

ENGL 881
RESEARCH METHODS & METHODOLOGIES
SUMMER 2021 – TERM 1214

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

This professional development seminar will be devoted to exploring analytical methodologies within early modern English literature, in their historical and current contexts. We will read a number of articles either representing or discussing diverse critical methodologies in early modern literary studies, and literary studies at large, some of which will be focused on *Hamlet*. Some of these articles may seem dated, as they emerge from earlier periods of time; this allows us a glimpse at the history of critical approaches and enables us to assess both their earlier and present significance. It is important to recognize that not only is there is no one objective history of literary criticism, but also that a six week examination of literary methodologies is necessarily incomplete.

This is a pass-fail course with no grades, but it involves a significant amount of reading, writing, and responsible class participation in order to pass.

REQUIRED TEXT(S)/READINGS

Shakespeare, William. *Hamlet*. Any decent edition is fine; if you don't have one, hit a second hand book store!

Weekly articles, to be supplied. Note: the bibliographic information for these articles is either on the pdf or I've included it here on the syllabus.

ASSIGNMENTS/EVALUATIONS

- one article presentation (5-6 pages or 1500-1800 words; 12-20 minute presentation in class, plus ongoing discussion)
- one response to a classmate's presentation (in class plus a 3-4 page paper)
 - find one or two aspects of the presenter(s)' work to respond to with commentary—agreement, disagreement, development, clarification of a point etc.
- active class participation