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Professor Kersh
ENGL 403
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Reading List

Key Terms:

1. Ecocriticism
2. Ecofeminism

Explanatory Essay:

I have chosen to use ecocriticism or ecofeminism as my guiding key terms and lenses because this field has interested me throughout my career as an English major. I have always liked analyzing how the natural world is portrayed in literature and how it can function as a device and provide deeply rich metaphors. Looking at the environment in literature in conjunction with gender has also interested me, as it reveals the way stories can subvert or undermine the male/society and feminine/nature binary, to complicate the way we see natural landscapes as gendered spaces. Ecofeminism is a fascinating field that combines my passions for feminist research on gender equality and environmental analysis, which is also interesting to me because of my background as an Environmental Studies major. When it comes to applying these key terms, I am more flexible and open minded as to where; right now, I am considering the works of Virginia Woolf as a key feminist writer who I have some experience with, as well as perhaps some of her peers and staying within the modernist era. However, I have found several sources on ecofeminist poetics within Victorian poetry as well (including the works of Micheal Field, among others). I plan to use this reading list to determine which time period (modernist or victorian) and genre (novels or poetry) to apply an ecocritical lens.

3-5 Secondary or Theoretical Works:

Adams, Carol J. *Ecofeminism and the Sacred*. Continuum, 1993.

https://dickinson.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/01DICKINSON_INST/15ac0tc/alm_a991002382109705226

Campbell, Andrea. *New Directions in Ecofeminist Literary Criticism*. Cambridge Scholars Publisher, 2008.

https://dickinson.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/01DICKINSON_INST/1d86qtd/cdi_askewsholts_vlebooks_9781443809221

Kostkowska, J. *Ecocriticism and Women Writers: Environmentalist Poetics of Virginia Woolf, Jeanette Winterson, and Ali Smith*. Palgrave Macmillan UK, 2013,
doi:10.1057/9781137349095.
https://dickinson.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/01DICKINSON_INST/1d86qtd/cdi_proquest_ebookcentral_EBC1249636

Murphy, Patricia. *Reconceiving Nature: Ecofeminism in Late Victorian Women's Poetry*. University of Missouri Press, 2019.
https://dickinson.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/01DICKINSON_INST/1d86qtd/cdi_proquest_ebookcentral_EBC5632621

Vakoch, Douglas A. *Feminist Ecocriticism Environment, Women, and Literature*. Lexington Books, 2012.
https://dickinson.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/01DICKINSON_INST/15ac0tc/alm_a991007274682505226

Chosen Academic Journal for Year of Issues:

Environmental Humanities. Environmental Humanities Programme, University of New South Wales, 2012.
https://dickinson.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/01DICKINSON_INST/m40n5f/alm_a991007033610605226