Course Description: In particular, we will focus our study the crossover between the study of English and the teaching of English in the YA classroom. As this is a one hour seminar, our discussions will center on issues of how one develops a pedagogy based on his/her understanding of the purpose of education. The class will center on the reading and discussion of a number of pedagogical essays and texts with the end goal of developing the student’s own teaching philosophy and one possible unit plan that can be integrated into a classroom.

Required Texts
Selections will be taken from the following:
Gerald Graff, Professing Literature
Lee A. Jacobus, Teaching Literature
Peter Sacks, Generation X Goes to College
Stanley Aronowitz and Henry A. Giroux, Postmodern Education

Grading Standards:
A: 100-90
B: 89-80
C: 79-70
D: 69-60
F: 59-0

Course Policies:
Attendance: As this is an independent study course, there will be no excused absences. Any cancelled meeting will be made up at a later time.

Academic Honesty: Definition of Academic Dishonesty: Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes but is not limited to (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class; (2) the falsification or invention of any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another
person as if they were your own. Examples of plagiarism are (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one's own work when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another; (2) submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from an Internet source or another source; and (3) incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one's paper without giving the author due credit. (http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_integrity.asp)

In this class, I will accept no excuse for cheating or plagiarism. If you are unsure as to whether or not you are plagiarizing another’s work, it is always best to speak with your professor. In terms of cheating, any student caught cheating during a quiz or exam has no excuse. **This being said, any student caught cheating and/or plagiarizing will receive 0 points for that assignment and the proper paperwork will be filed.**

**Homework and Late work:** As this is a 400 level English course, it is my expectation that all writing done for this course will be typed, academic in tone and purpose (unless told otherwise), be free of stigmatized errors (mechanic, spelling, grammar), and, when necessary, show proper MLA citation through in-text source recognition and the completion of a Work’s Cited page. In terms of layout, all papers should be double-spaced and the header should include your name, my name, the course number, and date. While MLA requires that the header be double-spaced, for this course the header should be single spaced. Also, there should not be double-spaces before and after the title of the paper. The font for all writing is to be Times New Roman 12 point and there should be one inch margins all around. Remember, if you are working with Word 7, you may have to change the default parameters.

**Free Speech and Class Conduct:** As noted already, it is my goal that a great deal of the class will center on some form of discussion. While at times this will focus on more of a Socratic method (specific question and answer), there will be more times when the conversation is to be open and exploratory. I do encourage students to pursue ideas and readings of texts, but it is important that we all recognize that not every reading can be considered a possible reading. In other words, our readings and responses should be informed and/or supported by the primary and secondary texts that are under consideration at that moment, or by the overall spectrum of the texts that we have read. Furthermore, it is my responsibility as an educator to problematize and question your readings as well as recognize the merit of your argument.

**Students with Disabilities:** This class will follow the designated university policy which can be found at: [http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_accom_stu_disab.asp](http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_accom_stu_disab.asp)

**Course Requirements:**

**Essays:** During the course of the semester, you will write complete two major projects. One will be the development of Personal Teaching Philosophy to be 3-4 pages in length.
This philosophy will show an awareness of certain critical, contemporary discussions of the classroom and the teaching of English. Beyond this, the student will develop a full unit teaching plan that will demonstrate how this philosophy can be put into practice.