PROGRAM OF STUDY

The undergraduate program in English Language and Literature provides students with the opportunity to intensively study works of literature originally written in English. Courses address fundamental questions about topics such as the status of literature within culture, the literary history of a period, the achievements of a major author, the defining characteristics of a genre, the politics of interpretation, the formal subtleties of individual works, and the methods of literary scholarship and research.

The study of English may be pursued as preparation for graduate work in literature or other disciplines, or as a complement to general education. Students in the Department of English Language and Literature learn how to ask probing questions of a large body of material; how to formulate, analyze, and judge questions and their answers; and how to present both questions and answers in clear, cogent prose. To the end of cultivating and testing these skills, which are central to virtually any career, each course offered by the English Department stresses writing.

Although the main focus of the English Department is to develop reading, writing, and research skills, the value of bringing a range of disciplinary perspectives to bear on the works studied is also recognized. Besides offering a wide variety of courses in English, the English Department encourages students to integrate the intellectual concerns of other fields into their study of literature. This is done by permitting up to three courses outside the English Department to be counted as part of the major if a student can demonstrate the relevance of these courses to his or her program of study. Those interested in creative writing should see Creative Writing below.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

The Department of English requires a total of 13 courses: 11 courses taken within the Department of English and two language courses beyond the College requirement or their equivalent as outlined under the Language Requirement section below, as well as a statement of academic concentration within the major to be submitted by the end of the third week of Spring Quarter of a student’s third year. The program presupposes the completion of the general education requirement in the humanities (or its equivalent), in which basic training is provided in the methods, problems, and disciplines of humanistic study.

Language Requirement

Because literary study itself attends to language and is enriched by some knowledge of other cultural expressions, the major in English requires students to extend their work in a language other than English beyond the level required of all College students. All students must complete one of the following:

- Two quarters of study at the second-year level in a language other than English;
- Two quarters of course work outside the English Department in literature originally written in a language other than English*;
- Two quarters of a computer language as outlined below;
- Two quarters of ENGL electives, if the student has a language placement of 20300-level or higher.
- One quarter of ENGL 29900 Independent BA Paper Preparation and one quarter of the previously listed foreign language requirement courses, as long as the student is completing a BA Project. Please note that a course cannot count for both the language requirement and the English electives.

* Students should consult the Director of Undergraduate Studies or the Student Affairs Administrator for a list of courses that would fulfill this requirement.

NOTE: If students have placed into a language’s 20200-level course, they should take the course they have tested into and will be able to substitute an ENGL elective for the second language course. Students who place into a language course beyond 20200 (that is, the third course of the intermediate level, or above) can petition for the previous sequences to complete the language requirement. All students should set up an appointment with the Student Affairs Administrator to go through the English department language petition process. Please note that language back credit is not permitted. Students who petition out of the language distribution requirement must still take 13 courses in total for the English major. An approved petition enables them to count ENGL electives towards the language distribution requirement.

Students may take two courses in an advanced computer language. As of Autumn 2013, the following course combinations may be taken to satisfy the language requirement:

- CMSC 12100-12200 Computer Science with Applications I-II,
- CMSC 15100-15200 Introduction to Computer Science I-II, or
- CMSC 16100-16200 Honors Introduction to Computer Science I-II.
Course Distribution Requirements

The major in English requires at least 11 departmental courses. Students may substitute up to three courses from departments outside English with the permission of the Director of Undergraduate Studies. Departmental courses should be distributed among the following:

Genre Fundamentals Requirement

Early on, students are required to take at least one of our three genre fundamentals courses (fiction, poetry, or drama), all of which introduce students to techniques for formal analysis and close reading. Alternatively, one course from the "Approaches to Theater" sequence (ENGL 10950 Approaches to Theater I: Ancient to Renaissance or ENGL 10951 Approaches to Theater II: Late 17th Century to the Present) may be taken to fulfill this requirement. NOTE: ENGL 10800 Introduction to Film Analysis does NOT satisfy the genre fundamentals requirement and may only be used as an elective. Please note that the genre fundamentals requirement was previously referred to as the "gateway" requirement in earlier editions of the program's College Catalog page.

One English genre fundamentals (poetry, fiction, drama) or "Approaches to Theater" course

Genre Requirement

Because an understanding of literature demands sensitivity to various conventions and genres, students are required to take at least one course in each of the genres of fiction, poetry, and drama (one of these courses may be one of the genre fundamentals courses above).

One English course in fiction
One English course in poetry
One English course in drama

Period Requirement

Reading and understanding works written in different historical periods require skills and historical information that contemporary works do not require. Students are accordingly asked to study a variety of historical periods in order to develop their abilities as readers, to discover areas of literature that they might not otherwise explore, and to develop their knowledge of literary history. To meet the period requirement in English, students should take at least one course in each of the following:

One English course in literature written before 1650
One English course in literature written between 1650 and 1830
One English course in literature written between 1830 and 1990

One English course in literary or critical theory. Courses fulfilling this requirement are designated in our course listings.

NOTE: Many courses satisfy several requirements. For example, a genre fundamentals course could also satisfy a genre requirement, or a course on Chaucer could satisfy both the genre requirement for poetry and the pre-1650 requirement. The description for each English course includes the distribution areas the course is eligible to satisfy. For details about the requirements met by specific courses, students should consult the Student Affairs Administrator.

Statement of Concentration in the Major

The purpose of the statement of concentration in the major is to help students organize and give coherence to their individual program of study. By the end of the third week in Spring Quarter of their third year, students should submit their one-to-two-page statement to their departmental advisor and the Student Affairs Assistant outlining their emerging scholarly interests. Current majors should please visit the English Department website (http://english.uchicago.edu/undergrad/undergrad-requirements/#Cluster) for more information regarding this requirement.

Electives

Electives make up a total of 11 courses. These may include:

Seminars in Research and Criticism

These courses examine different topics and change from year to year. All seminars focus on the analytical, research, and bibliographic skills necessary for producing a substantial seminar paper (around 15–20 pages). They are particularly recommended for those wishing to pursue graduate studies in English, those who wish to write a strong critical BA paper, or those interested in research methods in English.

Makers Seminars
These courses culminate in a final project that can take a variety of forms beyond the research paper.

For updated course information, visit english.uchicago.edu/courses (http://english.uchicago.edu/courses/). For required student forms, visit english.uchicago.edu/undergraduate/current-students (https://english.uchicago.edu/undergraduate/current-students/).

BA Project

The BA Project is an optional component of the English major, but students who wish to be considered for departmental honors must submit a Critical BA Project.

All BA writers must attend a mandatory research info session, which will be held towards the end of Spring Quarter of their third year. The session will prepare students for the preliminary work they will complete for their project during the summer before their fourth year. The student is required to work on an approved topic over the course of the fourth year of study and to submit a final version to the Director of Undergraduate Studies that has been critiqued by both a faculty advisor and a graduate student preceptor and has gone through revisions based on this feedback and guidance.

Students who wish to use the BA Project in English to meet the same requirement in another major should discuss their proposals with both Directors of Undergraduate Studies no later than the end of their third year. A consent form, to be signed by both departments, is available from the College advising office. It must be completed and returned to the student’s College adviser by the end of Autumn Quarter of the student's year of graduation.

The BA Project may develop from a paper written in an earlier course or from independent research. Students who wish to complete a BA Project must submit a proposal (available on the English Department website (https://english.uchicago.edu/undergraduate/current-students/)) by the end of Spring Quarter of their third year. On this form, they identify a faculty member who will serve as their project advisor.

Students work on their BA Project over three quarters. Prior to the Autumn Quarter of their fourth year, students will be assigned a graduate student preceptor who will help them develop pieces of their project and suggest revisions. Over Autumn Quarter, students will attend a series of mandatory colloquia led by the preceptors to prepare them for the upcoming quarter when the bulk of the writing occurs. In the Winter and Spring Quarters, students will continue to meet with their preceptors and will also consult with their individual faculty advisor.

In consultation with the faculty advisor and graduate preceptor, students submit a near-final draft of their paper by the end of week two of Spring Quarter. By the beginning of the fourth week, students submit the final version of their project to their preceptor, faculty advisor, and the Student Affairs Assistant.

Students may elect to register for the BA Project Preparation Course (ENGL 29900) for one quarter credit. Note that the grade for this course is on work toward the BA Project and is normally submitted in Spring Quarter even when the course has been taken in an earlier quarter. See Reading Courses for other information.

Honors

Completion of a BA Project does not guarantee a recommendation for departmental honors. For honors candidacy, a student must have at least a 3.25 grade point average overall and a 3.6 GPA in the major (grades received for transfer credit courses are not included into this calculation).

To be eligible for honors, a student’s BA Project must be judged to be of the highest quality by the graduate student preceptor, faculty advisor, and Director of Undergraduate Studies. Honors recommendations are made to the Master of the Humanities Collegiate Division by the department and it is the Master of the Humanities Collegiate Division who makes the final decision.

SUMMARY OF REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MAJOR

The Department of English requires a total of 13 courses: 11 courses taken within the Department of English and two language courses or their equivalent as outlined under the Language Requirement section, as well as a statement of concentration in the major to be submitted by the end of the third week of Spring Quarter of a student's third year. By Winter Quarter of their third year, students must also meet with the Student Affairs Assistant to review their English Requirements Worksheet.

Two quarters of study at the second-year level in a language other than English

| or two quarters of course work outside the English Department in literature originally written in a language other than English |
| or two quarters of a computer language |
| or two quarters of ENGL electives, if the student has a language placement of 20300-level or higher |
| or one quarter of ENGL 29900 Independent Paper Preparation and one of the previously listed foreign language requirement courses |

A total of 11 additional English courses is required to meet the distribution requirements of the major (one course may satisfy more than one requirement):
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>One genre fundamentals course or &quot;Approaches to Theater&quot; course</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One English course in fiction</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One English course in poetry</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One English course in drama</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One English course in literature written before 1650</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One English course in literature written between 1650 and 1830</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One English course in literature written between 1830 and 1990</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One English course in literary or critical theory</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One to seven English electives (may include ENGL 29900)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Statement of Concentration in the Major**

* The Statement of Concentration in the Major must be submitted by the end of the third week of Spring Quarter of a student’s third year. This requirement is worth 000 units. See the section Statement of Concentration in the Major above for details.

**Courses Outside the Department Taken for Program Credit**

A maximum of three courses outside the Department of English may count toward the total number of courses required by the major. The student, after discussion with the Student Affairs Assistant, may submit a petition for course approval to the Director of Undergraduate Studies before taking courses outside the English Department for credit toward the major. Such courses may be selected from related areas in the University (history, philosophy, religious studies, social sciences, etc.) or they may be taken from a study abroad program.

Four total Creative Writing (CRWR) courses may be counted toward the elective requirement without a petition. However, students double majoring in English and Creative Writing must adhere to a different policy. Please see the Double Majors in English Language and Literature and Creative Writing section below for further details.

Transfer credits for courses taken at another institution are subject to approval by the Director of Undergraduate Studies and are limited to a maximum of three courses. Transferred courses do not contribute to the student's University of Chicago grade point average for the purpose of computing an overall GPA, dean's list, or honors. NOTE: The Office of the Dean of Students in the College must approve the transfer of all courses taken at other institutions, with the exception of courses taken as part of a University-sponsored study abroad program. For details, visit the Transfer Credit page.

### Creative Writing

Students who are not majoring in English Language and Literature or Creative Writing may declare the minor in English and Creative Writing. Students interested in pursuing these options should contact the Student Affairs Administrator for Creative Writing for further information. Please note that there is no minor solely in English. The minor in English and Creative Writing for non-English majors is the only minor available through the Department of English Language and Literature.

For more information, visit the Creative Writing website.

### Double Majors in English Language and Literature and Creative Writing

Students pursuing double majors may double-count four courses maximum between the English and Creative Writing majors. Students who double major in Creative Writing and English typically double-count courses to fulfill the Creative Writing major’s four literature requirements: one literary genre course (in a primary genre), one literary theory course, one pre-20th-century literature course, one general literature course.

The two research background electives required for the Creative Writing major can also be English courses, as long as the student observes the shared four-course maximum. Beyond the maximum, students may continue counting Creative Writing courses towards the English major, so long as the course is only counted towards the English major and not Creative Writing.

### Minor in English and Creative Writing

Students who are not English Language and Literature or Creative Writing majors may complete a minor in English and Creative Writing. Such a minor requires six courses plus a portfolio of creative work. At least two of the required courses must be Creative Writing (CRWR) workshop courses, with at least one being an Advanced Workshop. Three of the remaining required courses may be taken in either the Department of English Language and Literature (ENGL) or the Program in Creative Writing (CRWR). This may include CRWR Technical Seminars or general education courses, as long as they are not already counted toward the general education requirement.
in the arts. In some cases, literature courses outside of ENGL and CRWR may count towards the minor, subject to the approval of the Director of Undergraduate Studies for Creative Writing.

In addition, students must enroll in one of the following workshops offered during the Winter Quarter: CRWR 29200 (http://collegecatalog.uchicago.edu/search/?P=CRWR%2029200) Thesis/Major Projects: Fiction; CRWR 29300 (http://collegecatalog.uchicago.edu/search/?P=CRWR%2029300) Thesis/Major Projects: Poetry; CRWR 29400 (http://collegecatalog.uchicago.edu/search/?P=CRWR%2029400) Thesis/Major Projects: Creative Nonfiction; CRWR 29500 Thesis/Major Projects: Fiction/Nonfiction. Finally, students must submit a portfolio of their work (e.g., a selection of poems, one or two short stories or chapters from a novel, two or three nonfiction pieces) to the Creative Writing program coordinator by the end of the fifth week in the quarter in which they plan to graduate. Students will work with a graduate student preceptor to compile and refine their final portfolios.

Students who elect the minor program in English and Creative Writing must meet with the program administrator for Creative Writing before the end of Spring Quarter of their third year to declare their intention to complete the minor. Students choose courses in consultation with the administrator. The administrator’s approval for the minor program should be submitted to the student’s College adviser by the deadline above on the Consent to Complete a Minor Program (https://humanities-web.s3.us-east-2.amazonaws.com/college-prod/s3fs-public/documents/Consent_Minor_Program.pdf) form, obtained from the College adviser or online.

Students completing this minor will be given enrollment preference for CRWR Advanced Workshops and Thesis/Major Projects Workshops, and they must follow all relevant admission procedures described at the Creative Writing (https://creativewriting.uchicago.edu/) website. For details, see Enrolling in Creative Writing Courses (http://collegecatalog.uchicago.edu/thecollege/creativewriting/#Enrolling in Creative Writing Courses).

Courses in the minor (1) may not be doubly counted with the student’s major(s) or with other minors and (2) may not be counted toward general education requirements. Courses in the minor must be taken for quality grades (not P/F), and at least half of the requirements for the minor must be met by registering for courses bearing University of Chicago course numbers.

Summary of Requirements for the Minor Program in English and Creative Writing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Two CRWR workshop courses *</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Three CRWR or ENGL electives</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One Thesis/Major Projects Workshop +</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A portfolio of the student’s work</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Units</strong></td>
<td><strong>600</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* At least one must be an Advanced Workshop.


Minor to Major and Major to Minor

Student circumstances change, and thus a transfer between the major and minor programs may be desirable to students who begin a course of study in either program. Workshop courses (including Beginning Workshops) and one Technical Seminar may count towards the minor, but Fundamentals in Creative Writing will not. The Thesis/Major Projects Workshop will also function as a portfolio workshop for minors. Students should consult with their College adviser if considering such a change and must update their planned program of study with the Program Coordinator or Director of Undergraduate Studies in Creative Writing.

Sample Plan of Study for the Minor

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CRWR 10206</td>
<td>Beginning Fiction Workshop</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRWR 22110</td>
<td>Advanced Fiction Workshop: Exploring Your Boundaries</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 16500</td>
<td>Shakespeare I: Histories and Comedies</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 10706</td>
<td>Introduction to Fiction</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRWR 29200</td>
<td>Thesis/Major Projects: Fiction</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 10703</td>
<td>American 20th Century Short Fiction</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A portfolio of the student’s work (two short stories)

| Total Units | 600 |

READING COURSES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 29700</td>
<td>Reading Course</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 29900</td>
<td>Independent BA Paper Preparation</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
sojourn through the dream-geography of a fantastical London. This course may also involve site-specific field
China Miéville, alongside works of popular and avant-garde film, comics, and critical theory, to accompany our
collective fantasy. We will read writings by British authors like Charles Dickens, J.G. Ballard, Iain Sinclair, and
the real social conditions and mapping the built environments that mark the Big Smoke as an enduring site of
experiment? In this class we will approach London as a city of utopian wishes and Gothic nightmares, exploring
distinctly dreamlike modernity? What purchase do literature and art afford in the elaboration of this thought-
"phantasmagoria," but shifts the terrain of his argument to ask: what if London were seen as the center of a
it the "capital of the nineteenth century." This course follows Benjamin's critique of the modern city as a
form. (Genre Fundamentals, Poetry)
poetry functions as a distinctive medium for exploring the intersections of subjectivity, desire, power, and social
explorations, we will turn throughout the course to questions of gender, sexuality, race, and class, and ask how
poetry grapples with by way of its peculiar modes of encounter with those problems. To give some focus to our
explorations of the ways poetic signification works. We will practice slowing down our attention, noticing where
things get dense or strange, engaging with the play of poetic language and form, and articulating the questions
provoked by that engagement. Our aim is to become better at thinking through poetry: that is, both thinking
through the questions we articulate as we grapple with poetic language and form, and thinking about the topics
ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE COURSES
ENGL 10404. Genre Fundamentals: Poetry. 100 Units.
This course is an introduction to poetry by way of attention to poetry’s arts of condensation, its techniques for
producing complexities of meaning in small spaces. While our readings are drawn from a wide historical range,
they do not aim to provide a representative survey of English-language poetry. Rather, they serve as a series of
explorations of the ways poetic signification works. We will practice slowing down our attention, noticing where
things get dense or strange, engaging with the play of poetic language and form, and articulating the questions
provoked by that engagement. Our aim is to become better at thinking through poetry: that is, both thinking
through the questions we articulate as we grapple with poetic language and form, and thinking about the topics
poetry grapples with by way of its peculiar modes of encounter with those problems. To give some focus to our
explorations, we will turn throughout the course to questions of gender, sexuality, race, and class, and ask how
poetry functions as a distinctive medium for exploring the intersections of subjectivity, desire, power, and social
form. (Genre Fundamentals, Poetry)
Instructor(s): Mark Miller Terms Offered: Winter
ENGL 10405. Fantastical London: Literature, Film, Psychogeography. 100 Units.
In a series of classic essays, Walter Benjamin describes Paris as the dreamworld of modernity, crowning it the "capital of the nineteenth century." This course follows Benjamin’s critique of the modern city as a
"phantasmagoria," but shifts the terrain of his argument to ask: what if London were seen as the center of a
distinctly dreamlike modernity? What purchase do literature and art afford in the elaboration of this thought-
experiment? In this class we will approach London as a city of utopian wishes and Gothic nightmares, exploring
the real social conditions and mapping the built environments that mark the Big Smoke as an enduring site of
collective fantasy. We will read writings by British authors like Charles Dickens, J.G. Ballard, Iain Sinclair, and
China Miéville, alongside works of popular and avant-garde film, comics, and critical theory, to accompany our
sojourn through the dream-geography of a fantastical London. This course may also involve site-specific field
visits to archetypal London locations and an experimental research/psychogeography final project. (Fiction, 1830-1990, Theory)
Instructor(s): Cassandra Lerer Terms Offered: Autumn
Prerequisite(s): Admission to London Program (study abroad) required.

ENGL 10410. Renaissance Insomniacs. 100 Units.
The world is divided into those who can sleep and those who can’t,” writes French author Marie Darrieussecq in her 2023 memoir on insomnia, Sleepless. This statement emblemizes a totalizing brevilogue curiously common to literature on insomnia. This condition’s relevance to our increasingly sleep-deprived world is, indeed, increasingly clear. However, to what extent, and in what ways, should we consider its prevalence, and concern thereof, a new phenomenon? How might the history of sleeplessness illuminate the ideological contours of our contemporary sleep crisis? What, in particular, can analyzing various literatures of insomnia and sleep offer to this line of inquiry? Robert Burton’s Anatomy of Melancholy (1621) contains one of the earliest and most detailed descriptions of insomnia, reflecting the period’s rising concern for the profound necessity and vulnerability of sleep and sleeplessness. From Macbeth’s “murther’d sleep” to the “slumbrous weight” of Milton’s rest in Paradise Lost, this course takes a cross-genre approach to examining the literature of insomnia, seeking to uncover the insights yielded by literary efforts to process this uniquely debilitating state of restlessness and exhaustion. (Drama, Poetry, Pre-165)
Instructor(s): Andrés Irigoyen Terms Offered: Spring

ENGL 10420. Ecological Performance. 100 Units.
This course will investigate how performances of the past three decades have sought to understand, address, and redress climate catastrophe. We will look to work by performance collective The Sacred Naked Nature Girls, theater makers Marie Clements, Yvette Nolan, and Rachel Rosenthal, choreographers Jerome Bel, Radouan Mriziga, and Lara Kramer, artists Rebecca Belmore and Olafur Eliasson, among many others, in order to parse what tactics performance offers for reckoning with environmental collapse. (Drama, Theory)
Instructor(s): Fabien Maltais-Bayda Terms Offered: Spring

ENGL 10428. Medieval Desire. 100 Units.
In medieval literature, various modes of desire intersect in surprising ways: spiritual devotion unfolds through sensual longing, and personal pleasure intertwines with sacrificial love, producing structures of desire that are conflicting, disorienting, and not so dissimilar from our own. In this course, we will survey a range of late medieval genres to unpack the richly imaginative and experimental discourses of desire housed in fourteenth- and fifteenth-century England. Readings will include dream-vision poems like Pearl, where we will consider the overlaying of economic, domestic, and apocalyptic fantasies; to the hagiographical Book of Margery Kempe, where we will think through the entanglement of gender, embodied spirituality, and erotic encounter. We will interrogate how medieval texts trouble modernity’s construction of “sacred” and “secular” desire as constitutive opposites, coming up with our own terms to better describe the interplay between these categories. How do medieval texts blend seemingly different modes of desire—holy and profane, specific and ambiguous, linear and asynchronic—to construct, obscure, and defamiliarize their objects of desire? What claims to selfhood, language, and knowledge are made by these hybrid models of desire and the multiple meanings they allow? Familiarity with medieval literature or Middle English is neither required nor expected. (Poetry, Pre-1650)
Instructor(s): Kashaf Qureshi Terms Offered: Winter

ENGL 10430. Experimental British Poetics 1960-Now. 100 Units.
This class offers a survey of the Late-Modernist British poetry movement The British Poetry Revival and its afterlives. After WWII, in resistance to a perceived stagnancy in British verse, and inspired by many of the young U.S. poets collected in Donald Allen’s New American Poetry anthology (1960), young British poets collected around England and renewed British Modernism. Initially clustered around London, Cambridge, and some Northumbrian cities, the movement (dubbed “The British Poetry Revival”) has since grown to include the most innovative and vital poetic work written throughout the British Isles. Dense, loud, bombastic, aggressive: this vast corpus of work will offer students a view into recent British culture, economy, and politics, its world after the putative terminal decline of the empire, and its claimed “special relationship” with the United States. Its poets are now not just British, include among their number more women and queers, and are dispersed throughout the British Isles. This course will offer a survey of this movement from the 1960s to the present; reading will include its writing: from poetry to performance, correspondence to hallucinatory prose. Students will be asked to consider that poetry does not always look or feel the way we want it to, or the way we think it should. (Poetry, 1830-1990)
Instructor(s): James Cole Terms Offered: Spring

ENGL 10460. The Paranoid 60s. 100 Units.
This course will consider the function of paranoia, embodiment, and the parapolitical in Philip K. Dick’s oeuvre. (Fiction, 1830-1990, Theory)
Instructor(s): Josh Stadtner Terms Offered: Autumn

ENGL 10464. Narrating Neurodivergence: Autistic Rhetorics in Literature, Education, and Critical Theory. 100 Units.
This course intends to analyze the rhetorics used by (and against) neurodivergent thinkers and writers, while simultaneously tracking the co-formation of a classroom environment that is sensitive to neurodivergence
and the underexplored models of knowledge-building such an environment may produce. (Drama, Fiction, 1830-1990)
Instructor(s): Nate Crocker Terms Offered: Autumn

ENGL 10468. The Art of Criticism. 100 Units.
What does it mean to be a critic? And how do you write good criticism? In this class, we will study and practice criticism as an art—a medium of creative writing designed to provoke thought, offer ways of viewing the world, and leave readers entertained. Alongside pieces of criticism from various fields—literature, music, film—we will read reflections and manifestoes on the purpose of criticism, and reflect ourselves on the landscape of criticism today. Where in our own time is criticism practiced? Strung between rapidly changing media and academic worlds, criticism is widely seen as being endangered, and yet, with the past decade’s resurgence of small, lively intellectual and cultural magazines, others have claimed that we live in a golden age of criticism. We will try to make sense of this, while meanwhile taking ourselves seriously as critics: sharing with each other the work of critics we admire and writing our own critical essays. (Theory)
Instructor(s): Will Harris Terms Offered: Autumn

ENGL 10620. Literature, Medicine, and Embodiment. 100 Units.
This class explores the connections between imaginative writing and embodiment, especially as bodies have been understood, cared for, and experienced in the framework of medicine. We’ll read texts that address sickness, healing, diagnosis, disability, and expertise. The class also introduces a number of related theoretical approaches, including the medical humanities, disability studies, narrative medicine, the history of the body, and the history of science. (Theory)
Instructor(s): Julie Orlemanski Terms Offered: Autumn
Equivalent Course(s): HLTH 26020, GNSE 20620

ENGL 10664. Poetry and Cinema. 100 Units.
On the surface, poetry and film may seem to have little in common. But over the course of the twentieth century, many poets took a serious interest in film and engaged with it as screenwriters and critics, as well as in their poetry. Likewise, many filmmakers looked to poetry as a model for how movies could work; for some, poetry (not fiction or drama) was film’s artistic next of kin. This course takes a broad, multi-national survey of poetry and film from the 1920s to the 1970s. How did writers and filmmakers understand the relationship between the two mediums? What kinds of resources and challenges did each medium pose to the other? Poets on the syllabus may include Gertrude Stein, H.D., Langston Hughes, César Vallejo, Salvador Novo, Xavier Villaurrutia, Benjamin Fondane, Pierre Reverdy, and Pier Paolo Pasolini. Likely filmmakers include Charlie Chaplin, Buster Keaton, Sergei Eisenstein, Dudley Murphy, Kenneth Macpherson, Fernando de Fuentes, Maya Deren, Jean Cocteau, Kenneth Anger, and Stan Brakhage. (All texts will be in English; films will be screened with English subtitles. The course will include weekly film screenings outside of regular class meetings.) (Poetry, 1830-1990).
Instructor(s): Jack Chelgren Terms Offered: Autumn
Equivalent Course(s): CMST 10664

ENGL 10709. Genre Fundamentals: Fiction. 100 Units.
through the present, we’ll consider the various genres and material forms through which fiction has found audiences. We’ll ask: what have those audiences wanted from fiction? What functions has fiction served? What work can stories do, and what pleasures do they provide? If fiction is’t true, what kind of knowledge or understanding can it offer? From the printing press to generative AI, how do fiction and technology interract? Focusing on the short story and the novel, we’ll consider fictions and theories of fiction from authors including George Eliot, Henry James, Virginia Woolf, and Toni Morrison. Our discussions will take up topics including point of view, the relationship between narrative and time, the powers of realism and its contraries, and the experience of suspense. (Genre Fundamentals, Fiction)
Instructor(s): Emily Coit Terms Offered: Autumn

ENGL 10800. Introduction to Film Analysis. 100 Units.
This course introduces basic concepts of film analysis, which students will discuss through examples from different national cinemas, genres, and directorial oeuvres. We will consider film as an art form, medium, and industry, and cover all major film types: silent, classical, and contemporary narrative cinema, art cinema, animation, documentary, and experimental film. We will study the cinematic techniques: mise-en-scène, cinematography, editing, and sound, and learn how filmmakers design their works. Films discussed will include works Orson Welles, Sergei Eisenstein, Shirin Neshat, Lucrecia Martel, and Wong Kar Wai.
Instructor(s): James Chandler, James Lastra, staff Terms Offered: Autumn Spring Winter
Note(s): Required of students taking a major or minor in Cinema and Media Studies.
Equivalent Course(s): ARTV 20300, CMST 10100

ENGL 11200. Fundamentals of Literary Criticism. 100 Units.
An introduction to the practice of literary and cultural criticism over the centuries, with a particular emphasis on theoretical debates about meaning and interpretation in the late 20th century and present. (Genre Fundamentals, Theory)
Instructor(s): Sianne Ngai Terms Offered: Winter
ENGL 12125. Living Queer: Experiences, Encounter, Affinities. 100 Units.
In this interdisciplinary seminar, we will explore representations and expressions of queer and trans lives across the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. Assembling a diverse archive of artistic works and cultural artifacts (fiction, memoir, film, lyric poetry, anthologies, activist ephemera) together with foundational works in the study of sexuality and gender, we will ask: How do hegemonic institutions, discourses, and definitions - from medical models of pathology to hostile bureaucratic infrastructure - shape the expressive forms available to queer and trans people? And how does the literary, artistic, and activist work of queer and trans people work in turn to reshape those very expressive possibilities? How can individual experiences of isolation and marginalization form the basis of a community or subculture? How are erotic creativity, imaginative life, and political action linked? Our readings will introduce a range of critical and creative methods - such as oral history, ethnography, autobiography, performance - that scholars and artists have used to theorize and represent queer life. Through short “micro-assignments,” we will try out these methods for ourselves. By interweaving the creative work of queer and trans people and communities with practical experiments in research and making, we will aim to broaden our collective understanding of what it might mean to “live queer.” (Previous experience in gender and sexuality studies is not required for this course.)
Instructor(s): Sarah McDaniel Terms Offered: Spring
Note(s): This course counts as a Foundations course for GNSE majors
Equivalent Course(s): GNSE 12125

ENGL 12131. The Gay Men's Novel. 100 Units.
This course focuses on the history, concerns, aesthetics, movements, and culture of the gay men’s novel, without the boundaries of time period, nation, or original language. The goal for students is to think in-depth about the relationship between sexual identity and narrative form, to learn about gay men’s literary lineages and movements, and to think through queer theoretical concepts through fiction authored by gay men.
Instructor(s): Gabriel Ojeda-Sague Terms Offered: Autumn
Equivalent Course(s): GNSE 12131

ENGL 12320. Critical Videogame Studies. 100 Units.
Since the 1960s, games have arguably blossomed into the world’s most profitable and experimental medium. This course attends specifically to video games, including popular arcade and console games, experimental art games, and educational serious games. Students will analyze both the formal properties and sociopolitical dynamics of video games. Readings by theorists such as Ian Bogost, Roger Caillois, Alenda Chang, Nick Dyer-Witheford, Mary Flanagan, Jane McGonigal, Soraya Murray, Lisa Nakamura, Amanda Phillips, and Trea Andrea Russworm will help us think about the growing field of video game studies. Students will have opportunities to learn about game analysis and apply these lessons to a collaborative game design project. Students need not be technologically gifted or savvy, but a wide-ranging imagination and interest in digital media or game cultures will make for a more exciting quarter. This is a 2021-22 Signature Course in the College. (Literary/Critical Theory)
Instructor(s): Patrick Jagoda Terms Offered: Autumn Summer
Equivalent Course(s): CMST 27916, MAAD 12320, SIGN 26038, GNSE 22320

ENGL 12460. Medieval Experimental Style. 100 Units.
This course focuses on medieval experiments in writing Middle English - an undertaking necessarily experimental in a period when French and Latin dominated literary production. We'll also consider some twelfth- and twenty-first-century responses to medieval experimental poetics, by reading the work of writers who self-consciously appropriate the experimental styles of Middle English (e.g., Robert Glück, Zadie Smith, Patience Agbabi, and Caroline Bergvall). We will read texts by medieval authors likely to include Geoffrey Chaucer, Margery Kempe, the playwright known as the “Wakefield Master,” and the author of The Owl and the Nightingale. No previous experience with Middle English is expected or required. (Pre-1650)
Instructor(s): Julie Orlemanski Terms Offered: Autumn

ENGL 12522. Chaucer's Dream Poems. 100 Units.
This course takes Chaucer’s three dream poems as the basis to explore the English poet’s experimental verse and the nature of medieval poetry in the later fourteenth century. As a class, we’ll test ways of reading and interpreting this philosophically ambitious and riddling body of writing. No previous experience with medieval literature required. (Pre-1650)
Instructor(s): Julie Orlemanski Terms Offered: Winter

ENGL 12704. Writing Persuasion: Health and Environment. 100 Units.
A writing-intensive course in persuasive techniques that influence opinions and attempt to change behavior. This year our focus will be on an issue that presents a challenge for persuasion theory: the environment. People are notoriously slow to change their beliefs and behavior on environmental issues, and persuasion theory suggests reasons why this might be the case. Environmental problems ask readers to weigh costs that affect one group against benefits that might accrue to someone else. They involve time frames ranging from moments (which are easy to think and write about) to millennia (not so easy) to geological epochs, a time scale so remote from our experience as to be opaque to the imagination. Environmental problems are complex in ways that make them difficult to capture in a coherent, emotionally compelling narrative. Many individually innocuous and seemingly unrelated environmental events can converge over time to produce consequences that are counter-intuitively larger and greater than their causes. This felt disparity between actions and outcomes can violate an audience’s sense of fairness, biasing the audience against a persuasive appeal.
ENGL 13582. Crime/Fiction. 100 Units.
This course will examine the life and career of John Donne, one of the most important and influential early modern poets and thinkers writing in English. We will read Donne's love poetry, his religious poetry, his satirical poems, and his progress poems. We will also read some of his prose works: Devotions upon Emergent Occasions along with selections from his sermons and polemical treatises. Throughout, we will engage with the history of criticism and scholarship dedicated to Donne and his writings. (Pre-1650, Poetry)
Instructor(s): Timothy Harrison Terms Offered: Winter

ENGL 13000. Academic and Professional Writing (The Little Red Schoolhouse) 100 Units.
Academic and Professional Writing, a.k.a. "The Little Red Schoolhouse" or "LRS" (English 13000/33000) is an advanced writing course for third- and fourth-year undergraduates who are taking courses in their majors or concentrations, as well as graduate students in all of the divisions and university professional programs. LRS helps writers communicate complex and difficult material clearly to a wide variety of expert and non-expert readers. It is designed to prepare students for the demands of academic writing at various levels, from the B.A. thesis to the academic article or book--and for the tasks of writing in professional contexts.
Instructor(s): L. McEnerney, K. Cochran, T. Weiner Terms Offered: Spring Winter
Prerequisite(s): Third- or fourth-year standing
Note(s): This course does not count towards the ISHU program requirements. May be taken for P/F grading by students who are not majoring in English. Materials fee $20.
Equivalent Course(s): ENGL 33000

ENGL 13512. The Future. 100 Units.
This course focuses on the future as imagined by American science fiction of the 20th century. On the one hand, we will pay attention to the scientific, political, and cultural contexts from which particular visions of the future emerged; on the other, we will work to develop an overarching sense of science fiction as a genre. We will deploy different analytical paradigms (Formalist, Marxist, Feminist, &c.) to apprehend the stakes and the strategies for imagining future worlds. After some initial attention to the magazine and pulp culture that helped to establish the genre, we will spotlight major SF movements (Afro Futurism, Cyberpunk, Biopunk, etc.) and major authors (including Robert Heinlein, Philip K. Dick, Ursula K. Le Guin, Samuel R. Delaney, William Gibson, and Octavia Butler). Finally, we will use this 20th-century history to think about 21st-century SF work in different media (e.g., film, radio, graphic narrative). (Fiction, Theory)
Instructor(s): Bill Brown Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): SIGN 26088, CCCT 13512

ENGL 13520. Introduction to African American Literature 1892-1974. 100 Units.
This course will examine the political considerations and the literary and critical texts that gave rise to the conception of, and the effort to establish, African American literature. We will seek to understand why the idea of a black literature emerged and the way that this idea shaped aesthetic and critical practices for black writers over the course of the 20th century. (Fiction, Poetry, 1830-1990)
Instructor(s): Ken Warren Terms Offered: Spring

ENGL 13570. Conspiracy, Theorized. 100 Units.
This course will explore the function of conspiracy theorizing in American politics and culture, focusing in particular on the relationship between the affective life of conspiracy theory and conspiracy theories’ function as vernacular epistemologies of populist political critique. Why have conspiracy theories been so popular in American culture from the founding on? Why do they have such renewed energy today? How have conspiracy theories built upon one another to develop an alternate history of America and the world? In asking these questions, we will track how these theories reproduce ideologies of race, nation, empire, and gender. (Theory)
Instructor(s): Christopher Taylor Terms Offered: Spring

ENGL 13580. Introduction to Asian American Literatures. 100 Units.
This is a survey course that introduces students to the complex and uneven history of Asians in American from within a transnational context. As a class, we will look at Asian American texts and films while working together to create a lexicon of multilingual, immigrant realities. Through theoretical works that will help us define keywords in the field and a wide range of genres (novels, films, plays, and graphic novels), we will examine how Asia and Asians have been represented in the literatures and popular medias of America. Some of the assigned authors include, but are not limited to, Carlos Bulosan, Maxine Hong Kingston, Joy Kogawa, Fae Myenne Ng, Nora Okja Keller, Cathy Park Hong, Ted Chiang, and Yoko Tawada.
Instructor(s): Mee-Ju Ro Terms Offered: TBD
Equivalent Course(s): CRES 13580, RDIN 13580

ENGL 13582. Crime/Fiction. 100 Units.
What is the relationship between plotting a crime and plotting a narrative? In this course, we will examine the genre of crime fiction but work to push against the borders of the category to include works on and discussions about the politics and poetics of confession, the affinities between testimony and fiction, and the racialization of crime. (Fiction)
Instructor(s): Mee-Ju Ro Terms Offered: Autumn
ENGL 13585. Introduction to Asian American Literature and Visual Culture. 100 Units.
This course takes cue from what Lisa Lowe describes as the "heterogeneity, hybridity, and multiplicity" of the term "Asian American" and considers a wide range of texts, images, and films ranging from early 20th century to the contemporary. What is politically and ideologically productive in employing "Asian American" as a pan-ethnic signifier? What are its shortcomings? And how do the parameters of this term alter in accordance with its specific historical and social contingencies? How do artists within different mediums negotiate their identity/identities through their chosen aesthetic form? To offer a fuller portrait of the capaciousness of how Asian American artists attend to their self-representation, this course brings together texts that are familiar to a broader public as well as those that linger on the fringe of institutional canonization, ranging from H. T. Tsiang's lesser known but delightfully off-the-rails The Hanging on Union Square to Maxime Hong Kingston's landmark autobiographical novel Woman Warrior; from John Yau's acerbic commentary on how Asiatic stereotypes proliferate in Hollywood media in "Genghis Chan: Private Eye" to Theresa Hak Kyung Cha's poetic vignettes that double as cinematic montages in DICTEE. We will also be looking at selected visual art pieces and films alongside literary texts, such as the works of Yoko Ono, Nam June Paik, and Wayne Wang's Chan is Missing. (Fiction, Poetry, Theory)
Instructor(s): Cecily Chen Terms Offered: Winter

ENGL 13590. Race and Time. 100 Units.
In this advanced undergraduate course, we will explore the relationship between race and time. How might a concept of time already be racialized? How does the racialized subject experience time? How might such a temporality be figured through literary narratives? We'll take up these and a host of other questions pertaining to the politics and poetics of time through a literary, theoretical, and cinematic study that asks us to think critically about schemas of time in the works of writers of colour. Some of the assigned authors and writers include, but are not limited to, Ted Chiang, Shani Mootoo, Toni Morrison, Octavia Butler, Jamaica Kincaid, Anna Lee Walters, Yoko Tawada, and Franz Fanon.
Instructor(s): Mee-Ju Ro Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): CRES 13590

ENGL 15002. Disability Now and Then: Bodies, Minds, Media. 100 Units.
What do saints' lives and The Midnight Club (Netflix, 2022) have in common? If they seem historically distant, both texts nonetheless show disabled characters in complex relation to their communities. This course looks at contemporary texts alongside Middle English ones to ask how medieval English literature can illuminate our present understanding of disability in media. While Middle English literature lacks our term disability, it is populated with figures whose bodies and minds are depicted as deviating from the norm. Through pairings of medieval and contemporary texts, as well as disability theory readings, we will examine how stories now and then 1) moralize bodily difference, 2) figure disabled bodies of intersecting identities, and 3) attempt to express in words exclusion from and participation in communal life. Questions we will ask: How do the portrayals of disabled characters reveal a society's definition of the normal (what disability studies terms the "normate")? Which stereotypes do literary texts perpetuate about disability, and can we produce readings that counter these harmful portrayals? Can barriers to access lead to creativity and imagination? Finally: what role do literary histories play in helping us understand medieval and contemporary conceptions of disability? Our work will culminate with a visit to the Newberry Library and a creative project. (Pre-1650, Theory)
Instructor(s): Jo Nixon Terms Offered: Spring

ENGL 15004. War, Culture, and Imperialism: Russia and the West from the 19th Century to the Present. 100 Units.
This course will survey literature shaped by the history of imperial conflict between Russia and "The West," ultimately with a view to better understanding our current geopolitical situation and mediascape. The course will be anchored in the nineteenth century, focusing on writing related to the Crimean War (1853-6) and the long contest between Britain and Russia for domination in Central Asia and India known as "The Great Game," but it will also provide a snapshot of Cold War cultural production, with an emphasis on ideological dissent among Black radicals and Russian emigres, before turning finally to our contemporary moment. (Fiction, 1830-1940)
Instructor(s): Kevin King Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): REES 15004

ENGL 16500. Shakespeare I: Histories and Comedies. 100 Units.
An exploration of some of Shakespeare's major plays from the first half of his professional career, when the genres in which he primarily worked were comedies and histories. Plays to be studied include The Comedy of Errors, The Taming of the Shrew, The Merchant of Venice, Measure for Measure, A Midsummer Night's Dream, Twelfth Night, Richard III, Richard II, and Henry V. Together, we will read some of Shakespeare's queerest and most delightful comedies in conversation with darker troubling plays that revolve around sexual violence, racism, nationalism, and political theory, and we will see how such topics put generic boundaries to the test. Valuing those classics for their timeless craft but also for the situated cultural horizon that they evidence, we will explore what it means to take comedy and history seriously. Three short papers will be required. (Pre-1650, Drama, 1650-1830)
Instructor(s): Noémie Ndiaye Terms Offered: Autumn
Prerequisite(s): General education requirement in the humanities.
Note(s): Course includes a weekly discussion section.
ENGL 16600. Shakespeare II: Tragedies and Romances. 100 Units.
This course explores mainly major plays representing the genres of tragedy and romance; most (but not all) date from the latter half of Shakespeare’s career. After having examined how Shakespeare develops and deepens the conventions of tragedy in Hamlet, Othello, Macbeth, King Lear, and Antony and Cleopatra, we will turn our attention to how he complicates and even subverts these conventions in The Winter’s Tale and Cymbeline. Throughout, we will treat the plays as literary texts, performance prompts, and historical documents. Section attendance is required. (Pre-1650, Drama)
Instructor(s): Timothy Harrison Terms Offered: Autumn
Equivalent Course(s): TAPS 28405, FNLDL 21403

ENGL 17504. John Milton’s Paradise Lost. 100 Units.
In this course, we will read Milton’s Paradise Lost, paying close attention to questions of genre, style, and poetics as well as the theological, philosophical, anthropological, and political commitments that shape its verse. Although we will focus on the epic itself, we will also consider highlights from the history of criticism and scholarship dedicated to the poem. (Poetry, 1650-1830)
Instructor(s): Timothy Harrison Terms Offered: Autumn

ENGL 17950. The Declaration of Independence. 100 Units.
This course offers an extended investigation of the origins, meanings, and legacies of one of the most consequential documents in world history: the Declaration of Independence. Primary and secondary readings provide a series of philosophical, political, economic, social, religious, literary, and legal perspectives on the text’s sources and meanings; its drafting, circulation, and early reception in the age of the American Revolution; and its changing place in American culture and world politics over nearly 250 years. (1650-1830, 1830-1940) In addition to the noted class times, there will also be discussion sections to be scheduled once the class begins.
Instructor(s): Eric Slauter Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): HIST 17604, FNDL 27950, SIGN 26039, LLSO 27950, HMRT 17950

ENGL 18108. Culture and the Police. 100 Units.
How do cultural products facilitate, abet, and enable the form of social ordering that we call policing? This course will explore the policing function of what modernity calls “culture” by exploring the parallel histories of policing, the emergence of modern police theory, and the rise of the novel. We will focus in particular on how both literature and the police emerge to navigate a series of linked epistemological and political problematics: the relation between particularity and abstraction, the relation between deviance and normalcy, and indeed that of authority as such. While we will focus on texts from the eighteenth- and nineteenth-century Atlantic world, students with a broader interest in policing are encouraged to enroll. Readings will include Aphra Behn, Daniel Defoe, Henry Fielding, G.W.F. Hegel, Louis Althusser, and Michel Foucault, in addition to historical documents including gallow’s narratives, newspapers, and early theorizations of the police concept. (Fiction, 1650-1830, 1830-1940, Theory)
Instructor(s): Christopher Taylor Terms Offered: Autumn
Prerequisite(s): This is a research and criticism seminar intended for third-year English majors.
Equivalent Course(s): CRES 18108

ENGL 18250. Irish Literature and Cinema. 100 Units.
Major works of poetry, fiction, drama, and film. In literature, the course ranges from Jonathan Swift and Maria Edgeworth to Seamus Heaney and Anna Burns, and, in cinema, from silent film to Neil Jordan and Lenny Abramson. Literature and cinema are intertwined through all the weeks of the quarter in various connections (including Hitchcock’s adaptation of O’Casey’s JUNO AND THE PAYCOCK). (Fiction, Poetry, Drama, 1650-1830, 1830-1990)
Instructor(s): Jim Chandler Terms Offered: Autumn
Equivalent Course(s): CMST 21650

ENGL 18252. British and Irish Cinema Since 1930. 100 Units.
We will be screening and discussing key films from almost a century’s worth of cinema on the British-Irish archipelago, including works of the early Alfred Hitchcock, Alexander McKendrick, David Lean, Frank Launder, Michael Powell/Emeric Pressburger, Joseph Losey, Ken Loach, Mike Leigh, Stephen Frears, Neil Jordan, Amma Asante, Steve McQueen, and Lenny Abramson. Some priority will be given to films with London settings and locations, such as Frears’s My Beautiful Laundrette. We may also look at London-based films by non-British directors. Sylvio Narraizoa’s George’s Girl, for example, or Antonioni’s Blow-up. Possible field trips include Ealing Studios, site of British cinema for much of the twentieth century, and Hitchcock’s studios in Islington, not far from our London Campus, where he worked before his departure for America.
Instructor(s): James Chandler Terms Offered: Autumn
Prerequisite(s): Admission to the London Study Abroad Program

ENGL 18600. Zizek on Film. 100 Units.
Slavoj Zizek has used film as the great expositor of his theories of ideology, perversion, sexuality, politics, nostalgia, and otherness. In this discussion-heavy course we will watch a lot of film from the directorial subjects of his main discussions (Chaplin, Rossellini, Lynch, Haneke, Kieslowski, Tarkovsky, von Trier, Hitchcock, and others) alongside Zizek’s theoretical writings on their film. The course examines why for the man who has been
called the "Elvis of cultural theory" film is such a perfect lens through which to examine social situatedness and intersubjective "aporia." There is no "paperwork" assigned for the course. The course is conducted seminar style and participants are expected to be vocal, prepared, and somewhat ornery.

Instructor(s): M. Sternstein
Equivalent Course(s): CMST 27201

ENGL 19205. Poetry in the Land of Childhood. 100 Units.
Cupboards and attics, nests and shells, the inside of a bush, the bottom of a rowboat: for the 20th-century philosopher Gaston Bachelard, intimate "fibred" spaces like these have a special relation to childhood-both as it is experienced and as it is remembered. Taking the lead from Bachelard this course investigates the construction, beginning in the eighteenth century, of childhood as a particular kind of place, one that might be imaginatively accessed through poetic images, rhythm, and rhyme. Our readings will come from the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries-that is, from the birth of children's literature to its "golden age"-and will take us from the nursery rhymes and cradle songs of early children's poetry collections, through William Blake's "forests of the night," and to the wonderland of Lewis Carroll's Alice books. (Poetry, 1650-1830, 1830-1990)
Instructor(s): Alexis Chema Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): GNSE 19205

ENGL 19500. Mary Wollstonecraft and Mary Shelley. 100 Units.
This course examines the major works-novels, political treatises, letters, travel essays-of two of Romanticism's most influential women writers. We will attend to historical, intellectual, and cultural contexts as well as matters of literary concern, such as their pioneering development of modes like gothic and science/speculative fiction, Wollstonecraft's stylistic theories, and Shelley's scenes of imaginative sympathy. (Fiction, 1650-1830).
Instructor(s): Alexis Chema Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): GNSE 19500, FNDL 29501

ENGL 19902. Virginia Woolf and the Bloomsbury Group. 100 Units.
A controversial art exhibition organized by Roger Fry, "Manet and the Post-Impressionists," provoked Virginia Woolf to write that "on or about December 1910 human character changed." The Bloomsbury Group, renowned for its role in vilifying Victorian culture and promoting English modernism, was no less famous for its own efforts to change human character: for its unprecedented understanding of aesthetics, economics, social politics, and sexuality. Taking advantage of our particular location in London (the neighborhood in which the group lived, met, wrote, and painted), this course will provide the opportunity to engage a broad spectrum of Bloomsbury work: the essays and fiction of Virginia Woolf; the art of Vanessa Bell, Duncan Grant, and Roger Fry; the macroeconomics of John Maynard Keynes. This engagement will unfold through different analytics (formalist, psychoanalytic, materialist), and with sustained recognition of two Bloomsbury institutions-the short-lived Omega Workshops, and the enduring Hogarth Press. The British Library and the Tate Modern will provide us with intimate access to literary and visual texts, and we will talk with contemporary writers about the cultural legacy of this coterie. (Fiction, 1830-1990)
Instructor(s): Bill Brown Terms Offered: Autumn
Prerequisite(s): Admission to the London Program (study abroad) is required.

ENGL 19960. Comedy from the Margins. 100 Units.
This course examines the centrality of normativity to our conceptions of funniness, reading theories of comedy alongside stand-up, sitcoms, dramedy, and romantic comedy. We will ask: in what ways do comedic formulas establish ideas of the "normal" in order to subvert (or perhaps reinforce) them? How does comedy about the "strange"-as the foreign, the queer, the excessive or the abject-reframe structures of sociality often taken for granted, forcing us to grapple with questions of citizenship and belonging, gendered and sexual norms, racialization and power? In addition to theories of comedy and joke theory, students will analyze theoretical works on race, gender and sexuality alongside popular television series, talk shows, and comedy specials. Possible texts and comics include: Chewing Gum, Fleabag, Insecure, Reservation Dogs, Ramy, Atlanta, Awkwafina is Nora from Queens, Julio Torres, Hasan Minhaj, Ali Wong, Jacqueline Novak, Dave Chappelle, Hannah Gadsby, and Ronny Chieng. (Theory, 1830-1940).
Instructor(s): Shirly Yang Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): ENGL 39960, GNSE 19960, CRES 19960

ENGL 19970. Organized Crime Fiction. 100 Units.
This course takes up cultural representations of organized crime in literature, film, and television as loci for thinking about intersections of capitalism, globalization, migration, violence, and family. Texts may include My Brilliant Friend, The Godfather, Infernal Affairs, The Wire, Eastern Promises, and Shark Tale. (Fiction, Theory)
Instructor(s): Jennifer Yida Pan Terms Offered: Spring

ENGL 20000. History of the English Language. 100 Units.
If you have ever wondered why we say, "one mouse" and "two mice," but not "one house" and "two hice," this course will offer some answers. We will study the historical development of the English language, from its Proto-Indo-European roots through its earliest recorded forms (Old English, Middle English, and Early Modern English) up to its current status as a world language. Now spoken by more than 1.5 billion people, English is a language that is constantly evolving, and students will gain basic linguistic skills necessary for analyzing the features of its evolution. We will study variations in the language (including variations in morphology, phonology, syntax, grammar, and vocabulary) and its development over time and across regions. We will also
examine sociological, political, and literary phenomena that accompany and shape these changes in the language. (Pre-1650, 1650-1830, 1830-1990)
Instructor(s): Benjamin Saltzman Terms Offered: Spring

ENGL 20140. London: From Industrial City to Financial Center. 100 Units.
Over the last two centuries, London has undergone two "revolutions," the industrial revolution and the financialization revolution, both of which have had significant impacts on the built landscape and residential patterns of its neighborhoods. Some of the materials we will look at are Charles Dickens's Oliver Twist, George Gissing’s The Netherworld, Mike Leigh’s High Hopes, John Lanchester’s Capital, among other supporting texts (on urban globalization, the poverty maps of Michael Booth). (Fiction, 1830-1990).
Instructor(s): Elaine Hadley Terms Offered: Autumn
Prerequisite(s): Admission to London Program (study abroad) required.

ENGL 20148. English Renaissance Verse and the Poetics of Place. 100 Units.
This course will explore sixteenth- and seventeenth-century English poetry by focusing on the poetic treatments of diverse places, including commercial, legal, and theatrical London venues, courtly palaces, aristocratic country houses and rural estates, churches, prisons, and imaginary landscapes. Poets might include Wyatt, Spenser, Sidney, Shakespeare, Donne, Jonson, Herbert, Herrick, Lovelace, Milton, Marvell, Philips, and Cowley. Genres might include sonnet, epithalamion, satire, pastoral, georgic, epistle, epigram, country-house poem, and ode. Trips within and close to London might include the Tower of London, the Whitehall Banqueting House, the Globe Theater, Hampton Court, Penshurst Place, and Knole. (Poetry, Pre-1650, 1650-1830)
Instructor(s): Joshua Scodel Terms Offered: Autumn
Prerequisite(s): Admission to the London Program (study abroad) is required.

ENGL 20158. Living (in) London: Human City, Urban Spaces, Metropolitan Encounters. 100 Units.
How have people inhabited London over time? And how are these varied forms of living reflected in the vast body of texts by writers and film makers who have made London their home? National capital and imperial metropolis, London is also a network of local neighborhoods in which communities have developed over time. In this course we will examine texts by an assortment of Londoners from the 19th and 20th centuries who write about urban sites of human interaction and encounter. Our course will consider London locations as places of compassion, repression, brutality, hospitality and rejection, resistance and compliance, friendship and love. How are these possibilities - both affective and political, personal and public - related to the various environments of the city? How are human relationships shaped by the specific forms of city buildings and institutions? And how have these urban spaces been impacted by styles of city living, changing populations, and the different communities that have inhabited them? In short, how do Londoners live together? Our texts will include Mary Prince, History of a West Indian Slave, William Blake, Songs of Innocence and Experience, Thomas De Quincey, Confessions of an English Opium Eater, Christina Rossetti, Goblin Market, James Berry, Windrush Songs, Derek Jarman, "The Last of England", Steve McQueen, "Mangrove", and essays by Michel De Certeau, Henri Lefebvre, and Ghassan Hage.
Instructor(s): Jo McDonagh Terms Offered: Autumn
Prerequisite(s): Admission to the London Program (study abroad) is required.

ENGL 20161. 21st Century Ethnic American Literature. 100 Units.
This class will read US novels and short stories by African-American, American Indian, Asian-American, and Latinx writers from the last twenty years to conceptualize the shifting categories of race and ethnicity, paired with critical and theoretical works in critical cultural race studies. (20th/21st)
Instructor(s): Megan Tusler Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): CRES 40161, MAPH 40161, AMER 40161, CRES 22161, ENGL 40161

ENGL 20162. Eighteenth-Century Black Lives: Black London in and Around Abolition. 100 Units.
This course will focus on representations of Black life and experience in literature published during the age of the British slave trade and abolition, as well as on more recent writing that seeks to imagine, honor, or reckon with the unrepresented Black lives of this period. During the first two weeks of the course, our reading will center on eighteenth-century writing. Primarily, we will focus on the work of prominent Black writers in London in and around abolition, including the life narratives of the formerly enslaved Olaudah Equiano (1789), Ottobah Cugoano (1787), and Mary Prince (1831), the published letters of Ignatius Sancho (1780), and the poetry of Phillis Wheatley Peters (1773). We may also read selections from white-authored abolitionist poetry, relevant legal cases, as well as the anonymously published novel, The Woman of Colour (1808). In our third week, we will turn to a number of recent works that look back to the eighteenth century in order to reimagine the past and present of Black life in British culture, or to reclaim a place in the national imaginary: Honoree Fanonne Jeffers' The Age of Phillis, M. NourbeSe Philip's Zangli, and perhaps a play or two (asmine Lee-Jones' Curious, Jackie Sibblies Drury's Marys S eacole, Giles Terera's The Meaning of Zont!). We will supplement our reading with selections from historians, cultural theorists, and literary critics (likely to include Paul Gilroy, Christina Sharpe, Simon Gikandi, Peter Fryer, and others).
Instructor(s): Heather Keenleyside Terms Offered: Autumn
Prerequisite(s): Admission to the London Program (study abroad) is required.

ENGL 20170. Experiments in Kinship and Care. 100 Units.
In this class, we’ll examine the notions of kinship and care, analyzing them both as conceptual frameworks and as concrete forms of being-together in human and more-than-human relations. Kinship and care are uncertain
Our contextual materials will engage the art of landscape, an influx of exotic and dangerously erotic flora, and will also address foundational and recent critical-theoretical approaches to the many “natures” of Romanticism. Our survey of British Romantic literary culture will combine canonical texts (especially the major poetry) with...
practices of collection and display, the emergent localism of the naturalist Gilbert White, the emergence of
geological "deep time," and the (literal) fruits of empire and vegetarianism. (Poetry, 1650-1830)
Instructor(s): Timothy Campbell Terms Offered: Winter

ENGL 2024. Water Worlds. 100 Units.
Taking its cue from a remarkable convergence of interest in recent and forthcoming cultural touchstones
like Avatar: The Way of Water, Aquaman and the Lost Kingdom, and Wakanda Forever (along with recent
scholarship on the cultural history of swimming; popular fascination with the aquatic ape theory of human
evolution; recent theoretical embrace of aquatic scenes or modes of criticism and being; and productive
conceptual distinctions between depths and shallows, fresh and saltwater, and the liquid and solid), this course
examines foundational and new aquatic scenes of imagination: literary, cinematic, historical, and theoretical.
(Fiction, Theory).
Instructor(s): Timothy Campbell Terms Offered: Spring

ENGL 2026. Subgenres of British Romantic Fiction: Gothic, Historical, Courtship. 100 Units.
Survey of three major subgenres of the British Romantic novel: Gothic, Historical, Courtship, likely including
work by Jane Austen, Walter Scott, Matthew Lewis, Ann Radcliffe, James Hogg, and Maria Edgeworth. (Fiction, 1650-1830)
Instructor(s): Timothy Campbell Terms Offered: Autumn

ENGL 2028. William Blake: Poet, Painter, and Prophet. 100 Units.
A survey of the major poetic and pictorial works of William Blake, centrally focussed on his illuminated books,
from the early Songs of Innocence and Experience to The Marriage of Heaven and Hell, and the books of the
revolutionary period of the 1790s: Europe, America, Visions of the Daughters of Albion, and The Book of
Urizen. We will also consider the later prophecies, Milton: A Poem and Jerusalem, along with Blake's work as an
illustrator of Milton, Chaucer, and the Bible. Blake's engagement with the political and religious controversies of
his time will provide context, along with his pioneering exploration of dialectical modes of thought and radical
forms of humanism (Poetry, 1650-1830, Theory; 18th/19th)
Instructor(s): W. J. T. Mitchell Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): ARTH 30228, FNDL 20228, ENGL 30228, ARTH 20228

ENGL 20230. Iconology East and West. 100 Units.
Iconology is the study of images across media and cultures. It is also associated with philosophical reflections on
the nature of images and their relation to language-the interplay between the "icon" and the "logos." A plausible
translation of this compound word into Chinese would describe it as "Words in Pictures, Pictures in Words": ##
The seminar will explore the relations of word and image in poetics, semiotics, and aesthetics with
particular emphasis on how texts and pictures have been understood in the Anglo-European-American and
Chinese theoretical traditions. The interplay of painting and poetry, speech and spectacle, audition and vision
will be considered across a variety of media, particularly the textual and graphic arts. The aims of the course
will be 1) to critique the simplistic oppositions between "East" and "West" that have bedevilled intercultural and
intermedial comparative studies; 2) to identify common principles, zones of interaction and translation that make
this a vital area of study. (Theory; 20th/21st)
Instructor(s): WJT Mitchell Terms Offered: Winter
Prerequisite(s): Enrollment in the course will be with the consent of instructor; it is open to students at all levels, but enrollment will be limited to 15. Students should send a one page statement of their interest to W. J. T. Mitchell (wjtm@uchicago.edu)
Equivalent Course(s): ARTH 20033, ENGL 30230, ARTH 30033, ARTV 20033, CMLT 30230, CMLT 20230, ARTV 30033

ENGL 20242. Structural -isms. 100 Units.
What does it mean to designate "structure" as the operative force in discrimination against categories of person-
as in appeals to structural racism or structural violence on the basis of gender? And how can we approach
this question by attending to aesthetic uses of structure and form, especially as these have been understood in
such paradigms as structuralism and recent literary formalisms? How do we read for structure, in reading
for racism and for systemic discrimination on other bases? We'll focus on intersections of race, gender, and
class (in U.S. contexts) as these categories have been reconfigured in the past half century or so. To explore
appeals to structure, we'll consider definitions of literary and aesthetic form, debates about structure vs. agency,
and questions of individual and collective action as mediated by institutions. Readings will balance theory
with examples drawn from fiction, documentary film, built form, and other media. Throughout, we'll pay
particular attention to problems of structure construed as problems of narrative, as we develop sharper terms for
understanding how discrimination proceeds structurally.
Instructor(s): Rowan Bayne Terms Offered: Spring
Note(s): Instructor consent required for undergraduates.
Equivalent Course(s): MAPH 40141, GNSE 25141, GNSE 45141, CRES 22141, ENGL 40141, CRES 40141

ENGL 20250. Means of Production I: Contemporary Literary Publishing (Books) 100 Units.
This course will introduce students to the aesthetic criteria, cultural and institutional infrastructures, and
collaborative practices of literary evaluation in the making of contemporary American poetry. How does a
manuscript of poetry 'make it' onto the list of a literary publisher, and from there to the bookshelves of the
Seminary Coop? How do individual readers and editorial collectives imagine the work of literary assessment and
aesthetic judgment in our time? We will begin the course with a survey of new directions in Anglophone poetry as preparation for an intensive editorial practicum in the evaluation and assessment of literary manuscripts in the second half of the term. Visits with literary editors and authors will offer students opportunities to learn about the field of contemporary literary publishing. Course work will include reviewing and evaluating manuscript submissions to the Phoenix Poets book series at the University of Chicago Press. (Poetry)
Instructor(s): Srikanth (Chicu) Reddy Terms Offered: Autumn

ENGL 20252. Means of Production II: Contemporary Literary Publishing (Magazines) 100 Units.
How does a poem 'make it' into the pages of Chicago Review, or The Paris Review? How do individual readers and editorial collectives imagine the work of literary assessment and aesthetic judgment in our time? This course will introduce students to the aesthetic criteria, cultural and institutional infrastructures, and collaborative practices of literary evaluation in the making of contemporary American poetry. We will begin with a survey of new directions in Anglophone poetry and poetry in translation as preparation for an intensive editorial practicum in the production of literary magazines in the second half of the term. Visits with magazine editors will offer students opportunities to learn about the field of contemporary literary publishing. Course work will include researching and soliciting work from contemporary poets for The Paris Review. Note, "Means of Production I: Books" is not a prerequisite for this course. (Poetry)
Instructor(s): Srikanth Reddy Terms Offered: Winter
Note(s): 'Means of Production Books' is *not* a prerequisite for this course.

ENGL 20260. Housekeeping: Domestic Drama and Material Culture. 100 Units.
The theatre represents a new and wildly successful commodity in the early modern English market. Yet it is often kept separate from other fashionable goods of the period by virtue of its intangible form. This course overturns the orthodoxy that an early modern play was a co-imaged event and the early modern theatre was an "empty space" by attending to the Renaissance theatre's frequent recourse to household stuff. We will read plays designed for private performance, that use the fixtures of the household to build theatrical worlds. We will investigate dramatists who liken the playhouse to key venues of commodity culture, including the pawnshop, the Exchange (the precedent of the shopping mall), and the fairground. We will draw from Henslowe's Diary to recover the business of theatrical property-making and the allure of a company as disclosed by its holdings. All the while, we will question how the fiction of emptiness takes hold in theatre history, and how plays that depict a furnished world are relegated to second-class genres like domestic tragedy and city comedy. (Med/Ren)
Instructor(s): Ellen MacKay Terms Offered: Autumn
Equivalent Course(s): GNSE 22260, TAPS 30362, ENGL 40250, GNSE 40250, TAPS 20362

ENGL 20266. Coming of Age: Autobiography, Bildungsroman, and Memoir in Victorian Britain and its Empire. 100 Units.
In this course, we will consider the broad generic category of "coming of age" stories that characterized the literary writing of the nineteenth century. Across several different kinds of writing, a focus on the growth and development of the child into adulthood became an obsessive focus. We will read autobiographies by Mill and Martineau, Bildungsroman by Bronte and Elliot, memoirs by Dickens but also lesser known figures: working class autodidacts, women in childbirth, colonial subjects. We will, along the way, learn more about Victorian childhood, the emergence of developmental psychology, psychoanalysis, and the socio-psychological "invention" of adolescence. (1830-1990)
Instructor(s): Elaine Hadley Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): GNSE 22266

ENGL 20304. Medieval Romance. 100 Units.
Medieval romance is one of the main ancestors of fantasy and science fiction. This course examines the speculative work of fantasy in medieval romance's explorations of aesthetics, desire, and politics. (Pre-1650; Med/Ren)
Instructor(s): Mark Miller Terms Offered: Autumn
Equivalent Course(s): GNSE 21304, GNSE 41304, ENGL 40304

ENGL 20360. Shrews! Unladylike Conduct on Stage and Page in Early Modern England. 100 Units.
This course will move between three sites of inquiry to investigate the social and material history of an evergreen trope: the domestication of a refractory servant or wife. From rare book libraries and museum collections, we will track the common features of popular entertainments that traffic in this scenario. We will then bring our findings to bear in a theatre lab environment, where we will assay scenes from The Taming of the Shrew, The Tamer Tamed, and the City Madam. (Drama, Pre-1650)
Instructor(s): Ellen MacKay Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): GNSE 20126, TAPS 20360

ENGL 20422. Black Girlhood. 100 Units.
First popularized on social media in 2013, the phrase "Black Girl Magic" has expanded far beyond its initial use as a twitter hashtag. It can be seen on (a bunch of different objects and the cover of many children's books and poetry anthologies). However, the visibility of the phrase did not come without controversy. Some critics argued that rather than being an uplifting rallying cry for positive depictions of black girlhood, it instead reinforced dehumanizing stereotypes of the "strong black woman". This debate leads us to question: How do black girls tend to be depicted both popular media and in literature? How might these depictions differ depending on author, type of media, or social context? What do they say about the ways that black girls experience childhood,
gender, and friendship? To engage with these questions, this course will explore literary works including The Bluest Eye, Betsey Brown, and Abeng, along with television shows such as Lovecraft Country to examine 20th and 21st century depictions of black girlhood. We will also think with theoretical works of black feminism and black girlhood studies.

Instructor(s): Danielle Jones Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): ENGL 30422, GNSE 33167, GNSE 23167, RDIN 30400, RDIN 20400

ENGL 20458. Faeries, Demons and Alchemists: Science, Magic and the Supernatural in Early Modern England. 100 Units.

This course aims to explore the messy territory between the scientific, the magical and the religious in the sixteenth and seventeenth century. Readings will draw on scholarship in the history of science, by writers such as Frances Yates and Steven Shapin, and on period reflections on the pursuit of knowledge by thinkers such as Francis Bacon, Thomas Browne Margaret Cavendish and Robert Boyle, as well as representations of occult knowledge in the period’s literature. Readings may include Marlowe’s Doctor Faustus, Shakespeare’s Midsummer Night’s Dream, Jonson’s The Alchemist, selections from Spenser’s The Faerie Queene, and Bacon’s The New Atlantis. (Pre-1650, 1650-1830; 18th/19th)

Instructor(s): Sarah Kunjummen Terms Offered: Autumn
Equivalent Course(s): ENGL 40458, MAPH 40458

ENGL 20460. Renaissance Now. 100 Units.

This class will think about the reception of the Renaissance, in scholarship and popular culture, or from Burkhardt to Beyoncé. What is at stake in the term? What does it mean to periodize a Western cultural past in this way, or to be founding a Renaissance in the present? Readings will include seminal accounts of the Renaissance by thinkers such as Jacob Burkhardt, Aby Warburg, Paul Oscar Kristeller and Joan Kelly, as well as contemporary cultural objects ranging from the film Shakespeare in Love to the fiction of Hilary Mantel and work in the visual arts by artists such as Kehinde Wiley and Harmonia Rosales. (Theory, 1830-1990; 20th/21st)

Instructor(s): Sarah Kunjummen Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): MAPH 40460, ENGL 40460

ENGL 20464. The Lives of Others. 100 Units.

How much can you ever really know someone else? In this course, we take up the inscrutability of others through a range of narratives about - politically, socially, and geographically - distant others from the early 20th century. Texts include fiction, documentary film, and critical theory around transnationalism, contact zones and ethnography). Some of these texts meditate on the general problem of living with others. Others take on the limits of empathy, access, and friendship whether explicitly or in their formal arrangement. Specifically, we focus on works that engage with an ethics or ‘work on the self’ as a preliminary to having knowledge of others. We will be guided by primary readings that likely include Claude Levi-Strauss, Kazuo Ishiguro, Werner Herzog, Maggie Nelson, Amilav Ghosh, and J.M. Coetze. (Fiction, Literary/Critical theory; 20th/21st)

Instructor(s): Darrel Chia Terms Offered: Autumn
Equivalent Course(s): MAPH 40464, ENGL 40464

ENGL 20562. Renaissance Freedoms. 100 Units.

This course explores early modern debates about human agency across multiple registers: political, philosophical, religious, erotic. Texts include selections from the writings of Thomas Hobbes and Baruch Spinoza, William Shakespeare, Elizabeth Carey, Margaret Cavendish and John Milton. (Poetry, Pre-1650, 1650-1830; Med/ Ren)

Instructor(s): Sarah Kunjummen Terms Offered: Autumn
Equivalent Course(s): ENGL 40562, MAPH 40562

ENGL 20565. Postcolonial Aesthetics. 100 Units.

What do we mean by the ‘postcolonial aesthetic’? In this course, we read and think through the literary and conceptual resources that might help us reconstruct this notion - from Deepika Bahri, to Theodor Adorno and Walter Benjamin. Our goal is to attend to “the aesthetic” as an experience that reshapes subjectivity in terms of our relation to ourselves and others. By engaging with twentieth-century novels, memoir, and film, we consider how this postcolonial aesthetic might function. What habituated forms of perception or common sense notions does it seek to interrupt? What ways of sensing and living does it offer? Readings will likely include Ashis Nandy, Deepika Bahri, Theodor Adorno, Derek Walcott, Frantz Fanon, Arundhati Roy, and Jean Rhys. (20th/21st)

Instructor(s): Darrel Chia Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): ENGL 40565, MAPH 40565

ENGL 20566. Performing Skateboard Poetics: Style, Motion, and Space. 100 Units.

This course considers the social poetics of skateboard culture, with special attention to style, motion, and physical space. Co-taught by Kyle Beachy, Tina Post, and Alexis Sablone, the course will feature film screenings and panels on embodied style, narrative, time, and the built environment, along with skateboarding’s anti-scarcity and communal structures that both subvert and reframe capitalist competition. Students will produce a short performance work as the culminating project of the class.

Instructor(s): Tina Post, Kyle Beachy, and Alexis Sablone Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): AMER 20566, TAPS 20420
ENGL 20707. Dramaturgy: Theory & Practice. 100 Units.
This course is a deep investigation into the possibility of dramaturgy as intrepid and curious storytelling and the role of the dramaturg in building worlds with playwrights, inhabiting worlds with productions, and cultivating worlds with audiences and institutions. We will think across discipline about the methodologies that make dramaturgy a heuristic knowledge practice. We will think critically about existing genealogies, best practices, and innovations in the theatre industry. Most importantly, we will engage in our own civic-minded dramaturgical practice and how engaged, thoughtful storytelling might have impacts beyond the walls of the classroom and the theatre. This course can fulfill the Drama requirement in the English major.
Instructor(s): G. Randle-Bent Terms Offered: Autumn
Equivalent Course(s): TAPS 20705

ENGL 20720. Film and Fiction. 100 Units.
This course addresses three distinct but related critical problems in the contemporary understanding of film and fiction. The most general is the question of how we might go about linking the practice of criticism in the literary arts with that of the screen arts. Where are the common issues of structure, form, narration, point of view management, and the like? Where, on the other hand, are the crucial differences that lie in the particularities of each domain—the problem that some have labeled "medium specificity" in the arts? The second problem has to do more specifically with questions of adaptation. Adaptation is a fact of our cultural experience that we encounter in many circumstances, but perhaps in non more insistently as when we witness the reproduction of a literary narrative in cinematic or televisual form? Adaptation theory has taught us to look beyond the narrow criterion of "fidelity" a far too limiting in scope? But when we look beyond, what do we look for, and what other concepts guide our exploration? The third and final problem has to do with the now rampant genre of the "film based on fact," especially when the facts derive from a particular source text, as in the recent case of Spike Lee’s BlacKkKlansman? What has this genre become so popular? What are its particular genre markings (e.g., excessive stylization, the use of documentary footage of the actual persons and events involved)? How does fictionalization operate on the facts in particular cases?
Instructor(s): James Chandler Terms Offered: Spring
Prerequisite(s): Students enrolled in the course will be expected to attend screenings and participate in class discussions. There will be a written exercise at midterm (3-4 pp.) and a longer final paper (12pp.).
Note(s): (Fiction, 1650-1830, 1830-1940)
Equivalent Course(s): CMST 25820

ENGL 20750. The Adventures of Augie March. 100 Units.
Court Theatre has commissioned Pulitzer Prize and Tony Award-winning playwright David Auburn, AB’91, to write a stage adaptation of Saul Bellow’s novel of mid-century Chicago, The Adventures of Augie March. Students in this course will assist in the dramaturgical preparations for the Spring 2019 premiere of Auburn’s work, and in so doing acquire hands-on experience of the techniques involved in bringing literary works to stage. They will engage in close readings of the novel and its relationship to drafts of the script, examine how Bellow drew from his own coming-of-age experiences as an immigrant in Depression-era Chicago to create the character of Augie March, and seek out primary source materials at libraries and museums throughout the city to help contextualize the work for the director, actors, costume and sound designers. Guest lectures will include David Auburn, Court Theatre Artistic Director Charles Newell, and Dr. Peter Alter, Curator of the Studs Terkel Oral History Center.
Instructor(s): N. Titone Terms Offered: Autumn
Note(s): Attendance at first class is mandatory.
Equivalent Course(s): TAPS 20750

ENGL 21210. The Enterprise of Middlemarch. 100 Units.
Students will begin by taking up the Norton edition and reading the novel through; discussion will then proceed by re-reading (along with some other materials from that edition) taking up curious topics, e.g Eliot’s self-presentation of her authorial aims, some important fictional choices (e.g: why a provincial town? why set the novel in 1832? etc.). Then we will consider the complex set of plots and their relation to each other. Other questions: how does the book represent itself as a model for the novel as a genre? Where does it fit in Eliot’s career? “There will be unexpected questions. This is the sort of course in which it is important to follow where the class leads.”
Equivalent Course(s): FNDL 21210, GNSE 21211

ENGL 21212. Postcolonial Bildungsroman. 100 Units.
In this course, we consider the novel of subject formation in the twentieth-century, with a particular emphasis on postcolonial adaptations of this form. We examine how different instances of the genre play across tropes of aesthetic education, self-making, and nation-building. Readings will likely include Conrad’s Lord Jim, E.M. Forster’s A Passage to India, Olive Schreiner’s Story of an African Farm, and Tsitsi Dangarembga’s Nervous Conditions, as well as key critical pieces by Mikhail Bakhtin, Marc Redfield, and Jed Esty, among others.
Instructor(s): Darrel Chia Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): MAPH 40202, ENGL 40202

ENGL 21215. Hamlet: Adventures of a Text. 100 Units.
After a lifetime with Hamlet, I’ve become increasingly interested by the fluidity of the text: not only is there much too much of it, but there are also significant differences between the 2nd Quarto and the Folio—to say nothing of
ENGL 21301. James Joyce: Ulysses. 100 Units.
This course considers themes that include the problems of exile, homelessness, and nationality; the mysteries of paternity and maternity; the meaning of the Return; Joyce's epistemology and his use of dream, fantasy, and hallucinations; and Joyce's experimentation with and use of language.
Instructor(s): S. Meredith Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): FNDL 21300

ENGL 21302. Aftermath: Literature of Reparation, Redress, Refusal, and Change. 100 Units.
What does it mean to address oneself to, or attempt to repair, legacies of violence and harm? What theories, resources, and models of personal, psychoanalytic, legal, political repair are available, and what kinds of possibilities do they enable? Is repair even a possibility, or a useful framework, for change? This course tracks the question of repair through contemporary conversations and historical case studies. Reading works by Sigmund Freud, Melanie Klein, Eve Ensler, Saidiya Hartman, Olúfẹmi Táíwọ, Eve Tuck and K. Wayne Yang, we will track how the concept of repair and reparation has motivated political action, activism, economic decision-making, artistic creativity and interpersonal ritual. We will read poems, engage performances, and consider other rituals of repair, breaking, and re-making. In addition, we will read literary and activist material pertinent to historical movements for reparations, including works from the Redress Movement for Japanese Internment in Canada and the United States and ongoing projects of the repatriation of Indigenous archival and cultural materials.
Instructor(s): Bellamy Mitchell Terms Offered: Autumn
Equivalent Course(s): RDIN 31300, ENGL 31302, RDIN 21300

ENGL 21360. Gender, Capital, and Desire: Jane Austen and Critical Interpretation. 100 Units.
Today, Jane Austen is one of the most famous (perhaps the most famous), most widely read, and most beloved of eighteenth- and nineteenth-century British novelists. In the 200 years since her authorial career, her novels have spawned countless imitations, homages, parodies, films, and miniseries - not to mention a thriving "Janeite" fan culture. For just as long, her novels have been the objects of sustained attention by literary critics, theorists, and historians. For example, feminist scholars have long been fascinated by Austen for her treatments of feminine agency, sociality, and desire. Marxists read her novels for the light they shed on an emergent bourgeoisie on the eve of industrialization. And students of the "rise of the novel" in English are often drawn to Austen as an innovator of new styles of narration and a visionary as to the potentials of the form. This course will offer an in-depth examination of Austen, her literary corpus, and her cultural reception as well as a graduate-level introduction to several important schools of critical and theoretical methodology. We will read all six of Austen's completed novels in addition to criticism spanning feminism, historicism, Marxism, queer studies, postcolonialism, and psychoanalysis. Readings may include pieces by Sara Ahmed, Frances Ferguson, William Galperin, Deidre Lynch, D.A. Miller, Edward Said, Eve Kosofsky Sedgwick, and Raymond Williams. (18th/19th, 20th/21st)
Instructor(s): Tristan Schweiger Terms Offered: Autumn
Equivalent Course(s): Open to MA and PhD students; 3rd- and 4th-year undergrads

ENGL 21370. Ships, Tyrants, and Mutineers. 100 Units.
Since the Renaissance beginnings of the "age of sail," the ship has been one of literature's most contested, exciting, fraught, and ominous concepts. Ships are, on the one hand, globe-traversing spaces of alterity and possibility that offer freedom from the repression of land-based systems of power. And they are Michel Foucault's example of the heterotopia par excellence. From Lord Byron to Herman Melville to Anita Loos, the ship has been conceived as a site of queerness and one that puts great pressure on normative constructions of gender. At the same time, the ship has been a primary mechanism for the brutality of empire and hegemony of capital, the conduit by which vast wealth has been expropriated from the colony, military domination projected around the world, and millions of people kidnapped and enslaved. Indeed, the horror of the "Middle Passage" of the Atlantic slave trade has been a major focus of inquiry for theorists like Paul Gilroy and Hortense Spillers, interrogating how concepts of racial identity and structures of racism emerge out of oceanic violence. In the 20th and 21st centuries, science-fiction writers have sent ships deep into outer space, reimagining human social relations and even humans-as-species navigating the stars. While focusing on the Enlightenment and 19th century, we will examine literary and filmic texts through the present that have centered on the ship, as well as theoretical texts that will help us to deepen our inquiries. (18th/19th)
Instructor(s): Tristan Schweiger Terms Offered: Winter
ENGL 21420. Futures Other Than Ours: Science Fiction and Utopia. 100 Units.
Science fiction is often mistaken for a variety of futurism, extrapolating what lies ahead. This class will consider what kind of relationship science fiction might have to the future other than prediction, anticipation, optimism or pessimism. How might science fiction enable thinking or imaging futures in modes other than those available to liberalism (progress, reproduction, generation) or neoliberalism (speculation, anticipation, investment)? This class asks how science fiction constitutes its horizons, where and how difference emerges in utopias, and what it might be to live in a future that isn't ours. Readings may include SF works by Delany, Le Guin, Russ, Butler, Robinson, Banks, Ryman, Jones; theoretical and critical readings by Bloch, Jameson, Suviv, Munoz, Murphy, and others.
Instructor(s): Hilary Strang Terms Offered: Winter
Note(s): Email the instructor directly for consent.
Equivalent Course(s): MAPH 41400, ENGL 41420

ENGL 21644. American Muckrakers: The Literature of Exposé, 1900/2000. 100 Units.
This seminar examines the genre of American "muckraking," a form of journalism and fiction intended to expose social and economic injustices. We attend, in particular, to writers active in the years surrounding 1900, when muckraking narratives enjoyed great social influence, and then turn to the new crop of prominent muckrakers that emerged around 2000. In coining the term "muck-rake" in a 1906 speech, President Theodore Roosevelt linked the genre's aesthetic deficiencies to a potentially dangerous political impact: Its tendency towards "hysterical sensationalism" threatened to provoke a "morbid and vicious public sentiment" marked by cynical apathy. Though we may not end up agreeing with Roosevelt, the seminar picks up his emphasis on the relationship between the aesthetics and politics of exposé in our examination of muckraking media. We will discuss the narrative strategies of a genre often designated as "bad" literature, focusing, in particular, on the link between its purported aesthetic deficiencies-populism, sentimentalism, melodrama, sensationalism-and its political mission. Last but certainly not least, this seminar situates muckraking narratives in their historical contexts-what they hoped to expose, why, and what impact they ended up having. Texts in this course may include the work of: Upton Sinclair, Ida Tarbell, Jacob Riis, Ray Stannard Baker, Frank Norris, Lincoln Steffens, Barbara Ehrenreich, Eric Schlosser, Naomi Klein, Michael Moore, and Laurie Garrett.
Instructor(s): Agnes Malinowska Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): MAPH 41400, ENGL 41420

ENGL 21690. Empire and the Novel. 100 Units.
This course investigates how the rise of the nineteenth-century British novel is intimately linked to the expansion of the British Empire. Many understand that this empire was based on unfair trade relations, indigenous genocide, and the exploitative labor of millions, but it can be difficult at times to see how this atrocious history fits into the domestic and metropolitan realism of the novel. How does the practice of imperialism impact the conventions of domestic fiction? How are the novel's constructions of gender, race, and class related to the political status of colonized and enslaved peoples? Our focus will be to connect narrative form with the realities of imperialism and colonial rule, but we will also draw on other genres of nineteenth-century cultural production such as autobiography, visual art, and political essays in order to help us trace the sociopolitical conditions that made empire possible. Fictional readings may include work by Charlotte Brontë, Wilkie Collins, George Eliot, Olive Schreiner, and others. Non-fictional readings may include work by Aimé Césaire, Franz Fanon, Saidiya Hartman, Karl Marx, Mary Jane Seacole, Edward Said, Gayatri Spivak. (Fiction, 1830-1940, Theory)
Instructor(s): Rebeca Velasquez Terms Offered: Winter

ENGL 21692. Mapping Racial Formations of Citizenship through the Novel. 100 Units.
How is race central to the concept of citizenship? This course investigates the racial roots of the development of citizenship within nineteenth- and twentieth-century histories of slavery, colonialism, migration, eugenics, and miscegenation, with primary focus on the novel. To be a 'citizen' means to claim political belonging in a particular nation-state, but the status of one's racial identity complicates one's access to the rights and privileges that citizenship presupposes. In this course, we trace how the construction of race is integral to the varied meanings of citizenship's lexicon: individual and collective identities, kinship, self-determination, subjectivity, nationhood. Along the way, we will examine the ways that the novel makes visible radical forms of memory, affect, intergenerational forms of connection, and other practices that exceed racialized definitions of the 'citizen' and civic inclusion. Our focus will be to connect narrative form with the realities of racialized citizenship, but we will also draw on other genres of cultural production such as autobiography, visual art, and political essays in order to help us trace the sociopolitical connections between race and citizenship.
Instructor(s): Rebeca Velasquez Terms Offered: Winter

ENGL 21710. Rocks, plants, ecologies: science fiction and the more-than-human. 100 Units.
Science fiction worlds are full of entities more familiar and perhaps less noticeable than the aliens that are often thought to typify the genre. Rock formations, plants, metallic seams, plastics, crystalline structures, nuclear waste and oozing seepages are among the entities that allow SF to form estranging questions about what it means to be in relation to others, what it means to live in and through an environment, and what it means to form relations of sustenance and communal possibility with those who do not or cannot return human care and recognition. Such questions about are urgent ones for thinking about climate catastrophe, capital, settler colonialism and endemic
ENGL 21720. Science fiction against the state. 100 Units. 
Ursula Le Guin’s anarchist utopia, The Dispossessed was published 50 years ago, but its complex imagining of a whole way of life without law, police, money or sovereignty, and its investment in thinking that way of living in relation to environment, gender, freedom and work offers a science fictional horizon for what it might be to live communally in our own moment. This course will read The Dispossessed and other science fiction that imagines what it might mean to live against, beyond or without the state, alongside theorizations that may help us formulate our own visions of other possible worlds. We will pay particular attention to questions of environment and ecological relations, race, gender and social reproduction, and feminist utopias. We’ll also spend some time thinking about actually existing forms of living against the state (including blockades, encampments, and autonomous zones). SF authors may include Le Guin, Samuel Delany, Tade Thompson, Octavia Butler, Marge Piercy, and ME O’Brien and Eman Abd Elhadi. Other authors read may include Saidiya Hartman, Mariarosa Dalla Costa, Kim Tallbear, Fredy Perlman, Nick Estes, Kristin Ross, James Scott, Orisammi Burton, and David Graeber.
Instructor(s): Hilary Strang Terms Offered: Winter Equivalents Course(s): MAPH 41720, GNSE 41720, ENGL 41720, GNSE 21720

ENGL 21810. The Werewolf in Literature and Film. 100 Units. 
Human transformation into animals (and into wolves in particular) is a recurring trope in many cultures’ storytelling. Authors have used the story device to explore the nature of humans and animals, human fear and vulnerability, psychological problems and mental illness, gender and sexuality, social/racial hierarchy, marginalization, identity, and our own capacity for violence and savagery. In this course we will examine werewolves in literature and film from several cultures (French, English, German, Finnish, Blackfoot, Japanese) in English translation, primarily from the late 20th century onward. We will focus on how the aforementioned themes are used and developed in each work and the overarching patterns of werewolf stories. Students will write a final analytical paper or produce a creative project.
Instructor(s): David Delbar Terms Offered: Autumn Equivalents Course(s): CMLT 21810, CMLT 21815

ENGL 21815. Strange Lit: Estrangement and Literature. 100 Units. 
This course explores the genre of the strange, weird, bizarre and wonderful in literary works from around the world and across various time periods. In contrast to the voyeuristic and expected othering of the ‘exotic’, the course interrogates the strange as an aesthetic mode that estranges the reader and disturbs and upends our familiar and predictable worlds. Theorists have explored art’s ability to unsettle our automatized perception, interrogating our relationship to reality, the way we know things, and the basis on which we make assumptions. This course will trace how specific literary forms (like magical-realism, fantasy, sci-fi, miracle literature, comedy/dark comedy, and even scripture) evoke wonder and a sense of the strange. We will explore how these genres mystify and make strange things like the individual, society, modernity, the nation-state, the secular, economy, and more to unearth the myth-making inherent in processes of world-building, as well as in narrative. We will see ghosts in court, hallucinating nation-states, dead narrators, animated-inanimate objects as we move into the world of dreams, madness, and the supernatural in literary works from Iceland, Iran, Palestine, Japan, Egypt and more.
Instructor(s): Rana Ghuloom Terms Offered: Autumn Equivalents Course(s): CMLT 21815, CMLT 31815, RLST 26815

ENGL 21926. People, Places, Things: Victorian Novel Survey. 100 Units. 
Quarter Systems and the Victorian novel do not mix well, which is only to say that this course cannot aspire to a comprehensive accounting of the Victorian novel, or the myriad forms of the novel that emerged during Victoria’s reign (1837-1901). What it does seek to do, however, is give you some little sense of the Victorian novel’s formal and thematic range in a few of the uncharacteristically shorter novels of the period, and in the bargain-give you a few critical tools and concepts to better figure out what these novels are and what they may be doing. Critical approaches to the Victorian novel are as varied as the novels themselves, perhaps, but I’ve tried to give you access to some of the more recent interventions that centrally query character and characterization (people), things and the circulation of things, and location and spatialization (places). Jane Eyre, Hard Times, Lady Audley’s Secret, The Warden, Jude the Obscure, The Hound of the Baskervilles. (Fiction, 1830-1990)
Instructor(s): Elaine Hadley Terms Offered: Spring

ENGL 22200. Marxist Literary Criticism: Fredric Jameson. 100 Units. 
This seminar will provide students with an overview of Marxist literary criticism via the career of one of its most innovative living practitioners.
Instructor(s): Siânne Ngai Terms Offered: Spring
Prerequisites: Recommended: BA - ENGL 11200: Fundamentals of Literary Criticism
Equivalent Course(s): CCCT 22200
ENGL 2212. Special Topics in Criticism and Theory: Gender and Sexuality. 100 Units.
An introduction to classic texts in feminist and queer literary criticism. (Theory, 1840-1990)
Instructor(s): Sianne Ngai Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): CCCT 22212, GNSE 20134

ENGL 22352. Black Game Theory. 100 Units.
This course explores games created by, for, or about the Black diaspora, though with particular emphasis on
the United States. We will analyze mainstream "AAA" games, successful independent and art games, and
educational games. Beyond video games, we will take a comparative media studies perspective that juxtaposes
video games with novels, films, card games, board games, and tabletop roleplaying games. Readings will be
drawn from writing by Frantz Fanon, Noah Wardrip-Fruin, Lindsay Grace, Saidiya Hartman, Sarah Juliet Lauro,
Achille Mbembe, Fred Moten, Frank B. Wilderson, and others.
Instructor(s): Patrick Jagoda and Ashlyn Sparrow Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): CMST 22350, RDIN 22350, MAAD 12350, CMST 32350, RDIN 32350, CDIN 32350, ENGL
32352

ENGL 22360. Working 9 to 5. 100 Units.
This course will examine representations of labor and labor struggle in literature, film, and music spanning
the 18th through 21st centuries. Theoretical and critical readings will bring Marxist and feminist lenses to
the primary texts at hand, in addition to examinations of race, labor, and capital. Primary texts might include
Robinson Crusoe, Bartleby the Scrivener, Mary Barton, Blood on the Forge, Sister Carrie, Lucy, 9 to 5, Harlan
County USA, and Office Space. (18th/19th, 20th/21st)
Instructor(s): Tristan Schweiger Terms Offered: Winter
Prerequisite(s): Open to MA and PhD students; 3rd- and 4th-year undergrads
Equivalent Course(s): ENGL 42360, MAPH 42360, GNSE 22360, GNSE 42360

ENGL 22408. Trans Genres. 100 Units.
This course explores genres of writing and cultural production concerned with transgender life and politics.
Students will engage genre's relationship to gender, as they will read across memoir, fiction, poetry, and
criticism. (Theory).
Instructor(s): C. Riley Snorton Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): GNSE 20133, RDIN 20408

ENGL 22434. Extinction, Disaster, Dystopia: Environment and Ecology in the Indian Subcontinent. 100 Units.
This course aims to provide students an overview of key environmental and ecological issues in the Indian
subcontinent. How have the unique precolonial, colonial, regional and national histories of this region shaped
the peculiar nature of environmental issues? We will consider three major concepts-"extinction", "disaster" and
"dystopia" to see how they can be used to frame issues of environmental and ecological concern. Each concept
will act as a framing device for issues such as conservation and preservation of wildlife, erasure of adivasi (first
dwellers) ways of life, environmental justice, water scarcity and climate change. The course will aim to develop
students' ability to assess the specificity of these concepts in different disciplines. For example: What methods
and sources will an environmental historian use to write about wildlife? How does this differ from the approach
an ecologist or literary writer might take? Students will analyze various media: both literary and visual, such as
autobiographies of shikaris (hunters), graphic novels, photographs, documentary films, ethnographic accounts
and environmental history.
Instructor(s): Joya John Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): GLST 25310, CRES 25310, HIST 26806, SALC 25310

ENGL 22444. Arts of Life. 100 Units.
By foregrounding significant Enlightenment and Romantic configurations of the problem of the "arts of life," and
with a special emphasis on poetry, this course examines the mobile border between aesthetics and necessity in
the long eighteenth century moment and in our own. In The Arts of Life (1802), John Aikin surveys the means of
provision of food, clothing, and shelter in the Romantic age by means of a watchword distinction between those
arts either "absolutely necessary for life's preservation" or "conducive to comfort and convenience," as against
those "ministering to luxury and pleasure." The same idea memorably animates the aesthetic counter-tradition
running from William Blake's "arts of life and death" to William Morris's "lesser arts of life. In contextualizing the
problem of the "arts of life," we will resurrect productive historical thinking about an aesthetics that inextricably
inheres within practices "necessary for the preservation of life." We will also explore the enduring vitality of such
a notion in our own moment of ecological crisis and of casualized cultural arts (ostensibly marked by eclipsed
autonomy for art's producers, consumers, and critics alike), with particular focus on problems of design and the
affordances of form; on literature's evolving location among the "arts of life"; and on the present reinvigoration of
craft and design in popular visions of the aesthetic. (Poetry, 1650-1830; 18th/19th)
Instructor(s): Timothy Campbell Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): ENGL 32444

ENGL 22505. Seeing Islam and the Politics of Visual Culture. 100 Units.
From terrorists to "good Muslims," standards in the racial, cultural, and religious representations surrounding
Islam have fluctuated across U.S. media. How do we conceptualize the nature of visual perception and
reception? The history of colonialism, secular modernity, gender, patriarchy, and the blurred distinctions between
religion and racialization have all contributed to a milieu of visual cultures that stage visions of and arguments
about Islam. Hostility towards Muslims has not abated as we venture well into the 21st century, and many remain quick to blame an amorphous media for fomenting animosity towards the "real" Islam. We use these terms of engagement as the start of our inquiry: what is the promise of a meaningful image? What processes of secular translation are at work in its creation and consumption? Is there room for resistance, legibility, and representation in U.S. popular culture, and what does representation buy you in this age? We will pair theoretical methods for thinking about imagery, optics, perception, and perspective alongside case studies from film, stage, comedy, streaming content, and television shows, among others. Students will critically engage and analyze these theories in the contexts from which these works emerge and meld into a mobile and diasporic U.S. context. Together, we will reflect on the moral, political, and categorical commitments vested in different forms of media against historical trends of the 20th and 21st century.

Instructor(s): Rachel Galvin Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): ENGL 36210

ENGL 22930. Intro to Critical Race Theory. 100 Units.

Critical Race Theory (CRT) has recently filled headlines as it has become a hotly debated topic in U.S. political, educational, and media discourse. However, the tenets and thinkers that shape CRT tend to be left out of the conversations that dominate the media. What is this theoretical framework? Who are the thinkers who shape and contribute to these theories of the construction of race? What does CRT say about the relationship between race and institutions, such as the United States’ legal system or education? To address these questions, students in this course will read and engage with foundational texts of CRT by scholars including Eduardo Bonilla-Silva, Kimberlé Crenshaw, and Cheryl Harris. In addition to learning the key tenets of this theoretical framework, students will also use it to think across disciplines, institutional structures, and forms of media.

Instructor(s): Danielle Jones Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): GNSE 39610, REES 20020, GNSE 29610, FNDL 25311, REES 30020

ENGL 23002. Technê and Technique. 100 Units.

In European thought, the relationship between technê (craft or art) and epistêmê (knowledge) has long been a fraught one. Crucially, the practical knowledge associated with skill or art in making is often subordinated to more abstract forms of knowledge production such as mathematics or philosophy itself; and in the sphere of art, poets and critics often make a distinction between ‘mere’ technique and higher or unmediated forms of artistic expression. In this course, we will examine philosophical and artistic assumptions and arguments about technê, techniques, and technique by staging a broad conversation between poets and philosophers; and we will consider recent discussions of technê and the impact that modern scientific technology has on the nature of thinking and artistic making. Readings will be drawn from philosophers such as Plato, Aristotle, and Heidegger, and from poetic works ranging from ancient epics to Wallace Stevens and beyond. Final projects may include critical essays, creative projects, or creative/critical works.

Instructor(s): Ryan Coyne and Srikanth Reddy Terms Offered: Spring
Note(s): This course meets the CS Committee distribution requirement for Divinity students.
Equivalent Course(s): CRES 12900, RDIN 22900

ENGL 23120. Translation Theory and Practice. 100 Units.

This course introduces students to the field of Translation Studies and its key concepts, including fidelity, equivalence, and untranslatability, as well as the ethics and politics of translation. We will investigate the metaphors and models that have been used to think about translation and will consider translation as a transnational practice, exploring how “world histories” may be hidden within “word histories,” as Emily Apter puts it. In the process, we will assess theories of translation and poetry from classical antiquity to the present; compare multiple translations of the same text; and examine notable recent translations. Students will regularly carry out translation exercises and create a final translation project of their own.

Instructor(s): Rachel Galvin Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): ENGL 36210
ENGL 24240. Drama Queens: Women Playwrights in the Renaissance. 100 Units.
This course introduces students to the works of early modern female playwrights from England—including Elizabeth Cary, Aphra Behn, and Margaret Cavendish—and from Continental Europe (in translation)—including the French Marguerite de Navarre (Comedy ofMont-de-Marsan), the Italian Margherita Costa (The Buffoons), the Spanish Ana Caro (The Courage to Right a Woman's Wrongs) and the Mexican Sor Juana Ines de la Cruz (Narcissus), among others. In this course, we will read and think through the complex plays and lives of those brilliant authors through various critical lenses such as intersectional feminism, transnationalism, and premodern critical race studies. In this course, we will consider the memory of Windrush through the moving image, in Steve McQueen's 2020 anthology series Small Axe. Finally, we will examine the 2018 Windrush Scandal, in which at least 83 Britons were unjustly deported, in conversation with works like Hazel Carby's account of the intertwined histories of Jamaica and Britain, Imperial Intimacies (2019). Throughout, we will travel throughout London for museum and studio visits, food, and more. (Drama, Pre-1650)
Instructor(s): Noémie Ndiaye Terms Offered: Autumn
Note(s): For graduate students and advanced undergraduates.
Equivalent Course(s): FREN 24240
Prerequisite(s): Admission to the London Study Abroad Program
ENGL 23421. Transcontinental Romanticism. 100 Units.
In 1836, at the age of 26, Margaret Fuller began teaching the great works of German Romanticism to students at Amos Alcott's radically progressive Temple School in Boston. Fuller's passion for the German Romantics and their propagation in America is representative of the profound importance that the "American Transcendentalists" (Emerson, Thoreau, Fuller) attributed to German literature and its potential to shape American culture and values. In this course, we will explore the elective affinities between German Romanticism and its American counterpart, tracing the ways in which the two traditions mutually illuminate each other. Each unit will pair one major German and one major American text or artwork. Themes / pairings include: gender and mythology in Novalis' fragmentary novel Heinrich von Ofterdingen and Fuller's fairy tales; spiritual landscapes in the paintings of Caspar David Friedrich and the Hudson River School; slavery and abolition in Hegel's Phenomenology of Spirit and Thoreau's "Civil Disobedience;" exemplarity and individualism in Emerson's "Self-Reliance" and Nietzsche's "Schopenhauer as Educator."
Instructor(s): Simon Friedland Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): GRMN 23421, CMLT 23421
ENGL 24119. Literature and Citizenship. 100 Units.
What we think of as modernity can be said to begin with the birth (or rebirth) of the citizen. During the 17th and 18th centuries, revolutions in Britain, France, and North America sought to recast political society as a structure built upon social contracts and natural rights of the people rather than the divine right of kings. Yet the category of citizen was (and remains) exclusionary as well as inclusive, frequently deployed to mark those outside its boundaries and protections. During the 19th and 20th centuries, the constructions of race, gender, and nation continued to shift into new forms, and many literature of these centuries focus on how "the citizen" is conceived and reinvented into the present. This interdisciplinary, trans-historical, and transatlantic course will discuss how these tensions and debates influence literature and political discourse over four centuries, a breadth that will allow us to trace the concepts and critiques of citizenship as they have come to shape our contemporary world. Primary readings will include William Shakespeare, Tobias Smollett, Olaudah Equiano, Anna Laetitia Barbauld, Herman Melville, Frederick Douglass, Richard Wright, Miné Okubo, and Claudia Rankine. Secondary and theoretical readings will include Michel Foucault, Raymond Williams, Benedict Anderson, Ian Baucom, Lord Mansfield, C. L. R. James, Paul Gilroy, John Locke, Thomas Jefferson, Achille Mbembe, Emma Goldman, and Harry Harootunian.
Note(s): For graduate students and advanced undergraduates.
Equivalent Course(s): ENGL 43708, FNDL 26011, SCTH 46011
ENGL 24240. Drama Queens: Women Playwrights in the Renaissance. 100 Units.
This course introduces students to the works of early modern female playwrights from England—including Elizabeth Cary, Aphra Behn, and Margaret Cavendish—and from Continental Europe (in translation)—including the French Marguerite de Navarre (Comedy of Mont-de-Marsan), the Italian Margherita Costa (The Buffoons), the Spanish Ana Caro (The Courage to Right a Woman's Wrongs) and the Mexican Sor Juana Ines de la Cruz (Narcissus), among others. In this course, we will read and think through the complex plays and lives of those brilliant authors through various critical lenses such as intersectional feminism, transnationalism, and premodern critical race studies. (Drama, Pre-1650)
Instructor(s): Noémie Ndiaye Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): FREN 24240
ENGL 242306. Writing after Windrush. 100 Units.
Writing After Windrush" explores the legacies of Windrush in fiction and poetry, visual arts, and social movements, interpreting "writing" as a broad range of media and discourse. Beginning with Henry Swazy, Una Marson, and their leadership on the BBC radio show Caribbean Voices, we will engage with the creative works of Windrush migrants and their descendants: Trinidadian British novelist Samuel Selvon, Jamaican British dub poet Linton Kwesi Johnson, Guyanese British mixed-media artist Hew Locke, and others. To understand social struggle, we will study the life of activist Claudia Jones and her founding of the West Indian Gazette And Afro-Asian Caribbean News. We will consider the memory of Windrush through the moving image, in Steve McQueen's 2020 anthology series Small Axe. Finally, we will examine the 2018 Windrush Scandal, in which at least 83 Britons were unjustly deported, in conversation with works like Hazel Carby's account of the intertwined histories of Jamaica and Britain, Imperial Intimacies (2019). Throughout, we will travel throughout London for museum and studio visits, food, and more. (Fiction, 1830-1990)
Instructor(s): Kaneesha Parsard Terms Offered: Autumn
Prerequisite(s): Admission to the London Study Abroad Program
ENGL 24252. Black Quietude. 100 Units.
This course considers modes of quietude as they intersect experiences of blackness. What can be conveyed or contained in moments of stillness or quiet? Is black quietude a moment of universalism that transcends the determinations of race? Or do black subjects carry or project the experience of racialization into their spaces of quiet? Do we define quiet for the black subject on the same terms as for other racial categories? (Theory)
Instructor(s): Tina Post Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): CRES 24252

ENGL 24255. America’s Literary Scientists. 100 Units.
This course targets in on the entanglements between science and literature during the nineteenth and early twentieth century in America—a historical moment when these realms did not appear nearly as divided as they do now. In particular, we attend to the period's exciting developments in biology, which promised to revolutionize contemporary notions of human being. Our analysis of American fiction will center on the subjects and methods that writers adopted (imaginatively and often critically) from fields like evolutionary science, microbiology, and experimental psychology. But the course syllabus also includes American scientists who wrote fiction: What types of knowledge did they hope to produce in becoming literary? The aim of our inquiry will, in large part, be to examine the role of literature in shaping the significance of science in American culture, as well as the role of science in helping to build an American literary canon. Along the way, we will track the kinds of experiments in form and genre that such literary-scientific hybrids might produce. Readings may include works by Henry Adams, W.E.B. Du Bois, Charlotte Perkins Gilman, Oliver Wendell Holmes, William James, Silas Weir Mitchell, Mark Twain, and Edith Wharton. Theoretical and critical works will be drawn from the history of science, science and technology studies, and nonhuman studies.
Instructor(s): Agnes Malinowska Terms Offered: Spring
Note(s): Open to 3rd and 4th years in the College and MA students
Equivalent Course(s): MAPH 34255, ENGL 34255

ENGL 24503. 20th Century American Drama. 100 Units.
Beginning with O’Neill’s ‘Long Day’s Journey into Night’ through the American avant-garde to the most recent production on Broadway, this course focuses on American contemporary playwrights who have made a significant impact with regard to dramatic form in context to specific decade as well as cumulatively through the twentieth century. Textual analysis is consistently oriented towards production possibilities, both historically and hypothetically. ATTENDANCE AT FIRST CLASS SESSION IS MANDATORY.
Instructor(s): H. Coleman
Equivalent Course(s): TAPS 20110, ARTH 25885

ENGL 24510. Kawaii (cuteness) culture in Japan and the world. 100 Units.
The Japanese word kawaii (commonly translated as "cute" or "adorable") has long been a part of Japanese culture, but, originating from schoolgirl subculture of the 1970s, today's conception of kawaii has become ubiquitous as a cultural keyword of contemporary Japanese life. We now find kawaii in clothing, food, toys, engineering, films, music, personal appearance, behavior and mannerisms, and even in government. With the popularity of Japanese entertainment, fashion and other consumer products abroad, kawaii has also become a global cultural idiom in a process Christine Yano has called “Pink Globalization”. With the key figures of Hello Kitty and Rilakkuma as our guides, this course explores the many dimensions of kawaii culture, in Japan and globally, from beauty and aesthetics, affect and psychological dimensions, consumerism and marketing, gender, sexuality and queerness, to racism, orientalism and robot design.
Instructor(s): Nisha Kommattam Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): MAAD 14510, CMLT 24510, GNSE 24511

ENGL 24526. Forms of Autobiography in the Twentieth and Twenty-First Centuries. 100 Units.
This course examines the innovative, creative forms autobiography has taken in the last one hundred years in literature. We will study closely works written between 1933 and 2013 that are exceptional for the way they challenge, subvert and invigorate the autobiographical genre. From unpublished sketches to magazine essays and full-length books, we will see autobiography take many forms and engage with multiple genres and media. These include biography, memoir, fiction, literary criticism, travel literature, the graphic novel and photography. Producing various mutations of the autobiographical genre, these works address some of the same concerns: the self, truth, memory, authenticity, agency and testimony. We will complement discussions of these universal issues with material and historical considerations, examining how the works first appeared and were received. Autobiography will prove a privileged site for probing constructions of family narratives, identity politics and public personas. The main authors studied are Virginia Woolf, Gertrude Stein, James Baldwin, Vladimir Nabokov, Roland Barthes, Paul Auster, Doris Lessing, Marjane Satrapi and W.G. Sebald. (20th/21st)
Instructor(s): Christine Fournaies Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): GNSE 24526, ENGL 34526, GNSE 34526

ENGL 24528. Seeing Ourselves: Photography and Literary Non-Fiction. 100 Units.
What knowledge about ourselves can photographs provide? Can photographs change the way we see ourselves—collectively, individually? Photography has been around for almost 200 years, yet its dominance in our lives seems only to increase. This course examines photography’s influence on our everyday lives, particularly on conceptions and portrayals of the self. We will see how theorists have grappled with the phenomenon of photography, engaging the written word to address its conundrums, dangers, and attractions. With the help of
these theorists, we will question the promises that photographs seem to make about representing the world. The purpose of this course is also, however, to take seriously the affective, documentary power of photography. We will thus analyze the creative use of photographs in the non-fiction (or nearly non-fiction) of major 20th- and 21st-century writers (philosophers, critics, journalists, essayists, poets, novelists, activists). Photography will emerge as a productive medium for navigating issues of memory, identity, race, gender, authenticity, agency, publicity, and art. With keen attention to the different capabilities of writing and photography, we will explore the dynamics of self-expression, the ethics of representing others, and the politics of image-text depictions.

(Theory; 20th/21st)
Instructor(s): Christine Fournais Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): ENGL 34528

ENGL 24540. Islands and Otherness. 100 Units.
The island as a space of possibility - of discovery, of (re)imagination, and of otherness - is a concept with a very long history in Anglophone literature. Indeed, Britain's own archipelagic geography (a landscape unique among Europe's imperial powers) has often been invoked for a range of rhetorical ends. John of Gaunt's famous speech in Richard II uses the idea of Britain as the "scepter'd isle" as both a source of comfort (England as especially favored) and the foundation of critique (favor squandered). With the rise of transoceanic empires, writers throughout Great Britain, its colonial dominions, and other literary traditions imbued the symbol of the island with ever-increasing layers of meaning. Yet the island was also always already a location of anxiety, hostility, and liminality - of alternate cultural practices and systems of belief, of indigenous peoples who refused the claims of the colonizer, and where the meaning of Europe itself was destabilized in the colonial encounter. While eighteenth- and nineteenth-century European writers often deployed the island to think through the implications of empire for the metropole, anticolonial writers turned to the island as a site of resistance and recuperation. This transhistorical course will discuss the many significations of the island in metropolitan, colonial, and postcolonial literature as a lens into the conflicts and debates of imperialism.
Instructor(s): Tristan Schweiger Terms Offered: Spring
Note(s): Open to MAPH students and 3rd and 4th years in the College
Equivalent Course(s): MAPH 34540, ENGL 34540

ENGL 24655. Forgeries and Flippancies: Literary "Fakes" 100 Units.
This is a course on fakes, forgeries, hoaxes, and all manner of intentional anachronisms designed to forge fake pasts, with a particular emphasis on how invented texts and artifacts might impact contemporary society and the "post-truth" world. By engaging in weekly case-studies around four central authors (Samuel Constantine Rafinesque, Pierre Louys, James Macpherson, Thomas Carlyle), students will learn to describe and categorize different kinds of such "flippancies" and to articulate their political weight across time. Examples include invented poems from Ancient Greece, spurious Native American epics, forged ancient Scottish epics, and the like. Our study of the main texts will be accompanied by a look at other forgeries that have played a not so fake role in the course of history (such as the Donation of Constantine). This course is appropriate to undergraduates of all levels interested in critical theory, the study of premodern cultures in a political dimension, as well as contemporary debates about cultural appropriation.
Equivalent Course(s): CMLT 24655

ENGL 24951. Animals, Ethics and Religion. 100 Units.
Why are some animals considered food and others objects of religious devotion? Why do we treat dogs like family and kill flies without a second thought? Why do animals appear so frequently as metaphors in our everyday speech? In this course, students will explore these questions by reading texts featuring animals in literature, scripture, and theory, ranging from the Bible, Zora Neale Hurston, and Franz Kafka to Flannery O'Connor and J.M. Coetzee. We will bring these diverse texts together in order to investigate how animals illuminate religious questions about the relationship among humans, animals, and the divine.
Equivalent Course(s): MAPH 34528

ENGL 24960. California Fictions: Literature and Cinema 1945-2018. 100 Units.
This course will consider works of literature and cinema from 1884-2018 that take place in Oakland, San Francisco, Los Angeles, the Inland Empire, and rural California to offer a case study for everyday life and critical space theory. Beginning with Helen Hunt Jackson's Ramona and ending with Boots Riley's Sorry to Bother you, we will also consider how "the west" provides an opportunity for reconsidering canon formation and genre.
Instructor(s): Megan Tusler Terms Offered: Spring
Note(s): Open to MAPH students: 3rd and 4th years in the College
Equivalent Course(s): MAPH 34960, ENGL 34960

ENGL 25318. Literary Radicalism and the Global South: Perspectives from South Asia. 100 Units.
What does it mean to speak of literary radicalism? What are the hallmarks of a radical literature? And how does any such body of radical literature relate to the crucial question of empire, while also seeking to not be limited by that address? This course will explore the theme of literary radicalism through perspectives arising from South Asia. Over the twentieth century the subcontinent has been shaped through a wide variety of social and political movements: from anticolonial struggles to communist organising, feminist struggles, anti-caste mobilisation, indigenous protest and more, with their histories intertwining in different ways. We will start
with a consideration of some texts on literary radicalism from other parts of the global South by authors such as Julia de Burgos and Ngugi Wa Thiong'o, and then move through a detailed discussion of South Asian texts every week to examine particular aspects of literary style and history. We will study texts from a variety of subcontinental languages (in translation, unless originally in English), and across different forms - poetry, short fiction, children’s literature, novels, a memoir, a graphic novel and a documentary film on a poet.

Instructor(s): Abhishek Bhattacharyya Terms Offered: Spring
Note(s): No prior training in South Asia or literature courses is a requirement.
Equivalent Course(s): SALC 25318

ENGL 25320. Debate, Dissent, Deviate: Literary Modernities in South Asia. 100 Units.

This class introduces students to the modernist movement in post-independence South Asia. Modernism will be understood here as a radical experimental movement in literature, film, photography and other arts, primarily aimed at critiquing mainstream narratives of history and culture. Given its wide scope, we will analyze a variety of texts over the ten-week duration of the class. These include novels, short stories, manifestos, essays, photographs, and films. The chronological span of the class is from the 1930s to the 1970s. Our aim will be to understand the diverse meanings of modernism as we go through our weekly readings. Was it a global phenomenon that was adopted blindly by postcolonial artists? Or were there specifically South Asian innovations that enable us to think about the local story as formative of global modernism? What bearings do such speculations have on genre, gender, and medium, as well as on politics? I will help situate the readings of each week in their specific literary and political contexts. Students will be able to evaluate, experiment with, and analyze various forms of modernist literary expressions emerging out of South Asia. This class will provide them with critical tools to interpret, assess, compare, and contrast cultural histories of non-Western locations and peoples, with an eye for literary radicalism. No prior knowledge of any South Asian history or language is necessary.

Instructor(s): S. Dasgupta Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): SALC 25320, GNSE 25320, GLST 25132, SALC 35320, CRES 25320, KNOW 25320

ENGL 25945. Digital Storytelling. 100 Units.

New media have changed the way that we tell and process stories. Over the last few decades, writers and designers have experimented with text, video, audio, design, animation, and interactivity in unprecedented ways, producing new types of narratives about a world transformed by computers and communications networks. These artists have explored the cultural dimensions of information culture, the creative possibilities of digital media technologies, and the parameters of human identity in the network era. This course investigates the ways that new media have changed contemporary society and the cultural narratives that shape it. We will explore narrative theory through a number of digital or digitally-inflected forms, including cyberpunk fictions, text adventure games, interactive dramas, videogames, virtual worlds, transmedia novels, location-based fictions, and alternate reality games. Our critical study will concern issues such as nonlinear narrative, network aesthetics, and videogame mechanics. Throughout the quarter, our analysis of computational fictions will be haunted by gender, class, race, and other ghosts in the machine.

Instructor(s): Ian Bryce Jones Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): CMST 25945, MAAD 14945

ENGL 25970. Alternate Reality Games: Theory and Production. 100 Units.

Games are one of the most prominent and influential media of our time. This experimental course explores the emerging genre of “alternate reality” or “transmedia” gaming. Throughout the quarter, we will approach new media theory through the history, aesthetics, and design of transmedia games. These games build on the narrative strategies of novels, the performative role-playing of theater, the branching techniques of electronic literature, the procedural qualities of video games, and the team dynamics of sports. Beyond the subject matter, students will design modules of an Alternate Reality Game in small groups. Students need not have a background in media or technology, but a wide-ranging imagination, interest in new media culture, or arts practice will make for a more exciting quarter.

Instructor(s): Patrick Jagoda, Heidi Coleman Terms Offered: Autumn
Prerequisite(s): PQ: Third- or fourth-year standing. Instructor consent required. To apply, submit writing through online form: https://forms.gle/QvRCKN6MjBcteWy5; see course description. Once given consent, attendance on the first day is mandatory. Questions: mb31@uchicago.edu
Note(s): Note(s): English majors: this course fulfills the Theory (H) distribution requirement.
Equivalent Course(s): BPRO 28700, MAAD 20700, ENGL 32314, ARTV 20700, CMST 35954, ARTV 30700, TAPS 28466, CMST 25954

ENGL 26002. Literature and Hunger. 100 Units.

This course pursues themes of hunger the consumption of food, the formation of community, and relation to the sacred, through a sequence of readings in the Western tradition. By reading classic works (The Odyssey, selections from the Hebrew Bible and Christian Scriptures, selections from The Divine Comedy, the Letters of St. Catherine of Siena, Paradise Lost), and modern works by Kafka, Simone Weil, and Louise Glück, we will examine how different philosophies have imagined the acceptance or rejection of love, life, and the sacred in terms of the symbolism of food. Class work will involve close analysis of literary works, even those in translation; intensive critical writing; and secondary readings in literary criticism, anthropology, theology, and psychology.

ENGL 26017. Literary Biography, 100 Units.

Literary Biography: A Workshop. We will study four major literary biographies: Elizabeth Gaskell's The Life of Charlotte Brontë (1857), Lytton Strachey's Eminent Victorians (1918), Walter Jackson Bate’s John Keats (1964), and Hermione Lee’s Virginia Woolf (1996). While analyzing the arts of literary biography, students will compose a biographical sketch of their own (20 pages), using primary materials from the Special Collections in the Regenstein Library and elsewhere, as appropriate. The course combines literary criticism and creative writing.

Instructor(s): Rosanna Warren
Terms Offered: Autumn. Course will be taught Autumn 2021.
Equivalent Course(s): SCTR 36017, ENGL 36077

ENGL 26018. Poetry and Trauma: Hayden, Lowell, Plath. 100 Units.

We will read the poems of three 20th century American poets, Robert Hayden, Robert Lowell, and Sylvia Plath, with an eye to the historical and psychological wounds suffered by the poets and the transformation of wounds into art. By close attention to both text and context, we will try to feel our way into the mysteries of poetic creation and human resilience.

Instructor(s): Rosanna Warren
Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): SCTR 36018, ENGL 36018

ENGL 26150. American Literature and Photography. 100 Units.

This class considers how photographic techniques spurred new literary methods. We'll discuss how visual media impact the development of forms, methods, and genres of literature, and how pictures and novels can be read together. Students will learn how to consider the visual register in novels, and how the drive to make fiction "real," or "photographic," helps to shed light on many attendant issues - the question of evidence, the problem of reliability, the terms of objectivity. We will discuss the drive to narrate real events in photographic and literary terms, and the limits of representation. Furthermore, we will think carefully about how discourses of race and poverty are imbricated with the development of photographic technologies and methods, and how racial groups such as American Indians are invented and reinvented in the advent of the mobile camera. Primary texts include fiction by Stephen Crane, Ella Cara Deloria, and Ralph Ellison and secondary texts include works from Roland Barthes, Walter Benjamin, Judith Butler, Susan Sontag, and Gerald Vizenor.

Instructor(s): Rosanna Warren
Terms Offered: Spring
Note(s): Instructor consent required for undergraduates.
Equivalent Course(s): MAPH 40150, AMER 25150, ENGL 45150, AMER 40150

ENGL 26223. Elizabeth Bishop and Robert Lowell. 100 Units.

An intensive study of these two poets, whose work differs radically, but whose friendship nourished some of the most enduring and original poetry of the American 20th century. Close attention to the poems, in the light of recent biographical work and new editions.

Instructor(s): Rosanna Warren
Terms Offered: Autumn
Equivalent Course(s): SCTR 36002, ENGL 36222

ENGL 26230. Death Panels: Exploring dying and death through comics. 100 Units.

What do comics add to the discourse on dying and death? What insights do comics provide about the experience of dying, death, caregiving, grieving, and memorialization? Can comics help us better understand our own wishes about the end of life? This is an interactive course designed to introduce students to the field of graphic medicine and explore how comics can be used as a mode of scholarly investigation into issues related to dying, death, and the end of life. The framework for this course intends to balance readings and discussion with creative drawing and comics-making assignments. The work will provoke personal inquiry and self-reflection and promote understanding of a range of topics relating to the end of life, including examining how we die, defining death, euthanasia, rituals around dying and death, and grieving. The readings will primarily be drawn from a wide variety of graphic memoirs and comics, but will be supplemented with materials from a variety of multimedia sources including the biomedical literature, philosophy, cinema, podcasts, and the visual arts.

Guest participants in the course may include a funeral director, chaplain, hospice and palliative care specialists, cartoonists, and authors. The course will be taught by a nurse cartoonist and a physician, both of whom are active in the graphic medicine community and scholars of the health humanities.

Instructor(s): Brian Callendar
Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): KNOW 36230, ARTV 20018, ENGL 36230, HIPS 26230, HLTH 26230

ENGL 26240. Race and Space in Horror. 100 Units.

This course introduces students to major works in 20th and 21st century North American horror through the lens of critical race studies.

Instructor(s): Megan Tusler
Terms Offered: Winter
Prerequisite(s): Open to MAPH students: 3rd and 4th years in the College email 2-3 sentences about why you want to take the course for consent.
Equivalent Course(s): ENGL 46240

ENGL 26250. Richer and Poorer: Income Inequality. 100 Units.

Current political and recent academic debate have centered on income or wealth inequality. Data suggests a rapidly growing divergence between those earners at the bottom and those at the top. This course seeks to place that current concern in conversation with a range of moments in nineteenth and twentieth century
history when literature and economics converged on questions of economic inequality. In keeping with recent political economic scholarship by Thomas Piketty, we will be adopting a long historic view and a somewhat wide geographic scale as we explore how economic inequality is represented, measured, assessed and addressed. Charles Dickens, Richard Wright, H.G. Wells, will be among the writers explored. (Fiction, 1830-1990, Theory)

Instructor(s): Kris Trujillo Terms Offered: Spring

Equivalent Course(s): SIGN 26004

ENGL 26252. The Moment of Raisin. 100 Units.

In conjunction with the Court Theatre’s production of Lorraine Hansberry’s landmark 1959 play A Raisin in the Sun, this course will place Hansberry’s play in its literary and historical context to understand more thoroughly the play’s success in its historical moment and its ongoing importance. We will also discuss subsequent theatrical and cinematic productions and adaptations. Among the other works we will consider are: James Baldwin’s Notes of a Native Son, Paule Marshall’s Brown Girl, Brownstones, Gwendolyn Brooks’s The Bean Eaters, and Harper Lee’s To Kill a Mockingbird, and Ann Petry’s The Street. Students will be expected to attend the play.

Instructor(s): Kenneth Warren Terms Offered: Winter

Equivalent Course(s): RDIN 26252

ENGL 26411. Milton and Blake: Conceptions of the Christian Epic. 100 Units.

Milton wrote Paradise Lost to capture in epic form the essence of Christianity; Blake wrote Jerusalem to correct Milton’s mistakes. We’ll read them together to get in on the debate.

Instructor(s): Richard Rosengarten Terms Offered: Winter

Equivalent Course(s): RLYC 36401, ENGL 36401, RLST 26401, FNDL 25307

ENGL 26614. T.S. Eliot. 100 Units.

With the major new edition of Eliot’s poems by Jim McCue and Christopher Ricks, the new volumes of Eliot’s letters, and two separate new editions of Eliot’s complete prose, we are in a position to rethink the meanings and force of Eliot’s life work. The class will be devoted to careful reading of his poems, essays, plays, and correspondence, with attention to his literary, cultural, and political contexts.

Instructor(s): Rosanna Warren Terms Offered: Spring. Course will be taught spring 2021

Equivalent Course(s): SCTH 36014, FNDL 26614, ENGL 34850

ENGL 26680. Literary Games: Oulipo and Onward. 100 Units.

Does constraint foster creativity? Can wordplay carry political meaning? Is formal innovation divorced from lyrical expression? How do experimental literary movements respond to their sociopolitical moments and local contexts, and how do they transform when they travel across geographical and linguistic borders? We will consider these questions via the work of the longest-lived French literary group, the Oulipo (Ouvroir de littérature potentielle or Workshop for Potential Literature), examining its origins as a quasi-secret society in 1960 and its expansion into an internationally visible and multilingual collective (with members from Italy, Spain, Argentina, and the US). We will investigate debates about inspiration and authorship, copying and plagiarism, collective creation, multilingualism, constraint and translation, and the viability of the lyric subject. While considering antecedents (Edgar Allan Poe, Raymond Roussel), our readings will explore several generations of Oulipians (Raymond Queneau, Georges Perec, Italo Calvino, Michel Métais, Anne Garreta, Frédéric Forte), and conclude with some very contemporary Oulipo-inspired writing from around the world (Christian Bök, Urayoán Noel, Mónica de la Torre, K. Silem Mohammed). Alongside critical essays, students will carry out short experiments with constraint and procedure, as well as translation exercises; and they will have the opportunity for dialogue with acclaimed writers and scholars who will visit our seminar.

Instructor(s): Rachel Galvin and Alison James Terms Offered: Spring

Prerequisite(s): Open to advanced undergraduates. Students who are taking the class for French credit will complete some readings and writings in French.

Equivalent Course(s): FREN 26680, ENGL 36680, CMLT 26680, CMLT 36680, FREN 36680

ENGL 26710. Eccentric Moderns. 100 Units.


Instructor(s): Rosanna Warren Terms Offered: Autumn

Prerequisite(s): Open to advanced undergraduates.

Equivalent Course(s): ENGL 36710, SCTR 36710

ENGL 26855. Queer Theory. 100 Units.

This course offers a foundation in queer theory. In order to understand the contested definitions of the term “queer” and explore the contours of the field’s major debates, we will work to historicize queer theory’s emergence in the 1980s and 1990s amidst the AIDS crisis. Reading texts by key figures like Foucault, Sedgwick, Butler, Lorde, Bersani, Crimp, Warner, Halperin, Dinshaw, Edelman, Anzaldúa, Ferguson, and Muñoz in addition to prominent issues of journals like GLQ, differences, and Signs, we will approach these pieces as historical artifacts and place these theorists within the communities of intellectuals, activists, and artists out of which their work emerged. We will, thus, imagine queer theory as a literary practice of mournful and militant devotion, trace queer theory’s relationship to feminism and critical race theory, critique the hagiographic tendency of the academic star system, and interrogate the assumptions of queer theory’s secularity.

Instructor(s): Kris Trujillo Terms Offered: Spring
ENGL 26994. Anticolonial Worlding: Literature, Film, Thought. 100 Units.
This course explores anticolonial worldbuilding through literature, film, art, and philosophy. It focuses on the role of the cultural Cold War in shaping anticolonial aesthetics and politics during the twentieth century as well as its impact on our current political moment. The mid-century was characterized by an expansion of anticolonial festivals, exchanges, and congresses and marked by political crises and coalitional solidarity across Vietnam, Palestine, Cuba, Soviet and US imperial expansion, and the May 1968 student protests. We will explore how Pan-Arab, Pan-African, Non-Aligned/Global South, Marxist-Leninist, indigenous land rights, and racial justice movements mobilized class, gender, and language politics. Exploring anticolonial literature, film, and art across a multilingual and transnational archive we will ask how socialist and speculative realisms, engaged literature, third cinema, agitprop, and other aesthetic movements generated powerful internationalist imaginations and networks of resistance.
Instructor(s): Leah Feldman Terms Offered: Autumn
Equivalent Course(s): RDIN 26994, NEHC 26994, CMLT 26994, REES 26994, GNSE 26994, HMRT 26994, CMLT 36994, RDIN 36994, GNSE 36994

ENGL 27012. Reading the Known World: Medieval Travel Genres. 100 Units.
This course will consider how medieval English readers came to knowledge of their world, and imagined a place within it, through genres of travel narrative such as the pilgrim’s itinerary, the merchant manual, and the saint’s life. We will reflect on genre as concept en route: how did generic conventions and strategies organize this knowledge of unknown lands, other peoples, and distant marvels? We will read medieval texts like Book of Margery Kempe, Mandeville’s Travels, and the Digby play of Mary Magdalene, along with medieval and modern literary theory, to survey how vernacular literature presented a picture of the world and charted paths across it. Students will leave the class proficient in reading Middle English (the precursor of modern English). No previous experience with the language is required, and an optional weekly reading group will meet to work through passages in this half-new language.
Instructor(s): Joe Stadolnik Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): HIPS 27012, KNOW 27012

ENGL 27013. Being Corporate. 100 Units.
Corporations suffuse our lives. We study with them, work with them, consume their products—even become part of them through the purchase of stock. But what, exactly, is a corporation? In this course, we will trace the evolution of the US corporation from its historical roots through the present day. Our focus will be twofold: the evolving rights and responsibilities of the corporate person in law, and the ways that individual humans both inside and outside the corporate structure have imagined that person in a wider social context. Texts will include US court cases, legal treatises, historical analyses, novels, and cultural ephemera. By the end of the course, students will have a deeper understanding of the persistent and evolving problems of corporate personhood and corporate social responsibility, both from a business and a consumer perspective.
Instructor(s): Nicolette I. Bruner Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): KNOW 27013, HIPS 27006

ENGL 27015. Graphic Medicine: Comic Creation as Knowledge Formation. 100 Units.
What does the medium of comics contribute to our knowledge and understanding of illness, disability, caregiving, and disease? How can making comics help us form individual and community knowledge about our bodies and health? This is a course designed to introduce students to the basic concepts and practices of the field of graphic medicine. To do this, we will closely engage with the elements and process of making comics as applied to the goals, principles, and applications of graphic medicine in particular, but also in relation to the health humanities. Broadly defined as the “intersection between the medium of comics and the discourse of healthcare,” graphic medicine allows for unique explorations of health, disease, and illness through the use of sequential images and textual elements within a narrative structure. Students will learn about conceptual and practical aspects of the field. Through critical analysis and discussion of key works, they will also be exposed to a variety of styles, genres, and applications that capture the breadth and diversity of graphic medicine. An important component of the class will be exercises through which students will create their own graphic medicine works as a way to explore knowledge formation about health, illness, and one’s body through comics-making. Taught by a nurse cartoonist (and a founding figure in the field) and a physician.
Instructor(s): Brian Callender, MK Czerwiec Terms Offered: Spring
Prerequisite(s): No prior knowledge or experience of graphic novels, comics, drawing, or medicine required.
Equivalent Course(s): CHSS 37015, KNOW 27015, KNOW 37015, HIPS 27015, HLTH 27015

ENGL 27017. Passing. 100 Units.
In this course, we examine how people move within and between categories of identity, with particular attention to boundary crossings of race and gender in U.S. law and literature from the nineteenth century to the present. Law provides a venue and a language through which forces of authority police categories of identity that, at Jean Stefancic and Richard Delgado observe, “society invents, manipulates, or retires when convenient.” Readings will include theoretical texts as well as court rulings, cultural ephemera, and literary texts.
Instructor(s): Nicolette I. Bruner Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): GNSE 27017, KNOW 27017, CRES 27017
ENGL 27102. Dissident Lit. 100 Units.
This seminar will explore the literature and history of "the dissident," a central figure of late 20th-century and 21st-century human rights politics. Through our readings of novels, essays, and criticism drawn from a range of traditions (from the US and Latin America to Russia and East-Central Europe) we will consider both the possibilities and dilemmas of literary dissidence.
Equivalent Course(s): HMRT 37102, HMRT 27102, ENGL 47102

ENGL 27533. Fugitive Poetics: Slaves, Runaways, Exiles, and Nineteenth-Century American Poetry. 100 Units.
This course considers late-eighteenth- and nineteenth-century American poetry from the perspective of the disinherited. One central point of discussion will be how slavery and indentured servitude-and the attendant urge for escape and freedom from these and other carceral institutions-shaped the American poetic imaginary. We will take up both the poetry and poetic theory written by fugitives and explore poetry itself as a form of fugitivity for the enslaved, politically exiled, or ideologically confined. Central figures in the traditional canon of nineteenth-century U.S. poetry—Poe, Whitman, and Dickinson—will be considered from this vantage alongside figures like Harriet Jacobs, Frances E. W. Harper, José María Heredía y Heredia, and José Martí, among others. In the process, we will explore the potential connections and collisions between these nineteenth-century literary texts and contemporary lyric and critical race theory. This course is as interested in the nineteenth-century construction of a national American poetics as it is in American poetry itself; equal weight will be given to poetry and prose. Topics will include the poetic imaginary in early American statecraft, prosody and the carceral condition (what Max Cavitch calls "Slavery and its Metrics"), blackface lyrics and class mobility, abolitionism, and inter-American literary exchange.
Instructor(s): Shirl Yang Terms Offered: Winter

ENGL 27537. Poetry for the People: Global Black Politics and Culture in the Age of Marcus Garvey. 100 Units.
When Jamaican activist Marcus Garvey established the Universal Negro Improvement Association, he at once catalyzed a global mass movement for racial equality, projected a new Black diasporic identity, and redrew the fault-lines of modern racial politics. He also created the organizational and ideological framework for a global Black literature. Poets, workers, and political organizers from across the Black Diaspora sent both poetic and prosaic expressions of race-consciousness to the pages of Garvey’s newspaper Negro World. These writers and activists challenged the legitimacy of world white supremacy, developed new modes of transnational racial affiliation, and enshrined Africa as the normative symbolic center of global Black politics. Despite its historical importance, however, Garveyism occupies an ambiguous place in African American studies. Controversies that trace back to the inception of UNIA, in addition to the loss of the organization’s records, have impeded a full reckoning with the movement’s global impact. Nonetheless, the great multivolume anthology of UNIA papers edited by Robert A. Hill, in addition to recent revisionist scholarship, suggest unexplored avenues of inquiry. The history of Garveyism, it seems, remains unfinished. "Poetry for the People" will introduce students to the real and imagined worlds of Garveyist Pan-Africanism, and explore the legacies of Garvey’s movement for contemporary debates on race, empire, nationalism, and the politics of culture.
Instructor(s): Jake Fournier Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): CRES 27533

ENGL 27554. Unfinished Business: Revenge and Narrative Form. 100 Units.
What does it mean for something—a concept, an object, a historical inheritance—to "return with a vengeance"? Is revenge motivated by a desire for justice—a clear if ruthless commitment to equivalence—or does it demonstrate a drive towards excess? Does revenge restore order to a system of accounting, or does it compound wrongs that could never have been righted in the first place? Whom exactly is the post-breakup "revenge body" for? As these questions suggest, revenge possesses a special knack for confusing categories of self and other, and resurrecting uncertainties when it comes to cause and effect. Its resistance to closure makes it a complex model for social relation and narrative form. Revenge also has no respect for scale. Making no pretension to being impersonal or detached, revenge is linked to more minor forms like pettiness or grudges. Yet revenge plots often address scales far beyond the personal: events or contexts unfolding at the register of the historical, the intergenerational, the global. Revenge thus undoes unsustainable dichotomies between subject and object, social and individual, and more. We will explore revenge in novels and films alongside theories of revenge: psychoanalytic theories of fixation and the refusal to mourn, queer theorists and affect theorists writing on disaffection and alien affects, and even self-help writers counseling against the self-destructive, corrosive effects of not letting something go.
Instructor(s): Shirl Yang Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): GNSE 27544, CRES 27554

ENGL 27555. Forms of Labor in Caribbean Literature. 100 Units.
From the barrack-yard fiction of C.L.R. James to the Haitian peasant novel, Caribbean literature has been deeply preoccupied with the lives and struggles of the region’s working people: Caribbean literature is, in many ways, a literature of transformations. This course facilitates critical engagement with the role of labor in Caribbean literature, exploring how transformations in the conditions of work shape the development of regional literary trends from the early twentieth century through the 1960s. During this period, Caribbean writers identified the project of a national literature with the native working classes even while economic pressures led many to seek work abroad. How do Caribbean writers make sense of these contradictions? What strategies do poets and novelists employ to reconcile processes of transnational migration with narratives of national identity? This course surveys literatures
produced across the Caribbean archipelago, comparing the varied forms and genres adopted by Haitian, Bajan, Trinidadian, Jamaican, and Guyanese writers to represent the working classes of their respective islands. Lectures and supplementary critical readings will situate literary texts in relation to histories of economic development in the Caribbean, with particular attention to the plantation, the peasantry, and the expansion of U.S. imperialism. Authors on the syllabus are likely to include Claude McKay, Eric Walrond, Jacques Roumain, C.L.R. James, George Lamming, and Sylvia Wynter.

Instructor(s): Noah Hansen Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): CRES 37555, CRES 27555

ENGL 27583. 21st Century American Drama. 100 Units.
This hybrid seminar focuses on American contemporary playwrights who have made a significant and commercial impact with regard to dramatic form in the past 20 years. Playwrights will include, Tracy Letts, Annie Baker, Lynn Nottage, Quiara Alegría Hudes, Ayad Akhtar, and Amy Herzog. Textual analysis is consistently oriented towards staging, design, and cultural relevancies. Work for the course will include research papers, presentations, and scene work.

Instructor(s): K. Walsh Terms Offered: Spring
Note(s): Attendance at the first class session is mandatory. Questions: contact vwalden@uchicago.edu.
Equivalent Course(s): TAPS 20120

ENGL 27600. Cinema in Africa. 100 Units.
This course examines Africa in film as well as films produced in Africa. It places cinema in Sub Saharan Africa in its social, cultural, and aesthetic contexts ranging from neocolonial to postcolonial, Western to Southern Africa, documentary to fiction, art cinema to TV, and includes films that reflect on the impact of global trends in Africa and local responses, as well as changing racial and gender identifications. We will begin with La Noire de... (1966), by the "father" of African cinema, Ousmane Sembene, contrasted w/ a South African film, African Jim (1960) that more closely resembles African American musical film, and anti-colonial and anti-apartheid films from Lionel Rogosin's Come Back Africa (1959) to Sarah Malodor's Sambizanga, Sembene's Camp de Thiaroye (1984), and Jean Marie Teno's Afrique, Je te Plumerai (1995). The rest of the course will examine 20th and 21st century films such as I am a not a Witch and The wound (both 2017), which show tensions between urban and rural, traditional and modern life, and the implications of these tensions for women and men, Western and Southern Africa, in fiction, documentary and fiction film. (20th/21st)

Instructor(s): Loren Kruger Terms Offered: Spring
Prerequisite(s): One or more of the following: Intro to Film/ International Cinema AND/OR Intro to African Studies or equivalent
Equivalent Course(s): RDIN 27600, GNSE 28602, CMLT 42900, CMST 24201, CMLT 22900, ENSE 48602, ENGL 47600, RDIN 37600

ENGL 27700. Sensing the Anthropocene. 100 Units.
In this co-taught course between the departments of English (Jennifer Scappettone) and Visual Arts (Amber Ginsburg), we will deploy those senses most overlooked in academic discourse surrounding aesthetics and urbanism--hearing, taste, touch, and smell--to explore the history and actuality of Chicago as a site of anthropogenic changes. Holding the bulk of our classes out of doors, we will move through the city seeking out and documenting traces of the city's foundations in phenomena such as the filling in of swamp; the river as pipeline; and the creation of transportation and industrial infrastructure--all with uneven effects on human and nonhuman inhabitants. Coursework will combine readings in history and theory of the Anthropocene together with examples of how artists and activists have made the Anthropocene visible, tangible, and audible, providing forums for playful documentation and annotations as we draw, score, map, narrate, sing, curate and collate our sensory experience of the Anthropocene into a final experimental book project. Admission is by consent only: please write a short paragraph briefly sketching your academic background and naming your interest in the course. Send this submission to: jscape@uchicago.edu, amberginsburg@gmail.com

Instructor(s): J. Scappettone, A. Ginsburg Terms Offered: Autumn
Prerequisite(s): PQ: Third or fourth-year standing.
Equivalent Course(s): BPRO 27200, ENGL 47700, CEGU 27700, ARTV 32322, ENST 27700, ARCH 22322, ARTV 22322, CHST 27200

ENGL 27703. Queer Modernism. 100 Units.
This course examines the dramatic revisions in gender and sexuality that characterize the early twentieth century in the U.S. and Europe. Together, we will read literary texts by queer writers to investigate their role in shaping the period’s emergent regimes of sex and gender. We’ll consider queer revisions of these concepts for their effect on the broader social and political terrain of the early twentieth century and explore the intimate histories they made possible: What new horizons for kinship, care, affect, and the everyday reproduction of life did modernist ideas about sex and gender enable? Our examination will center primarily on queer lives relegated to the social and political margins-lives of exile or those cut short by various forms of dispossession. Towards the end of the quarter, we will also consider how more recent cultural producers-and in particular Black filmmakers associated with the New Queer Cinema movement- have sought to imagine or in some sense recover queer lives and scenes that have been silenced or apparently lost to history. This class will double as an advanced introduction to queer theory, with a particular emphasis on literary criticism and cultural studies. (1830-1990; 20th/21st)

Instructor(s): Agnes Malinowska Terms Offered: Winter
Prerequisite(s): Open enrollment for all graduate students, as well as 3rd- and 4th-year undergraduate students with majors in the Humanities and Social Sciences. All others, please email amalinowska@uchicago.edu to request permission to enroll.

Equivalent Course(s): MAPH 47703, GNSE 23138, ENGL 47703, GNSE 47702, AMER 27703, AMER 47703

ENGL 27708. Feeling Brown, Feeling Down. 100 Units.

Taking its cue from José Esteban Muñoz’s 2006 essay in Signs, this course interrogates negative affective categories as they are expressed in US ethnic literature in the 20th and 21st centuries. As Muñoz argues, “depression has become one of the dominant affective positions addressed within the cultural field of contemporary global capitalism”; this course explores orientations such as depression, shame, sickness, and melancholy to think critically about racial formations amidst capital and how these are posed alongside literary questions. Primary texts may include Larsen, Ozeki, Morrison, and Okada; secondary texts may include Ahmed, Freud, Muñoz, Cheng, and Spillers.

Instructor(s): Megan Talsler Terms Offered: Winter

Equivalent Course(s): RDIN 27708, ENGL 47708, AMER 27708, AMER 47708, MAPH 47708, RDIN 47708

ENGL 27710. Race and Governmentality in Transnational Literature. 100 Units.

In this course, we read a range of literary works that are concerned with the boundaries of nation-states and the flows between them, and with racial formations across borders. We think critically about different kinds of transnational literature, from travel narratives, to fiction dealing with migrant/refugee/diaspora experience, to “global lit,” and how these articulate configurations of race and governmentality under modernity. We read essays by Julie Chu on human cargo, and David Harvey on flexible accumulation. The literary titles we look at might include: Henry James, The American Scene Thomas Mann, Death in Venice Derek Walcott, Omeros Claude Levi-Strauss, Tristes Tropiques Therese Hak Kyung Cha’s Dictes Kazuo Ishiguro, Never Let Me Go Amitav Ghosh, The Sea of Poppies Viet Thanh Nguyen, The Sympathizer Claudia Rankine, Just Us: An American Conversation

Instructor(s): Darrel Chia Terms Offered: Spring

Equivalent Course(s): MAPH 47710, ENGL 47710, CRES 27710

ENGL 27711. What is Literature For?: Theories of Literary Value. 100 Units.

This class will examine different theories about the meaning and social role of literature over a historical long durée. Why do we find literature valuable? What do we ask from it, and what is it able to provide? Is art’s very uselessness the key to its role in the lives of readers? Or can we expect literature to effect changes in the world we live in? Does literature serve a therapeutic function? An expressive one? To what or whom is a writer responsible? Students will develop their own answers to these questions, and also examine how attitudes about the function of literary text have changed over the last few centuries—centuries that have seen a staggering transformation in the growth of literacy and the volume of print and digital culture. Readings will range from the Renaissance to the 21st century, and may include texts by Philip Sidney, Oscar Wilde, William Faulkner, Elizabeth Bishop, James Baldwin, Jaques Ranciere, and Gayatri Spivak

Instructor(s): Sarah Kunjummen Terms Offered: Spring

Equivalent Course(s): MAPH 47711, ENGL 47711

ENGL 27714. Reproductive citizens: sex, work, and embodiment. 100 Units.

In this class, we focus on literature, film, history, and theory that deal with biological and social reproduction, motherhood and the politics of the home and family, and domestic and sexual labor. Our readings and viewings are centered in the U.S. and span the early twentieth century through the present—and we approach the above themes and structures in relation to the troubled and uneven histories of race, gender, and class that shape them. To this end, we will learn about the history of eugenics and sterilization; the afterlife of slavery and racist (anti-Asian) U.S. immigration policy; settler colonialism and the Native American reservation system; state policing of family and kinship structures; developments in reproductive and gender-affirming biotechnology; and the thorny politics of sex work. At the same time, we will be equally interested in the ways that activists, theorists, and other cultural producers have pushed against oppressive policies and structures to imagine and fight for reproductive justice and liberation at the intersection of race, labor, and gender. We spend time, for example, with Black and Native feminists, Marxist social reproduction theorists, family abolitionists, and sex worker’s rights activists. Readings and viewings may include: Charlotte Perkins Gilman, Tillie Olsen, Gayl Jones, Fae Myenne Ng, Louise Erdrich, Lizzie Borden, Barbara Loden, Amy Heckerling, and the International Wages for Housework Campaign. (Theory; 20th/21st)

Instructor(s): Agnes Malinowska Terms Offered: Spring

Prerequisite(s): Open enrollment for all graduate students, as well as 3rd- and 4th-year undergraduate students with majors in the Humanities and Social Sciences. All others, please email amalinowska@uchicago.edu to request permission to enroll.

Equivalent Course(s): CRES 27714, GNSE 47714, GNSE 23155, ENGL 47714, MAPH 47714

ENGL 27815. Appropriations and Impostures. 100 Units.

What are the different aesthetic and literary uses of appropriation? The editor of a Canadian magazine who set up the Appropriation Prize in 2017, defended the practice of cultural appropriation by insisting that “anyone, anywhere, should be encouraged to imagine other peoples, other cultures, other identities.” This case underscores the continuing tension between narrative as a vehicle for imagining and empathizing with distant others, and notions of cultural property. In this course, we look at a selection of literary works that speak to these
themes including Diderot, Ern Malley, Patricia Highsmith, Peter Carey, Kenneth Goldsmith, and Sherman Alexie, with particular attention to the work of appropriation in postcolonial contexts. We also touch on appropriation in other media, such as for instance, Richard Prince’s “New Portraits,” Sherrie Levine’s “After Walker Evans”, and Ni Haifeng’s installations.

Instructor(s): Darrell Chia Terms Offered: Spring
Note(s): Open to MAPH students and 3rd and 4th years in the College
Equivalent Course(s): ENGL 37815, MAPH 37815

ENGL 27908. Tocqueville in America, from Then to Now. 100 Units.
Ever since Alexis de Tocqueville visited the United States during the Jacksonian Era, his account of what he saw there, _Democracy in America_, has become a kind of latter-day founding document to which Americans turn again and again to understand themselves and their past. Although he was an aristocrat manqué and a failed politician-or perhaps because of it-Tocqueville saw into the heart of democratic society as it had advanced in North America, for better and for worse. In the decades since, generations of commentators and intellectuals have returned to his insights to develop an account of what makes democracy in America distinctive, and what ties it to the broader currents of the unfolding modern world. To explore this rich palimpsest of insight we will read Tocqueville’s masterpiece along with the contemporary and subsequent responses to it that have inscribed his analysis indelibly into the American political tradition. Coursework will culminate in an independent research project on the legacy of Tocqueville in America.

Instructor(s): J. Sparrow & E. Slauter Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): AMER 27908, FNDL 27908, DEMS 27908, HIST 27908, LLSO 27908

ENGL 28211. Intro to Religion and Literature: Dramatic Encounters. 100 Units.
This course will explore some of the major statements from the Western intellectual tradition on religion and literature as categories of thought, forms of human expression and communication, and sources of personal and social meaning. We will pay close attention to the various ways that the relationship between these two concepts has been understood and constructed by artists, philosophers, and theologians alike. Students from all concentrations are welcome; no prior knowledge or foreign language competency is required for enrollment.

Instructor(s): Matthew Creighton Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): RLST 28211

ENGL 28510. Mythologies of America: 19th Century Novels. 100 Units.
Hawthorne, Melville, Stowe, Alcott, and Twain wrote fiction that, in individual novels and also read comparatively, offers a civic template of mythologies of America: its genesis, its composition, its deities, its ritual life. The course considers this writing as both distinctively American, and as engaging central themes of modern novels, e.g. time, history, and memory, the relation of private to civic life, and the shifting role of religious authority.

Instructor(s): Richard Rosengarten Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): RLST 38500, RAME 38500, RLST 28510, ENGL 38500

ENGL 28619. Postcolonial Openings: World Literature after 1955. 100 Units.
This course familiarizes students with the perspectives, debates, and attitudes that characterize the contemporary field of postcolonial theory, with critical attention to how its interdisciplinary formation contributes to reading literary works. What are the claims made on behalf of literary texts in orienting us to other lives and possibilities, and in registering the experiences of displacement under global capitalism? To better answer these questions, we will read recent scholarship that engages the field in conversations around gender, affect, climate change, and democracy, to think about the impulses that animate the field, and to sketch new directions. We survey the trajectories and self-criticisms within the field, looking at canonical critics (Fanon, Said, Bhabha, Spivak), as well as reading a range of literary and cinematic works by writers like Jean Rhys, E.M. Forster, Mahasweta Devi, Derek Walcott, Arundhati Roy, and Salman Rushdie. (Theory; 20th/21st)

Instructor(s): Darrel Chia Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): MAPH 34520, ENGL 38619, HMRT 34520, GNSE 24520, GNSE 34520, CRES 28619

ENGL 28710. On Fear and Loathing: Negative Affect and the American Novel. 100 Units.

Instructor(s): Loren Kruger Terms Offered: Spring
Prerequisite(s): Required: Complete HUM core
Equivalent Course(s): FNDL 28872, JWSC 28872, CMLT 28872, GRMN 28872

ENGL 28902. Dostoevsky: The Idiot. 100 Units.
TBD
Equivalent Course(s): REES 30018, CMLT 39300, REES 20018, FNDL 27101, ENGL 48902, CMLT 29300

ENGL 28916. Nabokov: Lolita. 100 Units.
Lolita, light of my life, fire of my Joins. My sin, my soul, Lolita: the tip of the tongue taking a trip of three steps down the palate, to tap at three on the teeth. ‘Popular as Nabokov’s “all-American” novel is, it is rarely discussed beyond its psychosexual profile. This intensive text-centered and discussion-based course attempts to supersede the univocal obsession with the novel’s pedophilic plot as such by concerning itself above all with the novel’s language: language as failure, as mania, and as conjuration.
Instructor(s): M. Sternstein Terms Offered: Autumn
Equivalent Course(s): FNDL 25300, REES 20004, GNSE 24900, SIGN 26027

ENGL 28918. Comparative Literature - Theory and Practice. 100 Units.
This course introduces methods of study in Comparative Literature. We will take up interdisciplinary approaches, including translation and critical theory. Students will develop and deepen their skills in close reading and the comparative analysis of text and art forms.
Instructor(s): Anna Elena Torres Terms Offered: Winter
Prerequisite(s): Prerequisite: Completed Humanities, or Civilization Core requirement. The course is designed for the second-year students and above.
Equivalent Course(s): CMLT 20109

ENGL 29300-29600. History of International Cinema I-II.
This sequence is required of students majoring in Cinema and Media Studies. Taking these courses in sequence is strongly recommended but not required.

ENGL 29300. History of International Cinema I: Silent Era. 100 Units.
This course provides a survey of the history of cinema from its emergence in the mid-1890s to the transition to sound in the late 1920s. We will examine the cinema as a set of aesthetic, social, technological, national, cultural, and industrial practices as they were exercised and developed during this 30-year span. Especially important for our examination will be the exchange of film techniques, practices, and cultures in an international context. We will also pursue questions related to the historiography of the cinema, and examine early attempts to theorize and account for the cinema as an artistic and social phenomenon.
Instructor(s): Daniel Morgan Terms Offered: Autumn
Prerequisite(s): Prior or concurrent registration in CMST 10100 is required. Course is required for students majoring or minoring in Cinema and Media Studies.
Note(s): For students majoring in Cinema and Media Studies, the entire History of International Cinema three-course sequence must be taken.
Equivalent Course(s): CMLT 22400, MAAD 18500, ARTV 20002, MAPH 33600, ARTH 28500, ENGL 48700, CMLT 32400, ARTH 38500, CMST 48500, CMST 28500

ENGL 29600. History of International Cinema II: Sound Era to 1960. 100 Units.
The center of this course is film style, from the classical scene breakdown to the introduction of deep focus, stylistic experimentation, and technical innovation (sound, wide screen, location shooting). The development of a film culture is also discussed. Texts include Thompson and Bordwell’s Film History: An Introduction; and works by Bazin, Belton, Sitney, and Godard. Screenings include films by Hitchcock, Welles, Rossellini, Bresson, Ozu, Antonioni, and Renoir.
Instructor(s): James Lastra Terms Offered: Winter
Prerequisite(s): Prior or concurrent registration in CMST 10100 required. Required of students majoring or minoring in Cinema and Media Studies.
Note(s): CMST 28500/48500 strongly recommended
Equivalent Course(s): MAPH 33700, ARTV 20003, ENGL 48900, CMLT 32500, CMST 28600, MAAD 18600, ARTH 28600, REES 25005, CMLT 22500, CMST 48600, ARTH 38600, REES 45005

ENGL 29700. Reading Course. 100 Units.
An instructor within ENGL agrees to supervise the course and then determines the kind and amount of work to be done. These reading courses must include a final paper assignment to meet requirements for the ENGL major, and students must receive a quality grade. Students may not petition to receive credit for more than two ENGL 29700 courses. Students may register for this course using the College Reading and Research Form, available in the College Advising offices. This form must be signed by the instructor and the Director of Undergraduate Studies and then submitted to the Office of the Registrar.
Terms Offered: Autumn Spring Winter
Prerequisite(s): Consent of instructor and Director of Undergraduate Studies

ENGL 29900. Independent BA Paper Preparation. 100 Units.
Senior students completing a Critical BA Project may register for this course using the College Reading and Research Form, available in the College Advising offices. This form must be signed by the faculty BA advisor and the Director of Undergraduate Studies and then submitted to the Office of the Registrar. This course may not be counted toward the distribution requirements for the major, but it may be counted as a departmental elective.
Terms Offered: Autumn Spring Winter
Prerequisite(s): Consent of instructor and Director of Undergraduate Studies