

ENGLISH and WRITING

BJ Best	Instructor of English
Timothy Galow	Assistant Professor of English
John Garrison	Assistant Professor of English
Lara Karpenko	Assistant Professor of English
Deirdre M. Keenan	Professor of English
Lori Duin Kelly	Professor of English and Department Chair
Susan Nusser	Assistant Professor of English

The English Program offers majors in English and writing, and minors in English and writing.

English Major (44 credits)

Bachelor of Arts

The goals of the English major are:

1. To provide students with a body of knowledge about literature that will allow them to recognize the interrelationship among ideas and provide them with the skills to be lifelong learners.
2. To teach students the critical reading, writing and thinking skills that enable them to develop a personal value system and that will inform their understanding of their impact on the world around them.

Learning Outcomes for English

Upon successful completion of major requirements students will be able to:

1. Develop strategies for originating and answering questions about literature.
2. Employ a variety of critical approaches to literature.
3. Use language specific to the discourses of poetry, drama and fiction.
4. Demonstrate their knowledge of literary canonicity as part of their preparation for citizenship in a diverse community.
5. Analyze and respond critically to literature using research and bibliographic materials appropriate to the discipline.

Core Courses

- I. Foundations: students must complete the following two core courses.
English 211, Introduction to Literary Study I: Poetry
English 212, Introduction to Literary Study II: Short Fiction and Drama
- II. British and American Literature Survey: students must complete three of the following core literature surveys.
English 240, British Literature I: Mediaeval to 1780
English 241, British Literature II: 1780 to Contemporary

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- English 242, American Literature I: 1620 to 1865
English 243, American Literature II: 1865 to Contemporary
- III. Diversity/ World Literature: students must complete one of the following courses.
English 162, Gender and Literature
English 164, American Indian Literature and Spirituality
English 165, Readings in Race and Gender
English 210, African American Literature
English 226, Africa: Literature and Culture of its Many Nations
English 255, Postcolonial Literature and Theory
- IV. Great Figures: students must complete one of the following courses.
English 300, Great Authors
English 301, Chaucer
English 303, Milton and Moral Choice: His Age and Ours
English 304, Shakespeare
- V. Upper Division Literature requirement: students must complete 3 literature courses at the upper-division level (“upper-division” is defined as any course numbered 300 and above.)
- VI. Senior capstone experience: English 499, advanced literature seminar

Required Support Courses (Required for primary majors only)

Completion of a Modern Language through 202

Students seeking education certification must take the following courses:

English 219
English 240 or
English 304
English 305

Writing Major (40 credits)

Bachelor of Arts

Learning Outcomes for Writing

Upon successful completion of major requirements students will be able to:

1. Develop and demonstrate the ability to use their own unique writing process effectively.
2. Demonstrate the ability to create and revise texts in multiple genres, including fiction, poetry, and nonfiction.
3. Interpret advanced theoretical approaches to understanding the principles and practices of writing in genres of their specialization.
4. Evaluate how their own writing is situated within both literary traditions and larger cultural contexts.
5. Apply writing skills to professional careers related to writing and publishing.

Courses:

- I. English 206, Fiction Writing
English 207, Poetry Writing
English 208, Creative Nonfiction Writing

- II. One of the following:
 - English 305, Advanced Exposition and the Rhetorical Tradition
 - English 308, Advanced Creative Nonfiction
- III. One of the following:
 - English 306, Advanced Fiction
 - English 307, Advanced Poetry
- IV. At least one of the following that does not satisfy any other requirement:
 - English 190, Introduction to Creative Writing
 - English 305, Advanced Exposition and the Rhetorical Tradition
 - English 306, Advanced Fiction
 - English 307, Advanced Poetry
 - English 308, Advanced Creative Nonfiction
 - English 497, Guided Senior Thesis
 - Communication 227, Technical Writing in Organizations
 - Communication 275, Feature Writing
- V. Two of the following:
 - English 240, British Literature I: Mediaeval to 1780
 - English 241, British Literature II: 1780 to Contemporary
 - English 242, American Literature I: 1620 to 1865
 - English 243, American Literature II: 1865 to Contemporary
- VI. Any additional 300-level English literature course
- VII. English 380, Internship
- VIII. English 496, Writing Capstone: Advanced Revision and Writing for Publication

Required Support Courses (Required for primary majors only)
Completion of a Modern Language through 202

English Minor (24 credits)

At least two 300-level courses in English.

Four additional English courses, no more than two of which may be at the 100-level.

Note: Students seeking certification must take the following courses:

English 164 or 165 or 210 or 255

English 211 or 212

English 219

English 240 or 304

English 242 or 243

English 305

Writing Minor (24 credits)

- I. Three of the following foundational writing courses:
 - English 190, Introduction to Creative Writing
 - English 206, Fiction Writing
 - English 207, Poetry Writing
 - English 208, Nonfiction Writing
 - English 209, Playwriting

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- II. One of the following advanced writing courses:
English 305, Advanced Exposition and the Rhetorical Tradition
English 306, Advanced Fiction
English 307, Advanced Poetry
English 308, Advanced Creative Nonfiction
- III. One of the following literature surveys:
English 240, British Literature I: Mediaeval to 1780
English 241, British Literature II: 1780 to Contemporary
English 242, American Literature I: 1620 to 1865
English 243, American Literature II: 1865 to Contemporary
- IV. One additional 300-level English literature course

140. Introductory Language Skills for Liberal Studies **4 credits**
An intensive review of the basic skills required by a Liberal Arts education – reading, writing and critical thinking. May not be counted toward an English major or minor. (Enrollment by assignment only.) (*Fa, Su*)

162. Gender and Literature **HI, CCD 4 credits**
In this course, students will interrogate literature's role in shaping cultural constructions of gender; in addition, this course will acquaint students with the questions, critical conversations and controversies that dominate contemporary gender studies. ENG 170 is recommended prior to enrollment. (*Sp, Su*)

164. American Indian Literature and Spirituality **PI 4 credits**
An introduction to the study of American Indian literature and cultures, representing select geographical locations, through literature, film, and primary sources.* Students will examine the importance of storytelling in reflecting, maintaining, and shaping tribal cultures, identities, histories, and traditions. *Course texts will represent a selection of geographically diverse American Indian cultures that will always include a Great Lakes Indian tribe to promote understanding of local cultural diversity. (*Sp*)

165. Readings in Race and Gender **HI, CCD 4 credits**
An approach to gender issues using the perspective of race. This courses uses seminal texts in minority and women's literature to explore the origins of sexism and racism in society, their similarities and differences, and their impact on individuals as depicted in narrative art. Formerly WST101. ENG 170 is recommended prior to enrollment. (*Fa*)

170. Writing Seminar **4 credits**
Required for all first year students. Through critical reading – and with special attention to language, audience, purpose and structures – students develop effective approaches to writing. May not be counted toward an English major or minor. (*Fa, Sp, Su*)

170H. Writing Seminar **4 credits**
Students develop effective approaches to writing to an advanced degree. May not be counted toward an English major or minor. (*Sp*)

- 190. Introduction to Creative Writing** 4 credits
 In this workshop, students will learn the conventions of three major genres of creative writing – fiction, non-fiction and poetry – as they develop their own process of creating these texts. This course is designed as an ideal introduction to creative writing and the workshop format for those students who are curious about, yet perhaps unfamiliar with, the area. (*Fa*)
- 206. Fiction Writing** F1 4 credits
 By studying master works of short fiction selected from contemporary authors and by participating in writing workshops, students will work to develop and refine their skills of writing fiction. (*Sp*)
- 207. Poetry Writing** F1 4 credits
 In this workshop, students will learn the conventions of poetry writing by studying master works of poetry and writing their own poems. (*Fa*)
- 208. Creative Nonfiction Writing:
 The Documentary Impulse** F1 4 credits
 Students in this workshop will read and analyze a range of nonfiction texts, including literary journalism, documentary film, personal essay, and literary memoir, and examine the impulse to document the truth that underlies nonfiction. Students in the course will produce both analytical work about the genre as well as their own, original non-fiction pieces. (*Sp*)
- 210. African American Literature** H1 4 credits
 Students will read and respond to a variety of African-American literature – novels, poems, plays, autobiographies, short stories, and commentaries. The goal is that students will be able to write thoughtfully about the ethics and aesthetics of these works, and will more fully appreciate and understand the relationship between literature, history, and cultural values. ENG 170 is recommended prior to enrollment. (*Fa, even years*)
- 211. Introduction to Literary Study I: Poetry** H1 4 credits
 By examining numerous classic and contemporary examples, students will consider how poems are constructed to achieve their meanings. Numerous poetic elements and forms of analysis will be defined and discussed, and students will have the opportunity to analyze poetry in discussions and in writing. (*Fa*)
- 212. Introduction to Literary Study II: Short Fiction and Drama** H1 4 credits
 This course teaches students to originate questions about literature and to formulate strategies to answer those questions. In addition to reading a wide variety of authors, students will have practice with using various methods of literary analysis. (*Sp*)
- 219. Introduction to Linguistics** 4 credits
 Students develop their own view on language policy, both in the classroom and in public arenas. Beginning with language production, students will piece together the fascinating story of human language development. In papers, discussions, and presenta-

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tions, students will investigate social, psychological, and historical implications of language study. (*Fa, even years*)

222H. Playing Crazy: Cultural Constructions of Madness 4 credits
An interdisciplinary exploration of the ways in which cultural institutions like the medical and legal establishments and organized religion shape our understanding of concepts like madness, eccentricity, and the normal. (*Fa, even years*)

226. Africa: Literature and Culture of Its Many Nations H2, CCD 4 credits
This course is designed to develop an awareness and understanding of the varied voices contained in contemporary African literature. In addition to examining these works as artistic productions, the course situates the narratives within the historical and political circumstances that give rise to them. ENG 170 is recommended prior to enrollment. (*Fa, odd years*)

240. British Literature I: Mediaeval to 1780 4 credits
Course content focuses on major movements, authors, and texts in English Literature, beginning with the works of early Anglo-Saxon writers and continuing through the mid 18th century. (*Fa*)

241. British Literature II: 1780 to Contemporary 4 credits
Course content focuses on major movements, authors, and texts in English Literature, beginning with the works of the late 18th century and continuing through the present day. (*Sp*)

242. American Literature I: 1620 to 1865 4 credits
Course content focuses on major movements, authors and texts from the early 1600's to the Civil War with particular attention to their contributions to defining American values and identities. (*Fa*)

243. American Literature II: 1865 to Contemporary 4 credits
Course content focuses on major movements, authors, and texts in American Literature from the end of the Civil War to the present day. (*Sp*)

255/255H. Postcolonial Literature and Theory P1, CCD 4 credits
Literature of indigenous world cultures (non-Western-Eurocentric literature), to consider relationships between place and cultural identity, constructions of cultural difference, relationships between cultures, and operations of domination and resistance. The course also looks at the roles writers play in establishing or reestablishing cultural identity and addresses issues of ethics and morality in crossing cultures. (*Fa, Sp, Su*) (*255H: Fa, odd years*)

298/398. Independent Study 1-4 credits
Prerequisites: Junior standing, approval of the divisional dean and consent of the instructor.

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- 300. Great Authors** H2, CCD 4 credits
Intensive study of a body of work by an author deemed “great” by scholars and critics. This study will include relevant critical and biographical readings and discussion of what, ultimately, makes the author “great.” ENG 170 is recommended prior to enrollment. (*Fa, odd years*) Prerequisite: Junior standing or consent of the instructor.
- 301. Chaucer** H2 4 credits
Intensive reading of the works of Geoffrey Chaucer, with special focus on the ways in which he both operated within and transcended the artistic conventions of his period. (*Sp, odd years*) Prerequisite: Junior standing or consent of the instructor.
- 303. Milton and Moral Choice: His Age and Ours** P2 4 credits
Study of John Milton’s poetry and prose, supplemented by other seventeenth century writers, concentrating on issues of the nature of Good and Evil, Moral Choice, Free Will, Guilt and Innocence, Gender, Desire, War, and Censorship. Discussion focuses on how these issues represent some of the most pressing anxieties of Milton’s time and our own. (*Fa, even years*) Prerequisite: Junior standing or consent of the instructor.
- 304. Shakespeare** H2 4 credits
Intensive study of representative histories, comedies, tragedies and late plays. (*Sp, even years*) Prerequisite: Junior standing or consent of the instructor.
- 305. Advanced Exposition and the Rhetorical Tradition** H2 4 credits
Students will read and analyze rhetorical texts ranging from Classical authors like Aristotle, to Modern and Postmodern theorists like Burke and Foucault. Theories learned from these texts will be used to examine historically important American speeches. (*Fa, odd years*)
- 306. Advanced Fiction** 4 credits
Students in this workshop will focus more specifically on the foundational skills they studied in ENG 206. Readings will focus on understanding and analyzing the conventions of fiction, such as dialog, narration, theme, language and character, and using that knowledge to write and revise short stories. (*Fa, even years*) Prerequisite: ENG 206.
- 307. Advanced Poetry** 4 credits
Study of the theory and art of poetry. Extensive practice in writing both traditional and experimental poems. Student work will be discussed and analyzed in a writing workshop format. Students will also study the development of styles, forms, and theoretical concerns of American poetry from pre-1900 to the present day. (*Sp, even years*) Prerequisite: ENG 207.
- 308. Advanced Creative Nonfiction** 4 credits
Students will build on their foundational knowledge of the nonfiction genre by focusing on one form. Reading in the genre will be more challenging, and students will be expected to analyze the components of nonfiction writing and apply those to their own pieces. (*Fa, odd years*) Prerequisite: ENG 208.
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309. Romantic and Victorian Literature

4 credits

Students will read major writers of the nineteenth century in their historical context with emphasis on major poetry and prose, including the novel, in relation to literary and cultural history. (*Sp, even years*) Prerequisite: Junior standing or consent of the instructor.

312. Modernism and Postmodernism

H2

4 credits

Students read major works of the modern and postmodern periods in relation to prevailing cultural constructions of self, art, and the nature of reality. Students will also consider the causes and consequences of the widening gulf between highbrow literature and popular fiction. (*Fa, odd years*) Prerequisite: Junior standing or consent of the instructor.

323. Early Modern

4 credits

Verse, prose and drama of the Early Modern Period, including works by Behn, Donne, Herbert, Jonson, Marlowe, Marvell, Milton, Spenser, Sidney and others. The course studies sixteenth and seventeenth century literary traditions as they reflect and construct culture, as well as the ways the Early Modern Period anticipates and resists issues such as power, gender, love and faith in our time. (*Sp, even years*) Prerequisite: Junior standing or consent of the instructor.

326. The Age of Exuberance: Restoration and Eighteenth Century British Literature

4 credits

A study of the artistic and moral values of the important writers of literature from 1660-1800. Themes of the course include: the evolving attitudes toward the emotions, reason, and the imagination; the ideas of order and control; the art and effect of comedy; the impact of the new science and the emerging middle class; the changing definitions of man and nature. (*Sp, odd years*) Prerequisite: Junior standing or consent of the instructor.

380/480. Internship in English

4 credits

Work experience under professional supervision with opportunities to observe and question. Written report required. Only four credits may be applied toward completion of the major. Recommended as 10th course in the major. Prerequisite: Consent of the instructor.

496. Writing Major Capstone: Senior Seminar

4 credits

In this course students will demonstrate their knowledge of the literary tradition in which they are producing original work. Students will read primary and secondary material in their chosen genre and engage in seminar style discussions with the goal of both revising an existing original work and producing a literary analysis of that genre. (*Fa*) Prerequisite: Senior standing as a Writing major.

497. Guided Senior Thesis

4 credits

The thesis will be completed under the guidance of a selected faculty member. Students will create a unified thesis of revised and polished work that will be used for final assessment. Prerequisites: ENG 496 and consent of the instructor. (*Sp*)

499. English Major Capstone: Advanced Literature Seminar

4 credits

In the capstone, students are expected to demonstrate mastery of the five English Program Learning outcomes. Course will be conducted as an advanced literature seminar and students will read primary as well as secondary materials in order to understand and insert themselves into a contemporary critical discussion. At the end of the seminar, students will submit a senior thesis project which demonstrates scholarly research, critical engagement and literary analysis. (*Fa*) Prerequisite: Senior standing as an English major.