGISTRATION CONTROLS TO: 
### MAY BE REPEATED FOR CREDIT UP TO FOUR TIMES

*Please list both existing and new pre/corequisites, specify AND or OR, and include minimum passing grade.

#### Attach syllabus for ANY changes to current course information.

**Should the requested change(s) cause this course to overlap any other FAU courses, please list them here.**

**N/A**

**Departments and/or colleges that might be affected by the change(s) must be consulted and listed here. Please attach comments from each.**

**Faculty contact, email and complete phone number:**

Mark Scroggins, mscroggi@fau.edu, 597-218-3561

### Approved by:

- **Department Chair:** ______________________
- **College Curriculum Chair:** ______________________
- **College Dean:** ______________________
- **UGPC Chair:** ______________________
- **Graduate College Dean:** ______________________

### Date: ______________________

### ATTACHMENT CHECKLIST

- **Syllabus** (see guidelines for requirements: [http://www.fau.edu/graduate/facultyandstaff/programscommittee/index.php])
- **Written consent** from all departments affected by changes

**Email this form and syllabus to diamond@fau.edu one week before the University Graduate Programs Committee meeting so that materials may be viewed on the UGPC website prior to the meeting.**

*FAUchange—Revised August 2011*
As for what motivated me, it is quite simple; I would hope that in the eyes of some people it might be sufficient in itself. It was curiosity—the only kind of curiosity, in any case, that is worth acting upon with a degree of obstinacy: not the curiosity that seeks to assimilate what it is proper for one to know, but that which enables one to get free of oneself. After all, what would be the value of the passion for knowledge if it resulted only in a certain amount of knowledgeableness and not, in one way or another and to the extent possible, in the knower’s straying afield of himself? There are times in life when the question of knowing if one can think differently than one thinks and perceive differently than one sees is absolutely necessary if one is to go on looking and reflecting at all . . . But then what is philosophy today—philosophical activity, I mean—if it is not the critical work that thought brings to bear on itself? In what does it consist, if not in the endeavor to know how and to what extent it might be possible to think differently, instead of legitimating what is already know. –Michel Foucault

CATALOG DESCRIPTION

This course examines critical and theoretical issues and approaches to various analyses of texts of different types from an historical and comparative point of view. Topics may include structuralism, poststructuralism, semiotics, gender, race and ethnicity and postcolonialism. Variable subtitle. May be repeated up to four times.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The French historian and philosopher Michel Foucault (1926-1984) is perhaps the most important figure in the humanities and social sciences during the second half of the twentieth century. His work has been responsible for a Copernican shift in history (his own primary field) and in continental philosophy, and has as well been of enormous influence in the social sciences – sociology, anthropology, political science – and literary and cultural criticism. The three volumes of his History of Sexuality are foundational documents for the fields of queer studies and sexuality studies. In this course we’ll examine a wide range of Foucault’s writings, both historiographical and more broadly theoretical, and explore their implications for various fields of discourse in the humanities and the social sciences.

COURSE TEXTS

• Michel Foucault, The History of Sexuality, Volume I: An Introduction
• Michel Foucault, The Order of Things
• Michel Foucault, Discipline & Punish
• Michel Foucault, “Introduction,” “The Unities of Discourse, “Discursive Formations,” and “The Formation of Objects” of The Archaeology of Knowledge
  (You may make a copy of these excerpts.)
• Paul Rabinow, ed. Essential Works of Foucault, Volume 1: Ethics, Subjectivity, and Truth
• James D. Faubion, ed. Essential Works of Foucault, Volume 3: Power

COURSE REQUIREMENTS
Students are expected to finish the reading and be prepared to contribute meaningfully to class discussion at every session (this presupposes, of course, regular attendance). Each student will perform a 15-minute presentation, will write 2 position papers (single space 1-2 pages), and will prepare a final seminar paper (approximately 20-25 pages).

Grade Breakdown:
- Presentation: 10%
- Position Papers: 15% each
- Seminar Paper: 50%
- Attendance and Participation: 10%

**GRADING SCALE**
- 90-100: A
- 80-89: B
- 70-79: C
- 60-69: D
- 59 and below: F

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

This course will familiarize students with the works and ideas of the French philosopher Michel Foucault, and enable them to conceptualize their own specific fields of scholarly interest in a Foucauldian framework. They will have given a presentation on some aspect of Foucault’s work and written an extended seminar paper on some aspect of his thinking in relation to their own scholarship.

**SCHEDULE**

WEEK 1: Introduction. “Introduction” and “The Unities of Discourse” in *The Archaeology of Knowledge*


WEEK 3: *The History of Sexuality*

WEEK 4: *The History of Sexuality*


WEEK 6: “Sex, Power, and the Politics of Identity” and “Sexuality and Solitude” in *Essential Works Vol. 1*.

WEEK 7: *The Order of Things*

WEEK 8: *The Order of Things*

WEEK 10: *Discipline & Punish*

WEEK 11: *Discipline & Punish*, **Position paper 2 is due.**


WEEK 13: “The Ethics of the Concern for the Self as a Practice of Freedom” in Vol. 1; “The Subject and Power” and “So Is It Important to Think?,” *Essential Works Vol. 3*

WEEK 14: Catching up time; discussion of drafts of **Seminar Paper**

**The Seminar Paper will be due at the class’s scheduled exam time**

*A Note on Plagiarism:*

Please consult the University Honor Code for specific discussion of issues of academic integrity: http://www.fau.edu/regulations/chapter4/4.001_Honor_Code.pdf. The Honor Code defines plagiarism as “The presentation of words or ideas from any other source as one’s own”; this includes, but is not limited to, turning in under your own name papers you’ve obtained from the internet or other sources, and quoting or paraphrasing without acknowledgement the ideas of others. Any instance of plagiarism will result in a “U” for the course.

Students at Florida Atlantic University are expected to maintain the highest ethical standards. Academic dishonesty is considered a serious breach of these ethical standards, because it interferes with the university mission to provide a high quality education in which no student enjoys an unfair advantage over any other. Academic dishonesty is also destructive of the university community, which is grounded in a system of mutual trust and places high value on personal integrity and individual responsibility. Harsh penalties are associated with academic dishonesty. For more information, see University Regulation 4.001.

*Disability Policy Statement:*

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), students who require special accommodation due to a disability to properly execute coursework must register with the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD), SU 133 (561-297-3880). I will make all efforts possible to accommodate note- and test-taking for students with disabilities, but you need to confer with me at the beginning of the semester.