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An Introduction to Literature, Criticism and Theory-Andrew Bennett 2016-03-02 Lively, original and highly readable, An Introduction to Literature, Criticism and Theory is the essential guide to literary studies. Starting at ‘The Beginning’ and concluding with ‘The End’, chapters range from the familiar, such as ‘Character’, ‘Narrative’ and ‘The Author’, to the more unusual, such as ‘Secrets’, ‘Pleasure’ and ‘Ghosts’. Now in its fifth edition, Bennett and Royle’s classic textbook successfully illuminates complex ideas by engaging directly with literary works, so that a reading of Jane Eyre opens up ways of thinking about racial difference, for example, while Chaucer, Raymond Chandler and Monty Python are all invoked in a discussion of literature and laughter. The fifth edition has been revised throughout and includes four new chapters – ‘Feelings’, ‘Wounds’, ‘Body’ and ‘Love’ – to incorporate exciting recent developments in literary studies.

In addition to further reading sections at the end of each chapter, the book contains a comprehensive bibliography and a glossary of key literary terms. A breath of fresh air in a field that can often seem dry and dauntingly theoretical, this book will open the reader’s eyes to the exhilarating possibilities of reading and studying literature.

An Introduction to Literature, Criticism, and Theory-Andrew Bennett 1995 An Introduction to Literature, Criticism and Theory is an indispensable guide. In twenty-four short, compelling and highly readable chapters, this book presents the key critical concepts in literary studies today. Bennett and Royle avoid the jargonistic, abstract nature of much ‘theory’. Instead they explore crucial issues in contemporary criticism and theory by focusing closely on a range of literary texts - from Chaucer to Achebe, from Milton to Morrison. This book is essential reading for students of literature and English Studies. It can also be recommended as a general introduction for students in the humanities.

An Introduction to Literature, Criticism and Theory-Andrew Bennett 2014-07-10 Fresh, original and compelling, An Introduction to Literature, Criticism and Theory is the essential guide to literary studies. Starting at ‘the beginning’ and concluding with ‘the end’, the book covers topics that range from the familiar (character, narrative, the author) to the more unusual (secrets, pleasure, ghosts). Eschewing abstract isms, Bennett and Royle successfully illuminate complex ideas by engaging directly with literary works – so that a reading of Jane Eyre opens up ways of thinking about racial difference, whilst Chaucer, Raymond Chandler and Monty Python are all invoked in a discussion of literary laughter. Each chapter ends with a narrative guide to further reading and the book also includes a glossary and bibliography. The fourth edition has been revised to incorporate two new chapters on animality and the environment. A breath of fresh air in a field that can often seem dry and dauntingly theoretical, this book will open the reader’s eyes to the exhilarating possibilities of both reading and studying literature.

An Introduction to Literature, Criticism and Theory-Andrew Bennett 2016-03-02 Lively, original and highly readable, An Introduction to Literature, Criticism and Theory is the essential guide to literary studies. Starting at ‘The Beginning’ and concluding with ‘The End’, chapters range from the familiar, such as ‘Character’, ‘Narrative’ and ‘The Author’, to the more unusual, such as ‘Secrets’, ‘Pleasure’ and ‘Ghosts’. Now in its fifth edition, Bennett and Royle’s classic textbook successfully illuminates complex ideas by engaging directly with literary works, so that a reading of Jane Eyre opens up ways of thinking about racial difference, for example, while Chaucer, Raymond Chandler and Monty Python are all invoked in a discussion of literature and laughter. The fifth edition has been revised throughout and includes four new chapters – ‘Feelings’, ‘Wounds’, ‘Body’ and ‘Love’ – to incorporate exciting recent developments in literary studies.

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An Introduction to Criticism-Michael Ryan 2012-02-13 An accessible and thorough introduction to literary theory and contemporary critical practice, this book is an essential resource for beginning students of literary criticism. Covers traditional approaches such as formalism and structuralism, as well as more recent developments in criticism such as evolutionary theory, cognitive studies, ethical criticism, and ecocriticism. Offers explanations of key works and major ideas in literary criticism and suggests key elements to look for in a literary text. Also applies critical approaches to examples from film studies. Helps students to build a critical framework and write analytically.

Literary Criticism and Theory-Pelagia Goulimari 2014-09-15 This incredibly useful volume offers an introduction to the history of literary criticism and theory from ancient Greece to the present. Grounded in the close reading of landmark theoretical texts, while seeking to encourage the reader’s critical response, Pelagia Goulimari examines: major thinkers and critics from Plato and Aristotle to Foucault, Derrida, Kristeva, Said and Butler; key concepts, themes and schools in the history of literary theory: mimesis, inspiration, reason and emotion, the self, the relation of literature to history, society, culture and ethics, feminism, poststructuralism, postcolonialism, queer theory; genres and movements in literary history: epic, tragedy, comedy, the novel, Romanticism, realism, modernism and postmodernism. Historical connections between theorists and theorists are traced and the book is generously cross-referenced. With useful features such as key-point conclusions, further reading sections, descriptive text boxes, detailed headings, and with a comprehensive index, this book is the ideal introduction to anyone approaching literary theory for the first time or unfamiliar with the scope of its history.

Readers and Reading-Andrew Bennett 2014-07-15 Much literary criticism focuses on literary producers and their products, but an important part of such work considers the end-user, the reader. It asks such questions as: how far can the author condition the response of the reader, and how much does the reader create the meaning of a text? Dr Bennett’s collection includes important essays from such writers and critics as Wolfgang Iser, Mary Jacobus, Roger Chartier, Michel de Certeau, Shoshana Felman, Maurice Blanchot, Paul de Man and Yves Bonnefoy. It looks in turn at deconstructionist, feminist, new historicist and psychoanalytical response to the school. The book then considers the act of reading itself, discussing such issues as the uniqueness of any reading and the difficulties involved in its analysis.

The Cambridge Introduction to Literature and the Environment-Timothy Clark 2011-01-06 The degrading environment of the planet is something that touches everyone. This 2011 book offers an introductory
overview of literary and cultural criticism that concerns environmental crisis in some form. Both as a way of reading texts and as a theoretical approach to cultural theory, the study of literature is a varied and changing set of practices which challenges inherited thinking and practice in the reading of literature and culture. This introduction defines what ecocriticism is, its methods, arguments, and concepts, and will enable students to look at texts in a wholly new way. Boxed sections explain key critical terms and contemporary debates in the field with ‘hands-on’ examples and exercises. Bakey’s thoughtful approach makes this an ideal first encounter with environmental readings of literature.  

The Cambridge Introduction to Literature and Psychoanalysis-Jean-Michel Rabate 2014-09-22 Taking Sigmund Freud’s theories as a point of departure, Jean-Michel Rabaté’s book explores the intriguing ties between psychoanalysis and literature.  

Literary Criticism—Charles E. Bresoler 2011 Literary Criticism: An Introduction to Theory and Practice. 5e presents the thirteen basic schools of twentieth-century literary theory and criticism in their historical and philosophical contexts. This book explores the philosophical assumptions of each school of criticism and provides a clear methodology for writing essays according to each school’s beliefs and tenets.  

Literature, Criticism, and the Theory of Signs—Victorino Tejera 1995 Following Peirce in his non-reductive understanding of the theory of signs as a branch of aesthetics, this book reconceptualizes the processes of literary creation, appreciation and reading in semiotic terms. Here is a carefully developed theory of what sort of criteria serve to distinguish apposite from inappropriate readings of literary works—of art. Given Peirce’s triadic account of signification, it enlarges Aristotle’s view of mimesis as expressive making into an understanding of literary works as deliberately designed sign-systems belonging to Peirce’s eighth class of signs. In parallel with Bakhtin’s account of the dialogical nature of literary work (and its success in exposing misreadings of Dostoevsky), this work categorizes in precise theoretical terms what is wrong with the non-dialogical readings which treat Plato’s dialogues as doctrinal tractates. As a study in literary theory finally, and on the basis of apt distinctions between eXhibitive, active, and assertive judgments, this book re-demarcates and distinguishes the discipline of literary criticism from that of literary theory, and both of these from the work of literary creation itself.  

Literary Criticism from Plato to the Present—M. A. R. Habib 2011-06-24 Literary Criticism from Plato to the Present provides a concise and authoritative overview of the development of Western literary criticism and theory from the Classical period to the present day. An indispensable and intellectually stimulating introduction to the history of literary criticism and theory. Introduces the major movements, figures, and texts of literary criticism. Provides historical context and shows the interconnections between various theoretical approaches in the history of literary criticism and theory. Introduces many of the fundamental topics of literary criticism and theory.  

An Introduction to Criticism—Michael Ryan 2011-11-28 An accessible and thorough introduction to literary theory and contemporary critical practice, this book is an essential resource for beginning students of literary criticism. Covers traditional approaches such as formalism and structuralism, as well as more recent developments in criticism such as evolutionary theory, cognitive studies, ethical criticism, and ecocriticism. Offers explanations of key works and major ideas in literary criticism and suggests key elements to look for in a literary text. Also applies critical approaches to various examples from film studies. Helps students to build a critical framework and write analytically.  

Victorian Literature—Lee Behlman 2015-01-12 Victorian Literature: Criticism and Debates offers a comprehensive and critically engaging introduction to the study of Victorian literature and addresses the most popular and vibrant topics in the field today. Separated into twelve sections, this anthology investigates issues as diverse as neo-formalism, sensationalism, religion, evolution, psychology, gender and sexuality, colonialism, imperialism, and economics. Each section contains at least three classic essays from leading scholars which offer a variety of approaches and theories from the liveliest areas of current criticism and debate in the field. Each section concludes with a newly written essay from a subject expert that reflects on this work and looks forward to new directions. This book presents an introduction to the key critical contributions in Victorian studies from the past twenty-five years sets the reader on their path. Providing both the essential criticism along with clear introductions and analysis, this book is the perfect guide for students and scholars of Victorian literature.  

This Thing Called Literature—Andrew Bennett 2015-02-11 What is this thing called literature? Why should we study it? And how? Relating literature to topics such as dreams, politics, life, death, the ordinary and the uncanny, this beautifully written book establishes a sense of why and how literature is an exciting and rewarding subject. Charles Cochrane and Andrew Bennett deliberately weave an essential love of literature into an account of what literary texts do, how they work and what sort of questions and ideas they provoke. The book’s three parts reflect the fundamental components of studying literature: reading, thinking and writing. The authors use helpful, familiar examples throughout, offering rich reflections on the question 'What is literature?' and on what they term ‘creative reading’. Bennett and Roye’s lucid and friendly style encourages a deep engagement with literary texts. This book is not only an essential guide to the study of literature, but an eloquent defence of the discipline.  

Studying Literature in English—Dominic Rainsford 2014-06-27 Studying Literature in English provides an ideal point of entry for students of English Literature. This book is an accessible guide for Literature students around the world. This book: grounds literature and the study of literature throughout by referencing a selection of well-known novels, plays and poems; examines the central questions that readers ask when confronted with literary texts, and shows how these make literary theory meaningful and necessary. Provides a valuable guide to the study of literature and other disciplines. Provides an annotated list of further reading. From principal literary genres, periods and theory, to strategies for reading, research and essay-writing. Dominic Rainsford provides an engaging introduction to the most important aspects of studying literature in English. This book is invaluable reading for anyone studying literature in English.  

Literature: An Introduction to Theory and Analysis—Mads Rosendahl Thomsen 2017-03-09 How does literature work? And what does it mean? How does it relate to the world: to politics, to history, to the environment? How do we analyse and interpret a literary text, paying attention to its specific poetic and fictitious qualities? This wide-ranging introduction helps students to explore these and many other essential questions in the study of literature, criticism and theory. In a series of introductory chapters, leading international scholars present the fundamental topics of literary studies through conceptual definitions as well as interpretative readings of works familiar from a range of world literary traditions. In an easy-to-navigate format, Literature: An Introduction to Theory and Analysis covers such topics as: Key definitions—from plot, character and style to genre, trope and author—Literature’s relationship to the surrounding world—ethics, politics, gender and nature—Modes of literature and criticism—from books to performance, from creative to critical writing. With annotated reading lists throughout and a glossary of major critical schools to help students when studying, revising and writing essays, this is an essential introduction and reference guide to the study of literature at all levels.  

Introduction to Poetics—Tzvetan Todorov 1981  

The Uncanny—Nicholas Royle 2003 This is the first book-length study of the uncanny, an important concept for contemporary thinking and debate across a range of disciplines and discourses, including literature, film, architecture, cultural studies, philosophy, psychoanalysis, and queer theory. Much of this importance can be traced back to Freud’s essay of 1919, “The uncanny,” where he was perhaps the first to foreground the distinctive nature of the uncanny as a feeling of something not simply weird or mysterious but, more specifically, as something strangely familiar. As a concept and a feeling, however, the uncanny has a complex history going back at least to the Enlightenment. Nicholas Royle offers a detailed and historical account of the emergence of the uncanny, together with a series of close readings of different aspects of the topic. Following a major introductory historical and critical overview, there are chapters on the death drive, déjà-vu, “silence, solitude and darkness,” the fear of being buried alive, doubles, ghosts, cannibalism, telepathy, and madness, as well as more “applied” readings concerned, for example, with teaching, politics, film, and religion. This is a major critical study that will be welcomed by students and academics but will also be of interest to the general reader.  


Literary Theory-Terry Eagleton 1983-01

Literary Theory and Criticism: An Introduction-Anne H. Stevens 2015-06-18 Literary Theory and Criticism: An Introduction provides an accessible overview of major figures and movements in literary theory and criticism from antiquity to the twenty-first century. It is designed for students at the undergraduate level or for others needing a broad synthesis of the long history of literary theory. An introductory chapter provides an overview of some of the major issues within literary theory and criticism; further chapters survey theory and criticism in antiquity, the Middle Ages and Renaissance, the Enlightenment, and the nineteenth century. For twentieth- and twenty-first-century theory, the discussion is subdivided into separate chapters on formalist, historicist, political, and psychoanalytic approaches. The final chapter applies a variety of theoretical concepts and approaches to two famous works of literature: William Shakespeare’s Hamlet and Mary Shelley’s Frankenstein.

Valuepack-Andrew Bennett 2006-09-12 ‘The best introduction to literary study on the market’ Jonathan Culler, Cornell University ‘The most un-boring, unverve, unpretentious textbook I’ve ever come across’ Elizabeth Wright, University of Cambridge ‘It is by far the best and most readable of all such introductions that I have seen of...the treatment of the various topics is masterful, even-handed, and informative. I cannot think of a better introduction for undergraduates, to be sure, but for many graduate students too.’ Hayden White, University of California at Santa Cruz I don’t know of any book that could, or does, compete with this one. It is irreplaceable’ Richard Rand, University of Alabama (Bennett and Royle have) cracked the problem of how to be introductory and sophisticated, accessible but not patronising.’ Peter Buse, English Subject Centre Newsletter An Introduction to Literature, Criticism and Theoryprovides a completely fresh and original introduction to literary studies. Bennett & Royle approach their subject by way of literary works themselves (a poem by Emily Dickinson, a passage from Shakespeare, a novel by Salman Rushdie), rather than by way of abstract theoretical ideas or models. Their introduction is subdivided on a range of familiar-looking terms (character, the author, voice, narrative) as well as less obvious ones (laughter, pleasure, ghosts, secrets) in order to show why such literary texts are so compelling. This third edition updates and expands on earlier editions, and includes new chapters on: *creative writing *literature and film *war *monsters, mutants and the inhuman An introductory chapter provides an accessible overview of major figures and movements in literary theory and criticism from antiquity to the twenty-first century. THEORY INTO PRACTICE provides extensive step-by-step guidance for writing literary analyses from each of the critical perspectives. This brief, practical introduction to literary theory explores core literary theories in a unique chronological format and includes an anthology of relevant fiction, figures, and texts of literary criticism, as well as surveying their cultural, historical, and philosophical contexts. The final chapter applies a variety of theoretical concepts and approaches to two famous works of literature: William Shakespeare’s Hamlet and Mary Shelley’s Frankenstein.

Principles of Literary Criticism-Ivor Armstrong Richards 2001 With an alertness to the psychological and emotional effects of language, this work aims to present an understanding both of literature and of the role of the reader.

A History of Literary Criticism-M. A. R. Habib 2008-04-15 This comprehensive guide to the history of literary criticism from antiquity to the present day provides an authoritative overview of the major movements, figures, and texts of literary criticism, as well as surveying their cultural, historical, and philosophical contexts. The final chapter applies a variety of theoretical concepts and approaches to two famous works of literature: William Shakespeare’s Hamlet and Mary Shelley’s Frankenstein.

Veering-Nicholas Royle 2011-10-12 ‘Reading Veering generates the intense joy of veering. An exuberantly successful medium, Royle calls up swirls of passages from literature and elsewhere where the word or concept &quote;veering&quote; is salient. On this basis he creates new theories of literature and of creative writing’s place in criticism. Royle’s best book yet.’ J. Hills Miller, Distinguished Research Professor of Comparative Literature and English, University of California, Irvine Nicholas Royle is one of the most interesting, inventive, and provocative thinkers of literary language currently writing in English, and he has done something truly extraordinary here. By allowing a theory of literature to emerge right from the traces of the veering movements of fiction and poetry, he has thoroughly renewed the possibility of thinking in the wake of our literary encounters. Veering issues a general license to read, once again, with all the wonder, generosity, and freedom it calls forth on every page. Professor Peggy Kamuf, University of Southern California ‘Every genre, every great work has its way of veering. This fascinating, richly compendious, necessary book shows the way forward for literary studies. Nicholas Royle’s twisty key opens and magically re-opens the wonders of the cannon and beyond. The spiralling pleasure he takes in doing so lightens, refreshes, instructs and inspires. Royle is a wonderful communicator about literature and theory and a uniquely powerful, original critical voice. This is his most exciting and widely relevant work so far.’ Sarah Wood, University of Kent ‘Reflections on the figure of veering form the basis for a new theory of literatureExploring images of swerving, loss of control, disregressing and deviating, Veering provides new critical perspectives on all major literary genres: the novel, poetry, drama, the short story and the essay, as well as creative writing Royle works with insights from Lewis Carroll, Freud, Adorno, Raymond Williams, Edward Said, Deleuze, Cixous and Derrida. With wit and irony he explores veering in the writings of Jonson, Milton, Dryden, Wordsworth, Coleridge, Melville, Hardy, Proust, Lawrence, Bowen, J.H. Pryme and many others. Contrary to a widespread sense that literature has become increasingly irrelevant to our culture and everyday life, Royle brilliantly traces a strange but compelling literary turn

Literature and Feminism-Pam Morris 1993-09-08 Literature and Feminism is an exemplary new introduction to feminist literary criticism and theory which assumes no previous knowledge of the field. Clear, informative and carefully structured, it provides a thorough guide to, and path through, one of the most important, but also most difficult, areas of contemporary literary studies.

The Author-Andrew Bennett 2004-12-24 This volume investigates the changing definitions of the author, what it has meant historically to be an ‘author’, and the impact that this has had on literary culture. Andrew Bennett presents a clearly-structured discussion of the various theoretical debates surrounding authorship, exploring such concepts as authority, ownership, originality, and the ‘death’ of the author. Accessible, yet stimulating, this study offers the ideal introduction to a core notion in critical theory.

Literary Theory: An Introduction, Anniversary Ed.-Terry Eagleton 2008

Literary Studies-Tison Pugh 2013-12-17 Literary Studies: A Practical
Guide provides a comprehensive foundation for the study of English, American, and world literatures, giving students the critical skills they need to best develop and apply their knowledge. Designed for use in a range of literature courses, it begins by outlining the history of literary movements, enabling students to contextualize a given work within its cultural and historical moment. Specific focus is then given to the use of literary theory and the analysis of: Poetry Prose fiction and novels Plays Films. A detailed unit provides clear and concise introductions to literary criticism and theory, encouraging students to nurture their unique insights into a range of texts with these critical tools. Finally, students are guided through the process of generating ideas for essays, considering the role of secondary criticism in their writing, and formulating literary arguments. This practical volume is an invaluable resource for students, providing them with the tools to succeed in any English course.

**Literature Against Criticism** - Martin Paul Eve 2016-10-17 This is a book about the power game currently being played out between two symbiotic cultural institutions: the university and the novel. As the number of hyper-knowledgeable literary fans grows, students and researchers in English departments waver between dismissing and harnessing voices outside the academy. Meanwhile, the role that the university plays in contemporary literary fiction is becoming increasingly complex and metafictional, moving far beyond the ‘campus novel’ of the mid-twentieth century. Martin Paul Eve’s engaging and far-reaching study explores the novel’s contribution to the ongoing displacement of cultural authority away from university English. Spanning the works of Jennifer Egan, Ishmael Reed, Tom McCarthy, Sarah Waters, Percival Everett, Roberto Bolaño and many others, Literature Against Criticism forces us to re-think our previous notions about the relationship between those who write literary fiction and those who critique it.

**Literature, Criticism, and Style** - Steven Croft 2000 A Practical Guide to Advanced Level English Literature Revised Edition Years 11-12 - This comprehensive handbook will help students to: study key genres with confidence; develop their critical skills; prepare for on-going assessment and examinations; approach a wide range of texts and question styles including practical criticism and unseens.

**A Critical History of English Literature, Vol. 3** - David Daiches 1979

**Modern Literary Criticism and Theory** - Rafey Habib 2008 Exploring the works of a diverse group of 20th century writers including D.H. Lawrence, H.L. Mencken, Jean-Paul Sartre, and Jacques Derrida, this book provides an accessible scholarly introduction to modern literary theory and criticism, placing various modes of criticism in their historical and intellectual contexts.

**William Wordsworth in Context** - Andrew Bennett 2015-02-12 This book provides the essential contexts for an understanding of all aspects of the major English Romantic poet, William Wordsworth.


**Beginning Theory** - Peter Barry 1995 An introduction to literary and cultural theory for beginners. The emphasis is on theory in practice with exercises and questions to help the student understand the methodology and practice of literary theory. Topics covered include: liberal humanism; Marxism; new historicism; cultural materialism; postcolonialism; feminism; queer theory; structuralism; postmodernism; stylistics; psychoanalytic theory.