Lecture, Day One of **Huck Finn**

I. THEMES
A. Search for identity through moral crisis (trace Huck's moral crisis throughout novel)
B. Individual vs. society
C. Escape from reality and responsibility: Huck as an American character type (compare Huck and Tom)
D. Human nature: a study in cruelty and degradation (racism, bigotry, hypocrisy, self-righteousness, elitism, intolerance)

II. Regionalism, naturalism, realism
A. Local Color
B. Characters and Events

III. Point of View
A. First person, reliable or unreliable?
B. How humor and satire are created through POV
C. How the themes are created through POV

IV. Satire
A. Religion
B. Education
C. Civilization
D. Romanticism
E. Southern gentility
F. Royalty
G. Superstition

V. Symbolism
A. River
B. Raft
C. Shore

VI. Structure of novel
A. 1-16\(\frac{5}{6}\) (St. Petersburg episode)
B. 17\(\frac{4}{5}\)-31 (Life on river)
C. 32-end (Phelps's episodes)

VII. Recurring motifs and imagery
A. Search for father
B. False identity
C. Sleep

VIII. Picaresque novel