**description & set texts**

The aim of the course is to introduce students to the basic terminology and to different strategies of discussing literature. Various sources of literary tradition as well as diverse theoretical approaches of interpretation will be illustrated with literary examples primarily from the field of English literature. By the end of the semester, students are expected to know the definitions of the terms in the List of Terms (provided at <http://seas3.elte.hu/coursematerial/index.html>) and to acquire the essential skills of literary analysis.

**Lecture schedule**

1) Introduction

2) Writing an essay: research methodology, sources, structure, and references

3) Rhetoric, tropes and versification

4) Poetic genres

5) Dramatic genres and theatre

6) Narrative genres

7) European cultural heritage 1: Bible

8) European cultural heritage 2: ancient mythologies

9) Approaches to literature 1: theories focusing on structure

10) Approaches to literature 2: theories focusing on history

11) Approaches to literature 3: theories related to psychological and sociological schools

12) Approaches to literature 4: cultural and media studies

13) Detailed information on the exam

**Set text (for the definitions of the terms required for the exam)**

Baldick, Chris. *The Concise Oxford Dictionary of Literary Terms.* Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2001.

**Recommended reading**

Childs, Peter and Roger Fowler. *The Routledge Dictionary of Literary Terms.* London: Routledge, 2006.

Cuddon, J. A. *The Penguin Dictionary of Literary Terms and Literary Theory.* London: Penguin, 1998.

Drabble, Margaret, editor. *The Oxford Companion to English Literature.* Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2000.

Stringer, Jenny, editor. *The Oxford Companion to Twentieth-Century Literature in English.* Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1996.

**requirements & assessment**

The course will be followed by a written examination testing students’ knowledge of technical terms and analytical skills.