Course Catalog

English

Faculty

Victoria Aarons, Ph.D., Professor; O.R. & Eva Mitchell Distinguished Professor of Literature
Peter H. Balbert, Ph.D., Professor
Jenny Browne, M.F.A., Associate Professor
Kelly Grey Carlisle, Ph.D., Associate Professor
Duane Coltharp, Ph.D., Associate Professor; Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs
Michael R. Fischer, Ph.D., Janet S. Dicke Professor of Public Humanities
Coleen Grissom, Ph.D., Professor
Andrew Kraebel, Ph.D., Assistant Professor
Andrew Porter, M.F.A., Professor
David Rando, Ph.D., Professor
Willis Salomon, Ph.D., Associate Professor
Kathryn Santos, Ph.D., Assistant Professor
Michael Soto, Ph.D., Professor; Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs
Claudia Stokes, Ph.D., Professor; Chair
Betsy Winakur Tontiplaphol, Ph.D., Associate Professor

Requirements

- The Major
- The Minor
- The Minor in Creative Writing
- The Senior Thesis and Honors Program

The Major

The requirements for the degree of Bachelor of Arts with a major in English are as follows:

I. Departmental requirements
   A. Thirty-nine (39) hours in the Department of English
   B. Lower-division requirements:
At least twelve (12) hours of lower-division courses including:

Three out of four historical survey courses:

- ENGL 2301 British Literature: Old English to 1800
- ENGL 2302 British Literature: 1800 to the Present
- ENGL 2303 American Literature: Colonization to 1900
- ENGL 2304 American Literature: 1900 to the Present

and

- ENGL 2311 Literary Methods

C. Additional requirements:

At least twenty-seven (27) hours of ENGL courses, including:

1. At least two (2) upper-division courses covering literary periods before 1800;
   Courses pre-1800 include: 3456, 3457, 3460, 3470, 4401, 4402, 4403, 4404, 4419, 4420, 4421, 4460.

2. At least two (2) upper-division courses covering literary periods after 1800;
   Courses post-1800 include: 3427, 3429, 3466, 3471, 3472, 3475, 3480, 3481, 3484, 4422, 4423, 4425, 4427.

3. At least three (3) additional elective ENGL courses, two (2) of which must be upper-division courses. Acceptable lower-division ENGL elective courses include the following: 2301, 2302, 2303, 2304, 2308, 2401, 2402, 2403. No more than one (1) of the three (3) elective courses may be in creative writing.

II. University requirements: completion of all other required elements of the Pathways curriculum and at least 124 credit hours.

The Minor

A minor in English consists of a minimum of twenty-one (21) credit hours of English, of which at least twelve (12) credit hours must be upper-division.
The Minor in Creative Writing

The minor in Creative Writing consists of a minimum of Twenty-one (21) credit hours from the following list of courses, with a maximum of two (2) courses in literature and with a maximum of two (2) courses in Communication.

ART 2468 Bookbinding

COMM 3340 Media Writing: Magazine Writing

COMM 3340 Media Writing: Scriptwriting

COMM 3340 Media Writing: Digital Journalism

COMM 3343 Print Communication

COMM 3-46 Video Communication: Narrative Video Production

COMM 3-46 Video Communication: The Video Essay

THTR 3360 Playwriting

THTR 4-92 Special Topics in Performance: Advanced Playwriting

ENGL 3401 Non-Fiction Writing

ENGL 3402 Fiction Writing

ENGL 3403 Poetry Writing

ENGL 3411 Advanced Non-Fiction Writing

ENGL 3412 Advanced Fiction Writing

ENGL 3413 Advanced Poetry Writing

ENGL 3-16 Writing Internship

ENGL 3-17 Experiential Learning in Editing and Publishing

ENGL 3-90 Directed Studies—Junior Level

ENGL 4-90 Directed Studies—Senior Level

ENGL 3427 Contemporary Literature*

ENGL 3435 Rhetorical Analysis*

ENGL 3475 Postmodern Literature*
ENGL 4305 Topics in Creative Writing

ENGL 4423 Studies in American Literature: The American Short Story*

GNED 2340 Creative Thinking and the Artistic Process

GRST 3311 Fairy Tales

ML&L 3350 Genres in Creative Writing

When departments offer a relevant “special topics” or “variable content” course, the Chair of the English Department may designate such a course as meeting a relevant requirement for the minor. ENGL 4305 may be taken and applied toward the minor more than once as long as the topic of the course varies.

*This course is considered a literature course

The Senior Thesis and Honors Program

The senior thesis may be either a substantial piece of creative writing or an in-depth, original, analytical argument of approximately 40 pages, using primary and secondary research. The 6-hour thesis program (ENGL 4398 and 4399) may be chosen by any student with the consent of an appropriate instructor, and it is required of all students wishing to graduate with departmental Honors.

A student wishing to graduate with Honors in English must do all of the following:

I. Maintain an overall grade point average of at least 3.33.
II. Maintain a grade point average of at least 3.5 in English.
III. Enroll in ENGL 4398 (in the first semester of the senior year) and 4399 (in the second semester of the senior year) with an appropriate faculty member who has approved the student’s project and has agreed to serve as the student’s thesis adviser.
IV. Complete ENGL 4398 and 4399 with a grade of “A.”
V. Declare his or her intention to be considered for Honors by submitting a written application to the chair of the department, along with a formal recommendation from the thesis adviser.
VI. Submit a completed draft of the senior thesis to the thesis adviser and to a second faculty reader approved by the departmental Honors committee.
VII. Submit the completed senior thesis to the departmental Honors committee, along with formal recommendations from the thesis adviser and second reader.
VIII. Make an oral presentation of the senior thesis to the department.

After evaluating the quality of the senior thesis, the Honors committee will decide whether to confer or not to confer departmental Honors.

A full description of the Honors program is available in the English department office.
Courses

ENGL-1302 Writing Workshop
A course in composition that stresses expressive, analytical and persuasive writing with emphasis on rhetorical strategies in relation to aims and audience. The course is designed to refine student skills in critical reading, analysis, and judgment.

ENGL-1303 Intermediate Writing
Students who have exempted from ENGL 1302 with a score of 4 or 5 on the Language and Composition AP examination or a score of 5 on the Literature and Composition AP Examination but who wish to take 1302 may register for this section and attend a 1302 section after receiving the consent of the instructor. Students registered for 1303 will be expected to do work beyond the requirements of 1302. Prerequisite: consent of instructor.

ENGL-2301 British Literature: Old English to 1800
An examination of the development of British Literature from its beginnings to 1800. (Offered every semester.)

ENGL-2302 British Literature: 1800 to the Present
An examination of the literary expressions of cultural changes from 1800 to the present, with a primary concentration on British writers. (Offered every semester.)

ENGL-2303 American Literature: Colonization to 1900
An examination in the literary expressions of cultural changes in America from the early explorers and colonists through the end of the nineteenth century. (Offered every semester.)

ENGL-2304 American Literature: 1900 to the Present
An examination of the literary expressions of cultural changes in America from 1900 to the present. (Offered every semester.)

ENGL-2305 World Literature
A course designed to complement the American and British Literature offerings. Includes, primarily, texts from European, Asian, African, and Central and South American cultures written in the past 2,000 years in all major genres.

ENGL-2306 Advanced Placement I
Students entering with a score of 4 or higher on the Advanced Placement Literature and Composition examination or a 6 on the Higher-Level International Baccalaureate English exam will receive credit for this course.

ENGL-2307 Advanced Placement II
Students entering with a score of 5 on the Literature and Composition examination or a 7 on the Higher-Level International Baccalaureate English exam will receive credit for this course. These credits are in addition to the
credits received for ENGL 2306, for a total of 6 credits.

ENGL-2308 The Literary Imagination
This course introduces students to a variety of topics in the study of literature. Individual offerings emphasize historical, thematics, or genre approaches to reading and writing about literary texts (consult appropriate Class Schedule for details). Prerequisite: First- or Second-year status is required, or consent of instructor.

ENGL-2311 Literary Methods
Introduction to the practice of literary studies. Special attention will be paid to evaluating and interpreting both primary literature (in its major genres) and a variety of secondary critical arguments. Frequent writing assignments will include major essay that demonstrates an awareness of important critical work on the subject. Topics vary.

ENGL-2315 Advanced Writing for the Professions
An introductory writing course designed to provide students with the skills, knowledge, and techniques necessary for them to write clearly and effectively in professional settings. This course is open to students from all majors and programs.

ENGL-2340 Creative Thinking and the Artistic Process
This course encourages students to synthesize a theoretical and experiential approach to the creative process as studied through the visual arts, music, creative writing, and theatre. Students enter into the creative process as a means to develop creative self-expression, aesthetic sensibility, and an understanding of the arts. The nature and drive of artistic endeavor is explored through studies of the lives of significant thinkers and artists, examinations of art works, guest lectures, and projects. Students will engage in activities and projects that will enable them to access and develop their own creative thinking skills in concert with traditional, analytic modes. (Also listed as ART 2314, THTR 2340, GNED 2340 and MUSC 2340.)

ENGL-2373 African American Literature
Survey of African American literature from the early slave narrative to the present. Examines the history, culture, and intellectual traditions informing this literature, as well as the political and aesthetic debates that shaped the tradition.

ENGL-2401 Introduction to Non-Fiction Writing
Study in the theory, technique, and practice of non-fiction writing.

ENGL-2402 Fiction Writing
Study in the forms of fiction with a primary focus on writing the short story.

ENGL-2403 Poetry Writing
Study of the theory, techniques, and practice of poetry writing.
ENGL-3304 Writing Tutors/Writing Workshop
Writing tutors assigned by permission of instructor to individual sections of ENGL 1302. At the discretion of the instructor, tutors assist students in the process of producing written essays. Office hours and class attendance required. Prerequisite: consent of instructor.

ENGL-3414 Advanced Exposition and Argument
Intensive writing workshop concentrating on individual projects and focusing on the traditional rhetorical principles of invention, structure, and style. (Offered every Spring). Prerequisite: at least one ENGL course at the 2000-level or higher.

ENGL-3-16 Writing Internship
Supervised work on individually specified projects under the supervision of departmental faculty. Each project involves work on literary publications. The number of internships varies with available opportunities. Pass/Fail only.

ENGL-3-17 Experiential Learning in Editing and Publishing
Directed consideration of issues in literary and scholarly publishing, including acquisitions, editing, production, indexing, or design. Student will work with a faculty member on the production of a monograph, collection, or journal issue. (Offered every semester)

ENGL-3427 Contemporary Literature
Selected studies in contemporary literature in English and English translation. May be repeated for up to 8 hours when topics vary. (Offered every semester).

ENGL-3429 Jewish Literature
A survey of major Jewish literary figures, including Kafka, Babel, I.B. Singer, Sholem Aleichem, Philip Roth, Bellow, Malamud, Paley, and Wiesel, in response to Jewish literary and cultural traditions, rooted in Hebrew scripture. Prerequisite: At least one ENGL course at the 2000 level or higher

ENGL-3335 Rhetorical Analysis
Introduction to rhetoric as a mode of analysis as it applies to discursive modes and genres. (Also listed as HCOM 3352) Prerequisite: At least 1 ENGL course at the 2000 level or higher.

ENGL-3440 Nineteenth-Century British Literary Culture
A study of nineteenth-century British literature within particular cultural and historical contexts. Subjects may include the city, medicine, visual arts, and performance history. This course counts toward the Interdisciplinary Cluster "The Spirit of Our Age: Nineteenth Century Science and Culture." (Offered every other year). Prerequisite: at least one ENGL course at the 2000-level or higher.

ENGL-3441 Nineteenth-Century American Literary Culture
A study of nineteenth-century American literature within particular cultural and historical contexts. Subjects may
include religion, gender, class, and race. This course counts toward the Interdisciplinary Cluster "The Spirit of Our Age: Nineteenth Century Science and Culture." (Offered every other year). Prerequisite: at least one ENGL course at the 2000-level or higher.

ENGL-3346 History of the English Language
Traces the history of modern English varieties of language from their common Indo-European origin. Emphasis upon the relation between cultural changes and changes in English vocabulary, grammar, pronunciation, and spelling. Prerequisite: at least one ENGL course at the 2000-level or higher.

ENGL-3452 American Literary Sentimentalism
A study of nineteenth-century American literary sentimentalism, with a particular focus on the movement’s constitution of gender, power, and race. We will read such major bestselling novels as Harriet Beecher Stowe’s Uncle Tom’s Cabin and will also consider the impact of sentimentalism on other forms such as lyric poetry and the slave narrative. (Offered every other year). Prerequisite: At least one ENGL course at the 2000 level or higher.

ENGL-3456 The Epic Legacy: Imagining Antiquity in The Middle Ages
This course surveys the legacy of classical epic, especially the matter of Troy and Thebes, in medieval literature. Major themes include the relationship between epic and romance, the status of the vernacular (especially English) relative to Latin, the status of pagan religion and philosophy in the hands of medieval (Christian) writers, and the place of women in these imagined antique worlds. (Offered every other year). Prerequisite: At least one ENGL course at the 2000 level or higher.

ENGL-3457 Medieval Christian Mysticism
A survey of writings in the tradition of medieval Christian mysticism, from Augustine (d. 430) to John of the Cross (d. 1591). Major themes include the use of violent and erotic imagery, the move from Latin to vernacular languages like English, German, Spanish, and French, the importance of gender (whether the author’s or the audience’s) in the shaping of this literature, and the relevance of medieval mysticism to modern thought. (Also listed as RELI 3458) Prerequisite: At least one English course at the 2000 level or higher.

ENGL-3460 Introduction to Shakespeare
An introduction to Shakespeare’s plays and poetry with special attention to genre and the historical and cultural contexts that produced them. (Offered every year). Prerequisite: At least one ENGL course at the 2000 level or higher.

ENGL-3465 19th-Century British Poetry
This course examines the poetry of nineteenth-century Britain, emphasizing the major authors and trends associated with the Romantic and/or Victorian eras. Course readings may be themed or selected according to another constraint (e.g. the sonnet, Pre-Raphaelitism, etc.); students may repeat the course as topics vary. (Offered every year). Prerequisite: at least one ENGL course at the 2000 level or higher.

ENGL-3466 19th-Century British Fiction
This course examines the fiction of nineteenth-century Britain, emphasizing the major authors and trends associated with the Romantic and/or Victorian eras. Course readings may be thematically-linked or selected according to another constraint (e.g. historical fiction, women writers, etc.); students may repeat the course as topics vary. Prerequisite: at least one ENGL course at the 2000 level or higher.

ENGL-3470 Early American Literature
Examines the literature of the colonies and early republic, up to 1830. Considers literature in the light of Puritan and Enlightenment attempts to build a nation as well as the social conflicts that undermined those projects. Prerequisite: ENGL 2303 or consent of instructor.

ENGL-3471 American Literature of the Nineteenth Century
Study of particular periods, literary movements, authors, themes, or genres of nineteenth century American literature. Students may repeat the course as topics vary. Prerequisite: At least one ENGL course at the 2000 level or higher.

ENGL-3372 American Literature, 1900 - Present
Studies in major American writers and literary movements. May be repeated when topics vary. Prerequisite: ENGL 2304 or consent of instructor.

ENGL-3473 The Jewish Graphic Novel
A Study of the Jewish graphic novel focusing on the developing history of the genre of the graphic novel and the intersection of visual and textual narratives. The readings will be informed by a diversity of theoretical perspectives, including visual culture studies and the graphic novel as cultural product and practice. (Offered every other year). Prerequisite: At least one ENGL course at the 2000 level or higher or consent of instructor.

ENGL-3475 Postmodern Literature
Major authors and issues involved with the postmodern aesthetic. (Offered every other year). Prerequisite: At least one ENGL course at the 2000 level or higher or consent of instructor.

ENGL-3480 The Modern Novel
This course examines the development of the British and American novel after 1900, with an emphasis on how the works reflect the changing concepts of time, space, and personality. Topics include literary experimentation, Freudian theory, The Great War, stream of consciousness, American expatriation, selfhood, solipsism, and sexual aesthetics. Prerequisite: At least one ENGL course at the 2000 level or higher.

ENGL-3381 Modern Poetry
Examines the major figures and movements of poetry written in English during the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. Prerequisite: ENGL 2302, 2304, or consent of instructor.

ENGL-3484 The American Novel
This course examines the formal and thematic development of the American novel from the early national period to
the present, focusing on the evolution of American readers, the novel's engagement with historical controversy and pressing social issues, and the changing place of literary print culture in relation to wider shifts in technology. Prerequisite: At least one ENGL course at the 2000 level or higher.

ENGL-3385 The Continental Novel
Study of a selection of novels in translation from French, Russian, and German literatures. Includes Balzac, Hugo, Dostoevsky, Koestler, Hesse, and Boll. Prerequisite: ENGL 2302, 2304, 2305 or consent of instructor.

ENGL-3-90 Directed Studies - Junior Level
Independent Study. Discretion of Instructor. Prerequisite: consent of instructor.

ENGL-4401 Geoffrey Chaucer
Examines the work of Geoffrey Chaucer. Texts may include the Canterbury Tales, Troilus and Criseyde, or other works. (Offered every year). Prerequisite: At least one ENGL course at the 2000 level or higher.

ENGL-4402 Shakespeare
An introduction to Shakespeare’s plays with special attention to genre, periodization, and topical issues that situate Shakespeare's plays within their cultural context. Topics will vary and the course may be repeated for up to six hours of credit when topics vary. Prerequisite: At least one ENGL course at the 2000 level or higher.

ENGL-4403 Milton
Examines Milton's major poetry and prose in historical, theological, and political contexts. (Offered every other year). Prerequisite: At least one ENGL course at the 2000 level or higher.

ENGL-4304 Restoration Drama
Examines English drama from 1660 to 1800. Covers heroic drama, tragedy, comedy, and satire. Prerequisite: ENGL 2301 or consent of instructor.

ENGL-4405 Topics in Creative Writing
Extensive writing in a specific form or genre. Maybe repeated once when topics vary. (Offered every year).

ENGL-4411 Advanced Writing of Creative Nonfiction
Extensive writing in forms and techniques of creative nonfiction (memoir, travel writing, nature writing, etc.). Courses alternate by semester between memoir/personal essay and more research-driven work. May be repeated for up to 6 hours of credit when topic vary. Prerequisite: ENGL 2401 or consent of Instructor.

ENGL-4412 Advanced Fiction Writing
Extensive writing in forms and techniques of fiction. May be repeated for up to 6 hours credit with the permission of instructor. Prerequisite: ENGL 2402 or consent of instructor.
ENGL-4413 Advanced Poetry Writing
Extensive writing in forms and techniques of poetry. May be repeated for up to 8 hours credit with permission of instructor. Prerequisite: ENGL 2403 or consent of instructor.

ENGL-4417 Seminar in Literary Methods
Literary works from more than one historical period examined in relation to a selected thematic or generic topic. May be repeated when topics vary; if appropriate, may count toward a distribution requirement (in which case it does not count as an elective). (Offered occasionally) Prerequisite: at least one ENGL course at the 2000 level or higher.

ENGL-4418 Seminar in Literary Theme Or Genre
Literary works from more than one historical period examined in relation to a selected thematic or generic topic. May be repeated when topics vary; if appropriate, may count toward a distribution requirement (in which case it does not count as an elective). (Offered every other year).

ENGL-4419 Studies in Medieval Literature
Selected topics concerning the intersection of literature and culture in medieval England in the context of current critical theory and debate. Topics vary, including selected topics, genres, and cultural issues of Anglo-Saxon and Late Medieval English Literatures. May be repeated when topics vary. Prerequisite: At least one ENGL course at the 2000 level or higher.

ENGL-4420 Studies in Early Modern British Literature
Selected topics concerning the intersection of literature and culture in sixteenth and earlier seventeenth-century England in the context of current critical theory and debate. May be repeated when topics vary. (Offered occasionally). Prerequisite: At least one ENGL course at the 2000 level or higher.

ENGL-4421 Studies in Restoration and Eighteenth- Century British Literature
A study of selected topics in the literature and culture of Restoration and eighteenth-century Britain in the context of current critical theory and debate. May be repeated when topics vary. (Offered every year). Prerequisite: at least one ENGL course at the 2000 level or higher.

ENGL-4422 Studies in 19th-Century British Literature
This course examines special selections of nineteenth-century British literature, with an emphasis on particular genre-crossing themes (e.g. Orientalism) and/or less frequently studied single genres (e.g. non-fiction). Students may repeat the course as topics vary. Prerequisite: At least one ENGL course at the 2000 level or higher.

ENGL-4423 Studies in American Literature
Course examines selected topics, genres, and cultural issues of American literature. Includes the Harlem Renaissance; Theory and Practice of American Gothic; The American Short Story. May be repeated when topics vary. Prerequisite: At least one ENGL course at the 2000 level or higher.
ENGL-4425 Seminars in Literary Periods
Examines issues and authors within their specific historical periods. May be repeated when topics vary. (Offered every year). Prerequisite: At least one ENGL course at the 2000 level or higher.

ENGL-4426 Seminar on Individual Authors
In-depth study of one or more major figures. May be repeated when authors vary. (Offered every year). Prerequisites: At least one ENGL course at the 2000 level or higher or consent of instructor.

ENGL-4427 Literature of the Holocaust
Examines cultural, generational, and literary perspectives of the Holocaust.

ENGL-4330 Studies in Literary and Cultural Theory
Selected topics and issues in contemporary theory, examining major texts of feminism, new historicism, marxism, deconstructionism, psychoanalysis, and literary canons and traditions. May be repeated when topics vary. Prerequisite: ENGL 2311 or consent of instructor.

ENGL-4440 Digital Approaches to English Literature
Digital technologies provide new opportunities for literary studies, allowing scholars to mine texts and advance quantitative claims that would otherwise be impossible to support, to present texts in creative new formats, and to access, organize, and process archival material dispersed around the world. This course will introduce students to some of these possibilities and equip them to use a digital skillset in their study of the humanities. We will survey and assess the current state of the field of the digital humanities, learn some of the skills needed to undertake work in this field, and use those skills to create major digital projects. (Offered every year.) Prerequisites: At least one ENGL course at the 2000 level or higher.

ENGL-4-90 Directed Studies - Senior Level
Independent study. Discretion of instructor. Prerequisite: consent of instructor

ENGL-4398 Senior Thesis I
Individual research and scholarly investigation under faculty supervision leading to the preparation of a Senior Thesis. To be taken only by Senior Honors students in the first semester of their senior year. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.

ENGL-4399 Senior Thesis II
Individual research and scholarly investigation under faculty supervision leading to the preparation of a Senior Thesis. To be taken only by students in the second semester of their senior year. This course fulfills the Senior Experience requirement of the University's Common Curriculum. Prerequisite: ENGL 4398