

UPPER-LEVEL ENGLISH COURSES: SPRING 2019

NOTE: For dual-level courses ENGL 555/755, ENGL 556/756, and ENGL 557/757, 500-level courses are appropriate for upper-division undergraduates and 700-level courses are appropriate for graduate students and undergraduate seniors. Consult your undergraduate advisor or the Graduate Director regarding the best level at which to enroll.

ENGL 301: Technical/Professional Writing

Dr. Patterson or Dr. Jorgenson Borchert or Ms. Larsen

English 301 Technical/Professional Writing is designed for those students who will be writing in the professional, business, and technical professions. In addition to reading professional writing case studies in order to learn rhetorical strategies used in common business writing situations, you will also learn how to create correspondence, descriptions, instructions, reports, and electronic presentations; how to design documents; and how to incorporate graphics into your documents.

ENGL 302: Advanced Composition

Dr. Judd

Advanced Composition has three main goals: to become conversant with Classical rhetoric, to develop skills for assessing quality of writing, and to hone individual writing skills by employing elements of rhetoric and style. During the semester, you will demonstrate your understanding of Classical rhetoric, your ability to assess quality of writing, and your ability to successfully employ aspects of rhetoric and style in your own writing through application in specific writing assignments.

ENGL 305: Introduction to Film Studies

Dr. Hermansson

This course teaches students how to analyze film. We will study film's fundamental elements: *mise en scène*, cinematography, editing, and sound. Students will then learn how sounds and moving images work together to structure a film or render a narrative. Students will study a wide number of film examples, both historical and contemporary, illustrating a variety of genres and styles, and will have many opportunities to discuss films they have seen.

ENGL 308: English Linguistics

Dr. Rudd

This course is an introduction to the study of language and to the principles and methods of linguistics, the scientific study of language. We will spend some time early on discussing foundational questions about the nature of language and its relation to the mind and the world. The course develops and strengthens skills in logical reasoning and problem solving, which are invaluable in any field. This course is designed to be a first course in linguistics, and, thus, no prior knowledge of linguistics is assumed. The goals of the class are, first and foremost, to explain the basic linguistic components of language. Thus, we will examine how words in English are formed, determine what the sounds of the language are, and identify how they behave in everyday speech. Over the course of the semester, we will also discuss the major areas

of the field, including, but not limited to, phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, pragmatics, sociolinguistics and psycholinguistics.

ENGL 315: Mythology

Dr. Judd

The objective of this course is to introduce students to Classical (Greek and Roman) and Norse mythology. Because mythic archetypes are commonly used in literature and film for thematic purposes and because the narrative structures of myths and folklore stories are common to many modern plot structures, mythology can be useful for understanding both modern literature and film. Through the course of this study, students should be able to identify and explain the various myth elements, from characters and stories to archetypes and narrative structures.

ENGL 320: Literature and Film

Dr. Hermansson

This course introduces students to literary analysis and the basics of film "grammar" used in storytelling in order to make sense of the complex processes of adapting a work of literature into film. Students study a range of literature from at least two genres (for example: a number of short stories and a section of a Shakespearean play studied across multiple film adaptations) and methods of analyzing their adaptations in an informed way. The issues with fidelity (how "faithful" or "true" a film adaptation is) are contextualized in order to understand the limits of fidelity as an evaluative tool and a more neutral, descriptive language for adaptation is implemented. The course studies early, historical examples of film adaptation as well as up to date examples and introduces students to the many reasons why film has turned to literature for material. Students learn also to implement many of these techniques themselves in other media by way of storyboards, short screenplays, film pitches including casting and locations work, and even short film. This course does not require previous knowledge of literature or film. It can be taken for General Education credit. It can be taken by English majors even after having taken ENGL 304. It has obvious benefits for BSE students as well, who will be teaching in English classrooms using film as a resource.

ENGL 347: Craft of Fiction

Dr. Dearing

A study of the elements of craft in fiction as they apply to contemporary fiction. Students will read and write about these elements in the context of both the short story and the novel. Prerequisite: ENGL 250.

ENGL 478: Literature for Middle and Secondary Schools

Dr. Franklin

Criteria and methods for selection, evaluation, analysis, and presentation of adolescent literature. Themes and trends in children's literature; history, tradition, and current themes and trends in adolescent literature.

ENGL 480: Internship**Dr. Franklin, supervisor**

Experience for students planning to become teachers. Field experience in the secondary classroom to complement competencies addressed in departmental methods courses.

Prerequisites: Concurrent enrollment in ENGL 478 Literature for Middle and Secondary Schools or ENGL 479 Techniques for Teaching English in Middle and Secondary Schools is required. Must be taken immediately prior to ENGL 579 Supervised Student Teaching and Follow-Up of Teachers.

ENGL 527: Writing for the Public—Writing for Nonprofits**Dr. Jorgenson Borchert**

Students analyze and compose writing genres typical of nonprofit 501c3 organizations. Writing assignments include press releases and other promotional material, fundraising letters, reports, and using social media to promote and build community awareness. Students will also learn strategies for incorporating effective design into promotional materials. Documents for analysis include written artifacts that come into obtaining, and maintaining, a nonprofit status, such as grant proposals, annual reports, mission statements, and strategic plans. Class content will focus on learning about how nonprofits enrich the communities in which they operate, and how to create sustainable nonprofits with attention to building a strong volunteer network, executive and administrative structure, and board development. Students will have the opportunity to work with a nonprofit organization for a service learning project where they will create a fundraising campaign for a local nonprofit. Meets concurrently with ENGL 727.

ENGL 560: British Genre—Epic Poetry**Dr. McCallum**

In this course we will survey the development of the British epic from Anglo-Saxon times through the Modernist period. Given the time span and the nature of the epic genre, our survey will necessarily be highly selective, and in many cases we'll only be reading portions of a given work. Nonetheless, by the end of this term, you will have made acquaintance with the greatest epics in the English language, and having done so, you will be able to distinguish between the several varieties of epic; be able to recognize the tell-tale formal and narrative conventions of the genre; and be able to trace in the evolution of the British epic the larger historical, social, intellectual, and literary forces that shaped and responded to these works and their authors.

ENGL 566: Southern Gothic: Misfits and Monsters**Professor Martin**

A study of Southern Gothic literature with a focus on that genre's grotesques, its "misfits and monsters," as they appear in novel, short story, creative non-fiction, and poetry, and also with particular emphasis on characteristics of identity and fragmentation present in modernist works and how these help understand and better navigate a diverse world. May be repeated if topic varies.

ENGL 571 International Theme: Literature of War and Trauma

Dr. Zepernick

It seems increasingly clear that cultural trauma – widespread traumatic events or circumstances that irrevocably alter the shape and trajectory of a society – has shaped our modern world. Using prose fiction, memoir, and film, the shared texts of the course explore cultural trauma in East and Southeast Asia and the Middle East using the theoretical approaches outlined in *Cultural Trauma and Collective Identity*. In addition to our shared readings and viewings, students will follow their own interests to explore cultural trauma in a novel and a film from our list of companion works to present to the class. The course includes regular reading assignments, two class presentations (one novel and one film), short writing assignments, and a semester project.

ENGL 579: Supervised Student Teaching and Follow-Up of Teachers

Dr. Franklin, supervisor

Available only to students enrolled in the professional semester. A supervising professor will visit each student teacher. Additional mentoring, outreach, and support are available to first-year teachers who maintain contact with the department. Concurrent enrollment in the professional semester is required.

ENGL 699: Senior Seminar

Dr. Carlson

A capstone course for senior English majors. B.S.Ed. English students should take this course in the semester right before their professional semesters, and B.A. English majors should take this course in their last semesters at PSU. The course assesses the student's abilities in a major portfolio, and allows the student to assess the English Department. Students also write resumes and cover letters or statement of intents for graduate school, are trained in interviewing techniques, develop networking skills, and spend time speaking to professionals in their chosen fields. The course is one credit and required for all English majors.

ENGL 727: Writing for the Public—Writing for Nonprofits

Dr. Jorgenson Borchert

See description for ENGL 527.

ENGL 751: Senior Fiction Writing

Prof. Martin

Senior Fiction Writing is a senior-level fiction workshop that meets concurrently with the graduate level workshop (ENGL 850). Since it is a workshop class, students will write 2 to 3 stories of around 12 to 15 pages each, and will submit these stories to the class for workshop discussion. Students will write short responses and marginal manuscript notes for each workshopped story. Additionally, students will read short fiction by professional writers and also fiction theory. Students will also review literary magazines, about which they'll give a short, informal presentation. Texts: *On Writing* by Stephen King and *The Best American Short Stories 2018*.

ENGL 752: Senior Poetry Writing**Dr. Anderson**

Students will write original poetry and offer feedback on one another's work in a workshop format. Readings and discussions of contemporary poetry and poetics will also be included. Prerequisites: ENGL 452 (Advanced Poetry Writing) or permission of the Director of Creative Writing. Open to graduate students and senior undergraduates.

ENGL 771: Major Authors: Chaucer**Dr. Zepernick**

As England's first celebrity author, Chaucer played a major role in creating an English language literature of international status. No Chaucer course would be complete without the *Canterbury Tales*, so we will start there and then read two other major works: *Troilus and Criseyde* and *The Legend of Good Women*. Along the way, we will explore classical and contemporary sources for Chaucer's work and gain important insight into England of the late Middle Ages.

ENGL 772: Periods in Literature: British Romantics**Dr. Carlson**

This course is designed to explore the literature of the British Romantic Period (1798-1830). The course will cover the major novels, essays and poetry of the British Romantics and will include the following authors: Mary Wollstonecraft, William Blake, William Wordsworth, Mary Shelley, Dorothy Wordsworth, Samuel Taylor Coleridge, Lord Byron, John Keats, Percy Shelley and Thomas DeQuincey. The class will also discuss how this literature was affected by the major historic and cultural events of the early 19th century, and how British Romanticism was connected to the European Romantic movement.

ENGL 845: Problems in Teaching Composition**Dr. Judd**

This course is open *only* to Graduate Teaching Assistants in the Department of English and Modern Languages. A two-semester enrollment is required in the first year of the teaching assistantship. English 845 provides new Graduate Teaching Assistants a basic understanding of key strategies and techniques for teaching writing and provides applied and practical guidance on such matters as planning instruction, responding to and evaluating writing, creating writing assignments, conferencing with students, creating and guiding an effective classroom teaching and learning environment, and attending to the "nuts and bolts" issues of classroom practice. Students will conduct both individual and collaborative presentations based on required readings in the textbook and ancillary materials. Content varies by semester.

ENGL 850: Creative Writing Workshop—Fiction**Prof. Martin**

Creative Writing Workshop (Fiction) is a graduate-level fiction workshop that meets concurrently with the senior undergraduate workshop (ENGL 751). The course is open to all graduate students, presuming they have some fiction writing background, but grad students who are not in the Creative Writing fiction program should enroll at the 751 level.

Since it is a workshop class, students will write 2 to 3 stories of around 12 to 15 pages each, and will submit these stories to the class for workshop discussion. Students will write short responses and marginal manuscript notes for each workshopped story. Additionally, students will read short fiction by professional writers and also fiction theory. Students will also review literary magazines, about which they'll give a short, informal presentation.

Texts: *On Writing* by Stephen King and *The Best American Short Stories 2018*.

ENGL 875: Seminar—Nathaniel Hawthorne and H. P. Lovecraft

Dr. Dearing

This course will examine the connections between American Gothic fiction of the nineteenth century and American weird fiction of the early twentieth century through both historical and formalist lenses. While a number of Gothic and weird authors will be explored, the bulk of the course will be devoted to the work of Nathaniel Hawthorne and H. P. Lovecraft in an effort to interrogate America's shifting views on human morality. Students should expect to make multiple presentations to the class and complete an in-depth seminar paper.