

**English Department
Course Description Booklet
Fall 2018**

<https://www.eiu.edu/english/FA18.php>

English 1009G Section 600 CRN 94804

Randall Beebe

Stories Matter-Health & Medicine: "Because I Could Not Stop for Death": The Body, Illness, & The Stories They Tell Online

This course investigates the fundamental and vibrant ways that humanities and medical/health studies complement each other's focus on health, illness, and the complexity of what it means to be human as we confront our bodies, disease, and our mortality.

This course satisfies the Gen Ed Humanities & Fine Arts requirements. All majors are welcome.

English 1105 Section 001 CRN 92264

Randall Beebe

English Forum 3:00-3:50 pm W

What can you do with an English major? This course is designed to answer that question from a wide variety of perspectives. Topics include academic choices within the major, minor(s), undergraduate research opportunities, English-related student organizations, study abroad, internships, scholarships, career options and career planning, graduate and professional programs, study abroad and internships. You will begin to plan the direction you want to go with your English major and with your subsequent career through writing projects and attendance at Department and University events.

English 2000 Section 001 CRN 93045

Bess Kosinec

Introduction to Creative Writing 11:00-11:50 am MWF

This course will introduce students to the writing of poetry, fiction, creative nonfiction, and drama. Students will participate in workshops of their creative work and read writing in each genre.

English 2205 Section 001 CRN 93047

Melissa Caldwell

Introduction to Literary Studies 10:00-10:50 am MWF

This course is designed for students beginning the English major. Ideally, you will also be concurrently enrolled in English 2950 (Transatlantic Literary History I), and together these courses

provide beginning students with foundations to the major: *what* it is that serious students of literature do, *how* we do what we do, and *why* we do literary studies at all.

More than anything, this course will equip you to better understand—and excel—in your other English courses by walking you through the central problems of our discipline—problems of textuality, interpretation, research, and context. As this course will demonstrate for you on a daily basis, the foundation for success within our discipline is close, careful attention to language—to words, to structures of expressions, and to cultural contexts. Readings will be challenging and diverse, and we will also be considering in our discussions texts you are using in other English courses, specifically English 2950.

Specific requirements include: short- & medium-length papers, midterm and final exam.

Prerequisites and Notes: ENG 1105 or concurrent enrollment in ENG 1105.

English 2760 Section 001 CRN 91527

Donna Binns

Introduction to Professional Writing 3:30-4:45 pm TR

This course offers an introduction to the principles and practices of writing in professional settings. Students will complete case-based and/or client-based projects in multiple genres and media. ENG 2760 will also address ethical communication, document design, intercultural/global communication, collaboration, basic copyediting, and presentation.

English 2901 Section 001 CRN 91233

Terri Fredrick

Structure of English 10:00-10:50 am MWF

In this class students will analyze the rules that govern the English grammatical system. They will develop a deeper understanding of the systematic nature of language. By the end of the course they will be able to comprehend the major differences between traditional, structural, and transformational approaches to grammar, identify sentence patterns and their expansions, and understand verb tense, aspect, voice, and modality. There will be several tests throughout the semester, a final exam, and a short research project.

English 2901 Section 002 CRN 90333

Daiva Markelis

Structure of English 11:00 am-12:15 pm TR

In this class students will analyze the rules that govern the English grammatical system. They will develop a deeper understanding of the systematic nature of language. By the end of the course they will be able to comprehend the major differences between traditional, structural, and transformational approaches to grammar, identify sentence patterns and their expansions, and understand verb tense, aspect, voice, and modality. There will be several tests throughout the semester, a final exam, and a short research project.

English 2901 Section 003 CRN 90334

Angela Vietto

Structure of English 2:00-2:50 pm MWF

Language is one key to empowerment. In this introduction to the English language, we will explore the analytic approaches to language that can help prepare us to use language to achieve goals of many kinds. Our study of the grammar of the English language is meant to help you think critically about language-related social issues and to apply an understanding of English grammar to a variety of practical uses, including your own writing in a variety of settings, teaching at a variety of levels, editing, and other language-related work. There will be several tests throughout the semester, a final exam, and a short research project.

English 2950 Section 001 CRN 93048

Robert Martinez

Transatlantic Literary History: Culture, Literacies, and Technologies I 12:00-12:50 pm MWF

More than simply an introduction to the key cultural movements and genres in British and American literary history, this course will ask you not just to accept but also to think critically about literary history and tradition. In addition to familiarizing you with the history of orality, literacy, and print technology in textual production from the Anglo-Saxon period to the beginning of the 18th century, this core course of the English major will prepare you to enter your concentration with a foundation in critical issues surrounding the lives and afterlives of texts, genres, and traditions.

Themes: Identity & Culture; Genre, Form & Poetics; Education & Society; Media, Technology & Popular Culture

English 3001 Section 001 CRN 90335

Suzie Park

Advanced Composition 11:00 am-12:15 pm TR

This course investigates our relationships to technology, and especially the historical uses of writing with different media. In the course, we will read a number of key arguments on media ecology—that is, the technological environment in which we are steeped, and the concomitant perils and pleasures of what Marshall McLuhan called “the media extensions of man.” We will ask why, as does Sherry Turkle in her book *Alone Together*, texting appears to offer “just the right amount of access, just the right amount of control.” Turkle describes texters as “modern Goldilocks”: “texting puts people not too close, not too far, but at just the right distance.” We will emphasize practice in two things: 1) the clear exposition of ideas through the grammatical and stylistic command of writing and 2) the thoughtful reading of challenging texts that invite serious reflection on one’s own technologically-driven habits. Readings will come from a variety of sources, ranging from Michel Foucault on panoptic societies to Nicholas Carr on the death of “deep reading,” from Kazuo Ishiguro on the dystopic era of “donations” to Thich Nhat Hanh on “mindfulness.”

As in all writing classes, the written word rules here. We will examine how good writing looks (grammar), how it sounds (style), and where it goes (audience-oriented rhetoric). Over the course of the semester, you will produce essays through stages of brainstorming, drafting, and fleshing out theses. You will not do this alone, of course. This is a workshop course, which means that, much as in the world outside the university, you will be writing for an audience larger than your professor. You

will receive and offer feedback on fellow students' work. In these feedback loops, you will be encouraged to keep an eye on your own growth as a writer of clear, effective, persuasive, and citation-savvy arguments.

English 3001 Section 002 CRN 90336

Dana Ringuette

Advanced Composition 2:00-3:15 pm TR

Advanced study and practice of writing in public, professional, and discipline-specific genres.

English 3008 Section 001 CRN 93344

Timothy Taylor

Digital Writing and Multimodal Texts 10:00-10:50 am MWF

Addresses digital writing and multimodal theory and production through the lens of one or more areas of English Studies. Course engages the history of digital and multimodal literacy.

English 3009G Section 001 CRN 91235

Tim Engles

Myth and Culture-Asian Collectivism and Western Individualism 11:00 am-12:15 pmTR

Generally, European and North American cultures have long been considered individualistic, with an emphasis on independence and self-containment. Asian cultures have long been considered more collectivist, with an emphasis on the group and interconnectedness with others. A closer look reveals both the general truths of such contrasting cultural tendencies and some myths that undergird them.

What are the foundations of such general tendencies? How do these ideas about personhood clash when people from such opposing cultures meet? As we will see, literature and other documents can illuminate the truths and the countervailing myths of an overly sharp division between "Western" individualism and "Eastern" collectivism, especially as such ideologies play out in ordinary people's lives.

Theme: Identity & Culture

English 3062 Section 001 CRN 93049

Olga Abella

Intermediate Poetry Writing 11:00 am-12:15 pm TR

This class assumes your interest in and seriousness about being a poet. You will workshop your poems to develop your editing skills and poetic voices by listening to the feedback you receive. You will further learn to do this by reading contemporary poets and studying their use of language, imagery and form. You will keep a journal of your study of these poets' works so you can develop a stronger sense of what kinds of poems appeal to you and why, and in the process learn how your work fits into the kinds of poetry being written today. At the end you will be graded on a portfolio of revised poems, the journal and class participation.

Prerequisites and Notes: ENG 2000 or equivalent.

Themes: Genre, Form & Poetics

English 3063 Section 001 CRN 93962

Bess Kosinec

Intermediate Fiction Writing 1:00-1:50 pm MWF

An intermediate course centered on the writing of fiction. Class time will be devoted to writing, reading, and discussion of fiction.

Prerequisites and Notes: ENG 2000 or equivalent.

English 3099G Section 099 CRN 90339

Christopher Wixson

Myth and Culture, Honors 3:30-4:45 pm TR

*Even the observant animals are aware
That we're not very happily home here
In this --- our interpreted world.*

--Rainer Maria Rilke

This course explores the ways in which myth and myth-making across cultures relate to issues of identity, desire, language, epistemology, and violence. Requirements include short papers, critical essays, dedicated participation in discussion, a midterm, and a final exam.

Note: Admission to University Honors College or Departmental Honors Program required.

Themes: Identity & Culture; Genre, Form & Poetics

English 3300 Section 002 CRN 93352

Robert Martinez

Seminar in English Studies--Are the Boys Broken?: Masculinity, Culture, and Violence in Literature and Film

2:00-2:50 pm MWF

Following the mass shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglass High School in Florida, Michael Black started a viral discussion about the lack of conversation surrounding how boys grow into men and the sometimes confusing and dangerous expectations of masculinity. In this course we will examine this question of masculinity and identity, particularly as it relates to differing cultural attitudes regarding masculinity and the "cultures of violence" that frequently surround it.

Students will encounter an exciting array of literature and film from around the world in this course, including works by Juan Gabriel Vásquez, Martin Amis, Pat Barker, Gus Van Sant, J. G. Ballard, Héctor Tobar, Vivek Shanbhag, bell hooks, Todd Boyd, and Gary Oldman. We will study a variety of topics from relationship issues across cultures, to the impact of technology on sexuality and gender

identity, to the emergence of the new black superhero, and Latin American machismo. Students will complete a variety of writing and presentation projects for both professional and popular audiences.

Themes: Identity & Culture; Genre, Form, & Poetics; Education & Society; Media, Technology, & Popular Culture

Prerequisite: ENG 2205 or equivalent

English 3401 Section 001 CRN 90341

Donna Binns

Methods of Teaching Composition in the Secondary School 12:30-1:45 pm TR

This course explores various best practices and approaches to teaching and evaluating written composition in secondary schools. Coursework will consist primarily of reading and responding to pedagogical texts, applying the findings in such to contemporary educational concerns, and crafting/modeling instructional tools both independently and cooperatively in ways that mirror professional learning communities. The required work for this course includes crafting lesson plans, thematic units, a course design, and various reflective essays. This course requires five on-site pre-clinical experience hours and the live-text submission of one required assignment.

Themes: Education & Society; Genre, Form & Poetics; Media, Technology, & Popular Culture

Prerequisites & Notes: *ENG 2901 and SED 2000. Prerequisites or co-requisites: EDP 3331 and SED 3330; for ISEP students, SED 3000 and 3100; for Middle Level Education majors, MLE 3110.*

Notes: University Approval to Teacher Education is required prior to taking this course.

English 3405 Section 002 CRN 93051

Brownson

Children's Literature 2:00-3:15 pm TR

Study of the rich variety of texts written for or primarily read by children, including picture books, poetry, fairy tales, chapter books, and novels. Emphases include historical, cultural, pedagogical, critical, and theoretical perspectives.

English 3705 Section 600 CRN 94805

Tim Engles

American Multicultural Literatures-Coming of Age Narratives Online

Our topic will be “coming of age” literature, especially that which foregrounds what it means to differ in significant ways from “all-American” norms. We will investigate varying conceptions and depictions of what it means to “grow up,” and to do so under the influence of such shaping forces as race, class, gender, and sexuality. We will also study the unconventional storytelling methods and themes that multicultural authors often use for representing identity formation and maturation.

Themes: Identity & Culture; Law & Social Justice; Education & Society

English 3800 Section 001 CRN 94638

Melissa Caldwell

Medieval British Literature: Magic, Visions, and Visionaries 4:30-5:45 pm MW

Much of medieval literature is animated by the idea of the supernatural in its various guises. In this course, we will explore the discourses of mystery in medieval literature ranging from Arthurian romance to dream visions to religious texts and mystical visions. Towards the end of the course, we will also consider why representations of the medieval period continue to preoccupy our imagination.

Themes: Identity & Culture; Genre, Form & Poetics

Art 3685/English 3903B Section 001 CRN 93964

**Rehema Barber, Director and Chief Curator, Tarble Arts Center, and
Jeannie Ludlow, Coordinator, Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies**

Women, Literature, and Language, Post-1800 9:30-10:45 am TR

*I loved the girl some thought too strange,
too dark, who spoke the cadence
of her own mythology, her own sanity,
with the words from books
trailing her lips like shadows.*

~Lorna Dee Cervantes, from "Caribou Girl"

In response to the political and socio-economic shifts of the 1960s and 70s, much of the art, music, and literature of women became proclamations against male domination and white supremacy, especially as they relate to the body. Women's arts asserted that the bodies and minds of women were heated and hotly debated battlegrounds. *In the Eye of the Beholder* is a Fall, 2018, visual art exhibition at the Tarble Arts Center. It will juxtapose the work of established activist and feminist women artists with contemporary and emerging women artists to create a dialogue about the progress and realization of feminism and our hopes for its future. This team-taught and jointly-designed course will focus on this exhibit as well as on other creative arts by women, placing them in conversation with literary works that show how diverse women resisted patriarchal domination and claimed their own artistic space for exploring feminist thinking. Themes that may be explored in this course may include immigration, politics, labor, pay equity, productivity and reproductivity, health, intimate partner and sexual/gendered violence, altered beauty, and religious freedom. ART 3685 and ENG 3903 both count as electives toward the Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies minor. ENG 3903 will also count as an elective toward the Latin American Studies minor because 50% or more of the course materials in ENG 3903 will be by authors who identify as Chicanx, Latinx, Latin American, or Caribbean.

English 4060 Section 001 CRN 93965

Terri Fredrick

English Studies Career Development 3:00-3:50 pm M

This course is designed to prepare English majors and Professional Writing minors for the job market and/or for graduate school applications. In this course, you will research job openings and professional organizations, participate in discussions with professional guest speakers, analyze your own professional skills and abilities, and read course materials related to career development. As part

of the class, you will create your final resume, a cover letter template, a print portfolio, and a professional website or online portfolio.

English 4275 Section 600 CRN 94048

Terri Fredrick

Internship in Professional Writing Online

Students must meet with the Internship Coordinator (Dr. Fredrick) to arrange an internship placement before registering for ENG 4275.

A community-based experience featuring practical application of skills developed in the English curriculum, the Internship is open to any student who has taken ENG 2760 or ENG 3005. To the extent possible, placement is matched to career goals with the expectation that students might approach graduation and the job search with writing/editing portfolios to show potential employers. Recent English interns have worked as writers or editors for nonprofit organizations, small businesses, corporations, libraries, local government offices.

English 4275 is a four-hour course offered on a credit/no credit basis. In addition to work created as part of the internship, students will engage in reflective writing about the internship and organizational culture. The coordinator and site-supervisors cooperate in evaluation. Students who have taken English 4275 previously may repeat it again as an elective; students who repeat the course will be placed at a different internship site.

English 4742 Section 001 CRN 93348

Melissa Ames

Studies in Genre--Vampires, and Zombies, and Fear- Oh My!: What Trends in Horror Sub-Genres Reveal about Societal Concerns 12:30-1:45 pm TR

Scholars have long discussed the ways in which horror narratives embody and reflect on societal fears about a range of issues: race, gender, sexuality, disease, terrorism, capitalism, and more. Therefore, studying trends in horror sub-genres can provide great insight into the cultural climate that produced them. This course analyzes vampire and zombie narratives across genre and media attending to the social commentary contained within these fictional stories. From novels, films, and graphic novels to television, video games, and choose-your-own-adventures books, students will reflect on how these supernatural figures are much more than just narrative devices meant to trigger emotional responses. Through a series of presentations and projects (with options ranging from academic research papers to creative writing pieces), students will take a historical stroll through time looking at the evolution of these two horror sub-genres, focusing most heavily on their increasing popularity and proliferation in the 21st century.

Themes: Genre, Form & Poetics; Education & Society; Media, Technology & Popular Culture

Prerequisites and Notes: ENG 2205. This course may be repeated once with the permission of the department chairperson.

CLASSES NUMBERED 4750 THROUGH 4999 - THESE CLASSES ARE OPEN TO JUNIORS, SENIORS, AND GRADUATE STUDENTS. GRADUATE STUDENTS ARE LIMITED TO TWELVE HOURS OF COURSEWORK IN THIS CATEGORY.

English 4760 Section 001 CRN 94049

Donna Binns

Special Topics in Professional Writing-Writing about Health & for Health Organizations Online

This course involves focused study of professional writing, designed to enhance understanding of health-related workplace writing and provide experience in producing it. Students will gain experience in writing about and for health organizations. Topics covered include grant writing, accessibility, usability, writing for non-profit health organizations, and writing about health-related topics for specialized and non-specialized audiences. May be repeated once (with a different topic) for credit. study of professional writing, designed to enhance understanding of workplace writing and provide experience in producing it. Topic will vary semester to semester. May be repeated once for credit.

English 4761 Section 001 CRN 90358

Daiva Markelis

Advanced Nonfiction Writing 9:30-10:45 am TR

In this class students will develop a repertoire of artistic strategies in the writing of literary nonfiction prose. Students will deepen their understanding of creative nonfiction and its subgenres through intensive writing; at least four essays and revisions of essays will be required. Students will participate in workshops, submitting at least two essays for class critique.

Prerequisites and Notes: ENG 3061 or, with permission of Department Chairperson, ENG 3062, 3063, or 3064. May be repeated once with permission of the Department Chairperson.

English 4764 Section 001 CRN 94639

Olga Abella

Advanced Dramatic Writing 2:00-3:15 pm TR

So, you write stories and novels? How can you make your characters have more well-rounded and meaningful personalities with whom your readers can connect more fully? By seeing them come to life, by watching them interact with each other. A ten-minute play is a short play that explores an idea, a moment, a scene, or even a life. But it does in ten minutes in ten pages. In this class you will be writing ten-minute plays in order to help you develop character, dialogue, story. These plays will also help you prepare for the larger work of a screenplay. Together we will explore the art of contemporary play and screenplay writing. We will read and discuss various contemporary plays and screenplays in order to learn what makes drama powerful and entertaining. The main focus of the class, however, will be the plays and screenplay *you* create and share in a workshop format with the class in order to discover and refine your own voice and style. You will be graded on a final portfolio of your plays, journals, and participation.

Themes: Genre, Form & Poetics

Prerequisites and Notes: ENG 3064 or, with permission of Department Chairperson, ENG 3061, 3062, or 3063. May be repeated once with permission of the Department Chairperson.

English 4765 Section 001 CRN 91238

Terri Fredrick

Professional Editing 12:00-12:50 pm MWF

Editing is an important part of the work professional communicators do. In this course, we will practice all levels of editing: copyediting for grammatical correctness and consistency, fact-checking, editing for style, editing for design, and developmental editing for content and organization. We will edit texts from disciplines such as health, technology, business/marketing, and the sciences. Because editing, like all communication, is contextual, we will address the rhetorical choices editors have to make across cultures and disciplines, and we will look at the different style guides that might influence what and how you edit. Because editing usually takes place within a larger organizational setting, we will also discuss project management, editor-author relationships, and electronic editing.

English 4850 Section 001 CRN 93967

Dagni Bredezen

Studies in Postcolonial and Third World Literatures—From Nelson Mandela to Trevor Noah: Modern South African Literature, Politics and Culture 11:00-11:50 am MWF

Beginning with *Daily Show* host, Trevor Noah's recently published memoir *Born a Crime*, we will plunge into the literature, music, art, history, and politics of South Africa. Most of what we will read and listen to has been produced since 1994, that is, after the overthrow of a system of legislated racism known as "apartheid." To prepare us for our examination of novels, auto/biography, poetry, historical documents, newspaper reports, music and film, we will spend four weeks immersed in a "Reacting to the Past" Role-playing game "The Collapse of Apartheid and the Dawn of Democracy."

Ultimately, our goal will be to understand how these narratives contribute to this process of nation-building twenty-four years on from South Africa's first democratic vote, while simultaneously considering the meanings that these narratives and events may hold for university students and communities on the other side of the planet.

Themes: Identity & Culture; Law & Social Justice

Notes: May be repeated once with permission of the Department Chairperson.

GRADUATE SEMINARS

English 5000 Section 001 CRN 90361

Randall Beebe

Introduction to Methods and Issues in English Studies 7:00-9:30 pm W

An introduction to critical approaches, research methods, and current issues in English studies. Required in first year of enrollment.

English 5003 Section 600 CRN 94906

Julie Campbell

Studies in Seventeenth Century British Literature-Shakespeare for All Online

When we read or teach Shakespeare, sometimes the complexity of the language, Renaissance dramatic constructs, and historical contextualization required can seem intimidating. Moreover, we are often haunted by the notion that Shakespeare's work is exclusively "high culture," that is, belonging only to the culture of the elite. In this course we will confront these issues through an exploration of the range of Renaissance popular culture in which Shakespeare's works reside. We will also examine ways in which Shakespeare's plays have been adapted in our own popular culture.

English 5007 Section 001 CRN 91407

Robin Murray

Composition Pedagogies 7:00-9:30 pm T

Composition Pedagogies will focus on theories and pedagogies of teaching writing. In this course, students will explore a variety of composition pedagogies, be introduced to the various theoretical influences that have shaped the teaching of writing, and learn about the history of Composition/Rhetoric as a discipline.

English 5025 Section 001 CRN 92266

Olga Abella

Creative Writing Professional Development 3:30-4:20 pm R

The focus of this seminar is to prepare your work for public presentation, and for publication. We will discuss: your "voice" and how to develop it orally for an audience; writing cover letters and bios for publishing your work; researching venues for publishing your work; preparing a manuscript for submission; reactions and impressions of literary events you are required to attend; and your future as a writer. As a final project, the class will test their honed voices by giving a public reading.

English 5061D Section 600 CRN 94907

Jad Smith

Special Topics in Literature and Literary Theory-Science Fiction Vanuwards: New Wave and Cyberpunk Online

In this seminar, we will examine the complex histories of two SF vanguards, New Wave and cyberpunk. The New Wave took shape in the U.K. during the mid-1960s, largely after Michael Moorcock assumed the editorship of *New Worlds* and pushed the magazine in avant-garde directions. Cyberpunk emerged in the U.S. in the early 1980s, after Bruce Sterling and other writers associated with what was then called "The Movement" declared genre SF a "backwater anachronism" and aimed to turn it into a "cultural force" instead. Both of these vanguards fostered literary experimentation, shook up the genre at large, and left a lasting impact on the field. We will consider the work of a writer who was a key influence on both New Wave and cyberpunk—Alfred Bester—and discuss a range of representative texts and writers related to both movements. Readings will likely

include work by John Brunner, Pat Cadigan, Samuel R. Delany, Thomas M. Disch, James Tiptree, Jr. (i.e., Alice Sheldon), Joanna Russ, Bruce Sterling, and William Gibson.

English 5260 Section 001 CRN 94641

Terri Fredrick

Communication in Science and Technical Organizations 2:00-4:30 pm W

This graduate course looks beyond academic writing to the types of communication professionals use in their careers. The course will introduce students to practices and principles of audience-centered communication within organizational settings. The applied and strategic nature of this communication will be emphasized throughout the course, and students will learn to communicate scientific and technical information to internal and external stakeholders. Thus, the broad content areas covered in the class will include organizational communication, professional writing, technical writing, and public relations.

****This course is cross-listed with Communication Studies and will be team-taught by a faculty member in Professional Writing and a faculty member in Public Relations/Organizational Communication.****

English 5960 Section 600 CRN 94145

Terri Fredrick

Internship in Professional Writing Online

Students must meet with the Internship Coordinator (Dr. Fredrick) to arrange an internship placement before registering for ENG 5960.

A community-based experience featuring practical application of skills developed in the English curriculum. To the extent possible, placement is matched to career goals with the expectation that students might approach graduation and the job search with writing/editing portfolios to show potential employers. Recent English interns have worked as writers or editors for nonprofit organization, small business, corporations, libraries, local government offices.

English 5960 is a three-hour course offered on a credit/no credit basis. Internship work is part time (an average of 10 hours per week over a 15-week semester) and can be completed while enrolled in other courses and/or while holding a graduate assistantship. In addition to work created as part of the internship, students will engage in reflective writing about the internship and organizational culture. The coordinator and site-supervisors cooperate in evaluation.

Notes

1. ENG 1002G is a prerequisite for 2000-level courses and above.
2. All courses designated with a G (for example, ENG 1009G) fulfill requirements in the EIU General Education Program.
3. Concurrent or prior registration in ENG 2205 is strongly recommended for majors in all courses at the 2000-level and above.

English Major Themes

In order to allow students to choose courses that meet their intellectual interests, English courses numbered between 2000 and 4904 are tagged with the following themes:

Education & Society: These courses address changing practices, values, and/or theories of education over time; changes in literacy and readership, and how these changes may have affected writers and their readers; education as a theme in literature.

Media, Technology & Popular Culture: These courses address changes in communications media and technologies over time; changes in readership and viewership; the growth and development of popular audiences; the relationship of popular culture to ideology; the effects of media, technology and popular culture on writers and their readers.

Genre, Form, and Poetics: These courses focus closely on the relationship of form to meaning; historical considerations of generic traditions and conventions; uses, appropriations of, and changes to genre over time; hybridity and experimentation; genre, poetic, and narrative theories.

Science and the Environment: These courses examine issues and controversies in science or the environment through the lens of literature, film, or other media; environmental advocacy; writing for or about the sciences and/or the natural world.

Identity and Culture: These courses explore the relationship among the individual's sense of self, membership in identity groups, life experiences, and perceptions. In other words, these courses answer the question: how does who I am shape my understanding of the society and the world?

Law and Social Justice: These courses explore the ways individuals and groups influence social norms regarding ethics and morals. In other words, these courses answer the question: what needs to be changed in the world, and how can I work to change it?