ENG4363: Women Writing: Feminist Fiction in English
Assessment guidelines Autumn 2025

Instructor: Dr. Rebecca Scherr

Course Structure and assignments:

The course consisted of 10 weeks of seminar. Obligatory assignments included a paper proposal (pass/fail); a 4-5 page rough draft (pass/fail); and the final paper (A-F.)

Description of the exam:

Standard research paper on a topic of your choice. As to primary texts, you must choose material we covered in class, and can also include other books of interest that are not on the pensum as long as at least one primary text is something from the course. You may reflect deeply on one text, or discuss more than one. Whatever you choose, the most important thing is to have an *argument* or *problem* to pursue, and this "problemstilling" should engage with the ideas and theories we cover in the seminar.

This is a standard research paper, which also means you must include scholarly secondary sources such as journal articles and book chapters. Consult a minimum of 6 secondary sources for the paper. Final paper should be 4500-5000 words excluding bibliography. It should follow standard UiO format (1.5 spaced lines, 2.5 cm margins, a normal-size font such as Times New Roman 12 pt.) It is important that the work is your own thinking and writing, and that you do not use AI generated writing or thought in your paper. Using these tools extensively can be grounds for disciplinary action.

General assessment criteria:

Research paper (semester oppgave):

- Students are required to write a 10-page standard research paper. Paper topics have been approved in advance.

- Students will not be penalized for writing more than 10 pages, although writing too little can be grounds for lowering a grade or failure.

- The grade can be lowered if the student includes too few secondary sources.

The academic quality/grade of the exam is measured by the common expectations for literature studies:

- The level of analytical skills
- The student's grasp of the significance of the primary and secondary materials

- The student's ability to relate the texts to the course topic and to the questions they are answering
- The clarity and organization of their writing (essays should follow standard essay format)
- The use of the English language

Note on language: Students are expected to write clearly, concisely, and in an appropriately academic style. Common language errors are subject-verb concord, verb tense, prepositions, comma usage, genitives, idioms, spelling, and incomplete sentences with no finite verb. You need to ask if these errors are so numerous and serious that they impair the student's ability to communicate. Language counts as part of a total assessment but not given any specific percentage of the final grade.