

Courses in Creative Writing 2023-2024

ENG 501, 502: GRADUATE CREATIVE WRITING TUTORIAL I, II (4, 4) Burnside, Kaldas, Moeckel, Morgan, van Eerden

Graduate tutorial seminars in the form and theory of contemporary writing practice, with attention to the writing of the students in the class. The exact contents of any given seminar will be determined by the needs and interests of its members. Limited to graduate students in the creative writing program.

ENG 507, 508: ADVANCED CREATIVE WRITING (4, 4) Harlan, Morgan, Sharp, Sumra, van Eerden

A workshop course in the writing of prose and poetry. Selected works by students will be read and discussed. Frequent conferences.

ENG 511, 512: GRADUATE CREATIVE WRITING TUTORIAL III, IV (4, 4) Burnside, Kaldas, Moeckel, Morgan, van Eerden

Graduate tutorial seminars in the form and theory of contemporary writing practice, with attention to the writing of the students in the class. The exact contents of any given seminar will be determined by the needs and interests of its members. Limited to second-year graduate students in the creative writing program.

ENG 519: THE JAZZ AESTHETIC IN LITERATURE (4) Anderson

This course explores the development of literature (poetry, fiction, autobiography, etc.) that employs a "jazz aesthetic." The philosophical/aesthetic role that jazz improvisation has played in the development of Modernist and Post-Modernist critique will also be examined. Artists discussed include Charles Mingus, Jack Kerouac, Bob Kaufman, Amiri Baraka, Nathaniel Mackey, Miles Davis, Anthony Braxton, Jayne Cortez, and several others. The course entails the development of a creative and critical portfolio of jazz-inspired writing. Offered Term 1.

ENG 521: SCREENWRITING I (4) Department

An intensive hands-on course in the art of writing for the screen, for beginners and for writers experienced in other genres (fiction, poetry, and creative nonfiction). Screenings, writing exercises, and workshop-style critiques comprise the course. Not offered 2023-2024.

ENG 522: SCREENWRITING II (4) Department

An intensive course in screenwriting in which students go through the various stages of developing and writing a feature-length film script, from outline to treatment to presentation and group critiques to finished screenplay, including the analysis of previously produced screenplays and films. Not offered 2023-2024.

ENG 523: CINEMATIC ADAPTATION (4) Department

Students go through the entire process (from analysis of the story to outline to treatment to screenplay) of adapting a work of fiction for the screen. The course also includes close study of works of fiction that have previously been adapted for the cinema, as well as the resulting screenplays and films. Not offered in 2023-2024.

ENG 524: POETRY IN PERFORMANCE (4) Anderson

This course examines the aesthetics of textual performance as it has been applied to the performative aspect of poetry. Students will develop methods of critiquing and perform a broad range of aesthetic expression that incorporates poetry with other media. Poets to be discussed

include Jayne Cortez, Ed Sanders, and several others. This course is a composite seminar/practicum. Not offered 2023-2024.

Eng 347: STUDIES IN SHORT FICTION

Sumra

Selected readings in the short story from masters to recent innovators, with attention to stories by women and the contemporary short-short story. Prerequisite: sophomore standing or permission. Offered Term 2.

ENG 551: WRITER-IN-RESIDENCE: WRITING IN THE AGE OF LONELINESS: ECO-LITERATURE & THE WRITER'S TASK (4)

Brown

If we take the worries of climate change and habitat destruction seriously, how can we help but feel an incapacitating sense of hopelessness that threatens to render things like literature and poems utterly useless? In this course, we'll study poems and lyric essays that have their own solutions to these pitfalls and will try our hands at writing through this darkness with awareness, control, and yes, even hope.

ENG 553 FILM AS NARRATIVE ART I (4)

Department

A study of films by directors such as Sir Alfred Hitchcock and Ingmar Bergman, as moral, aesthetic, and psychological narratives, with particular attention to the development of cinematic style in relation to concerns throughout their careers. Not offered 2023-2024

ENG 554: FILM AS A NARRATIVE ART II (4)

Department

This course focuses on a study of films by directors such as Federico Fellini, Akira Kurosawa, Stanley Kubrick, and Orson Welles, as moral, aesthetic, and psychological narratives, with particular attention to the development of cinematic style in relation to concerns throughout their careers. Not offered 2023-2024

ENG 567: CROSS-GENRE AND EXPERIMENTAL WRITING (4)

Burnside

An examination of and practice in forms of writing that straddle and/or blend the worlds of fiction/poetry, image/word, fiction/nonfiction, and points between, including poetry, conceptual art, graphic memoir and fictional (auto)biography. Students will write concrete and prose poetry, flash fiction, fictional memoir, and experiment and redacted texts and their own invented forms, while considering a range of 20th-and 21st-century authors. Offered Term 1.

ENG 569: PEDAGOGY AND PRACTICE OF CREATIVE WRITING (2)

van Eerden

The pedagogical background and practical application of creative writing for the college classroom. Students will research pedagogical materials and texts, build syllabi, work one-on-one with peer mentors, engage in practice teaching, and learn institutional practices pursuant to college level teaching. Limited to MFA-CW program Teaching Fellows and Graduate Assistants by permission.

ENG 573: THE BLACK AESTHETIC MOVEMENT IN LITERATURE (4)

Anderson

Referred to as the cultural wing of the Black Power Movement, The Black Arts/Black Aesthetic Movement (1960s-1970s) remains one of the most innovative and controversial movements in modern and contemporary African American literature. This aesthetic movement gave birth to artists' circles, writers' workshops, drama, and dance groups, as well as new publishing ventures. The resultant work was both didactic and explosive and had a profound impact on college campuses and African American communities. This course examines the work of several of the movement's principal theorists and writers: Toni Cade Bambara, Larry Neal, Sun Ra, Amiri Baraka, Sonia Sanchez, Audre Lorde, etc. Prerequisite: sophomore standing or permission of instructor. Not offered 2023-2024.

ENG 575: WRITING OUT OF THE MULTICULTURAL EXPERIENCE (4)

Kaldas

This is a literature and creative writing course. Readings will focus attention on particular issues, such as perception and stereotypes, gender expectations, and cultural conflicts. Assignments will be creative, encouraging students to bring the issues raised in the literature into their own work. Students can write from their specific background, paying particular attention to ethnic, national, and regional identity, economic class, sexual orientation, etc. Offered Term 2.

ENG 584: ADVANCED STUDIES IN POETRY (4)**Anderson**

An intensive exploration of poetry, focusing on contemporary writers from the U.S. Can poetry really matter? How does it mean now? Is craft dead, murderous, of the essence? How do past poets speak through/against/around writers of our time? Is aesthetic progress possible? What are the orthodoxies, transgressions, blunders of the age? Open to creative writing M.F.A. students, and senior English majors with permission of instructor. Offered Term 2.

ENG 585: ADVANCED STUDIES IN THE NOVEL (4)**Morgan**

Studies in the form of the novel, ranging throughout the history of the novel. Close readings of a variety of novels with an effort to determine the demands of the form and ways in which it has been and can be developed. Offered Term 1.

ENG 586: ADVANCED STUDIES IN CREATIVE NONFICTION (4)**van Eerden**

This is a course on the literary form that has come to be known as "Creative Nonfiction." We'll read and discuss various modes of writing about personal experience and the aesthetic and ethical issues raised by such writing. Written assignments include discursive prose as well as students' original creative nonfiction. Not offered 2023-2024.

ENG 587: ADVANCED STUDIES IN SHORT FICTION (4)**Blackwood**

Close readings of representative stories past and present that define or defy our expectations for the form. Attention to building a vocabulary for discussion and to the analysis of technique and structure. Includes focused study of several contemporary masters of the form. Not offered 2023-2024.

ENG 599: THESIS (8)**Department**

A collection of original work: poetry, fiction (short fiction or a novel), screenplay, play, or an appropriate grouping of more than one genre.

Other Courses Open to Creative Writing Graduate Students

Students in the Hollins M.F.A. program in creative writing may also draw from a variety of courses across the curriculum. Most choose their elective courses from upper-level courses offered by the English department, which may be taken at the graduate level for graduate credit. Additional or differentiated work is required of the graduate student and professors must submit a syllabus outlining the differentiation. During the 2023-2024 academic year, the courses include:

ENG 303: Literary History and Theory
 ENG 314: Seminar in Jane Austen
 ENG 315: Dante
 ENG 328S: 19th Century Women Writers
 ENG 330: 17th-18th Century Literature
 ENG 333: Shakespeare's Women
 ENG 337: 17th Century Poetry
 ENG 346: Arab American Literature
 ENG 347: Studies in Short Fiction
 ENG 348: Madness in Shakespeare
 ENG 350S: Milton and His Literary Afterlife
 ENG 350S: Native American Literature
 ENG 482: Advanced Seminar in English Literature