

At the center of our theoretical and critical readings are two pairs of texts:

Homer's *Odyssey* (Fagles translation)

Derek Wolcott *Omeros*

E.M. Forster *Howard's End*

Zadie Smith *On Beauty*

around which we will read an eclectic survey of structuralist, post-structuralist, reader-response, and cultural studies critics and theorists, beginning with Roland Barthes.

Some of our potential critical texts:

Todorov, *Introduction to Poetics*

Riffaterre, *Semiotics of Poetry*

Todorov, *The Poetics of Prose*

Riffaterre, *Text Production*

Genette, *Figures of Literary Discourse*

Genette, *Narrative Discourse*

Bal, *Narratology*

Cohn, *Transparent Minds*

Kristeva, *Desire in Language*

Barthes, *S/Z*

Barthes, *Camera Lucida*

Barthes, *The Eiffel Tower and Other Mythologies*

Barthes, *The Pleasure of the Text*

Barthes, *New Critical Essays*

Eco, *The Role of the Reader*

Said, *The World, The Text, and the Critic*

Sontag, *Against Interpretation*

Sontag, *On Photography*

Sontag, *Regarding the Pain of Others*

Todorov, *Facing the Extreme*

Eco, *How to Travel with a Salmon and Other Essays*

We meet Thursdays at 11 in my office.

Schedule:

Literary Texts

☞ 6 books of Homer each week for four weeks – done by on Feb 14.

☞ Walcott finished over the next four week – done by Mark 10. Walcott on campus March 10 and 11; Reynolds lecture on March 11.

☞ Forster read by March 27

☞ Smith read by April 10

Theoretical Texts

☞ Barthes through Jan 31

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