English Course Offerings
Spring 2022
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Note to Students

- Online schedule goes live Oct. 25th
- Registration begins Nov. 8th
- Advising Week is Nov. 1-5th (week before registration begins)
- Dr. Klein’s office hours are:
  Mon.- Thurs. 10:30-12; T 3-4; by appt.

Scholarships

Did you know that ISU has millions of dollars in scholarships available every year? Register in the Bengal Online Scholarship System to receive updates on scholarships relevant to your major and interests. Sign up today at isu.edu/scholarships

English also offers scholarships specific to our program for undergraduate students and TAships/Fellowships for graduate students. You can find information about these awards at https://www.isu.edu/english/scholarships/

Courses in orange satisfy general education requirements.
ENGL 1101/1101P: Writing and Rhetoric I/Plus

Multiple sections offered. See BengalWeb class schedule.

In this course students will read, analyze, and write expository essays for a variety of purposes consistent with expectations for college-level writing in standard edited English.

ENGL 1102 (Objective 1): Writing and Rhetoric II

Multiple sections offered. See BengalWeb class schedule.

Writing essays based on readings. Students will focus on critical reading, research methods, gathering ideas and evidence, and documentation.

ENGL 1107 (Objective 7): Nature of Language

01: TR 9:30-10:45 SO
Instructor: Elizabeth Kickham

This course is an introduction to the field of linguistics. We will look at how the study of language is approached by linguists within the discipline of linguistics and by linguists within the discipline of anthropology, as well as exploring how other fields utilize linguistics for their own interests while impacting the whole field of linguistics in the process. Because this is a survey course, we only examine a portion of the many areas within linguistics without going into great detail in any one area. These areas include: phonetics, morphology, phonology, first and second language acquisition, writing systems, historical and comparative linguistics, and the history of English.
In this diverse world, we are united by two things: our need for love and our fear of death. In this wide-ranging course, we will take in an array of literature that addresses these two major themes. From W.S.Merwin’s “On the Anniversary of My Death” to the sermon John Donne delivered a week before his own passing, we will see how writers confronted this fundamental fact of life. And with Stoppard’s Shakespeare in Love and Saramago’s Death with Interruptions, we will see how people continue to find joy in each other. For mature readers.
ENGL 1126 (Objective 4A): The Art of Film I

01, 04: W 2:30-5:00
This is a distance learning course with sections in Pocatello and Idaho Falls.
Instructor: Roger Schmidt

A survey of the history of film from its early years in Hollywood to the most recent Oscar winners, with emphasis on aesthetic principles and the creative process. Classic films in a variety of genres and from each era will be screened. Examples include: Casablanca, Psycho, The Godfather, and Toy Story.

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ENGL 1126 (Objective 4A): The Art of Film I

02: TR 1:00-2:15
03: MWF 1:00-1:50
Instructor: Carlen Donovan

Art of Film I examines the creative process, aesthetic principles and historical background of cinematic arts. The course will introduce you to important movements, critical approaches, and technical aspects of film. Our class goal is that you analyze and evaluate film texts critically for yourself, both in class and beyond, and that you develop a greater understanding of the human condition through the art of film.
Humanity’s relationship to the natural world has figured prominently in literature from the earliest days to the present. Questions about how we connect to animals, to plants, and to the larger systems of nature that surround us are perennial ones that artists have explored in stories, poems, and films. This introductory course will explore how these engagements happen over time in diverse landscapes from China, Africa, Latin America, and the U.S., with an eye toward the environmental crisis we face in the present.
ENGL 2210 (Objective 9):
American Cultural Studies

01, 02: MW 11:00-12:15
This is a distance learning course with sections in Pocatello and Idaho Falls.
Instructor: William Donovan

This class studies American Folk, Popular, and Elite Culture through the lens of what entertains us: ghostly folklore, Disney animated features, and more! Satisfies Gen Ed Objective 9, Cultural Diversity. Textbook available as an ebook online for under $25!

ENGL 2211: Introduction to Literary Analysis

01: MWF 10:00-10:50
02: MWF 10:00-10:50 SO
Instructor: David Lawrimore

This course serves as an introduction to the practice of literary interpretation and analysis. We will read a wide variety of short fiction, poetry, and drama, asking what distinguishes literary texts from other cultural productions, why an author might utilize a specific literary form in order to achieve a particular effect, and what critical approaches we might take in interpreting literature.

While many of our class sessions will be devoted to close reading, we will also explore a range of secondary criticism in order to see some of the arguments that scholars, past and present, have made about the works we’re examining.
ENGL 2212 (Objective 9): America's Diverse Cultures: Introduction to Folklore and Oral Tradition

01: T 1:00-2:15 SO/BL
02: W 1:00-2:15 SO/BL
Instructor: Jennifer Attebery

Folklore is the informal culture of small groups that interact via any communication medium—in person or online, synchronous or asynchronous. In contemporary life, we experience folk culture as oral sayings and stories, customary ways of celebrating, and ways of creating material objects. Proverbs, riddles, legends, folktales, personal experience narratives, customs, holidays, foodways, and crafts are all folk traditions. We'll look at these genres of folklore with examples from the many cultures of America, including examples from the growing trend for folklore to be shared via the internet and social media.

ENGL 2258 (Objective 4A): Survey of World Literature II

01-03: MW 9:00-9:50
This is a distance learning course with sections in Pocatello, Idaho Falls, or SO.
Instructor: Alan Johnson

This course introduces you to amazing works of literature from around the world written between the late 1600s and today. These plays, poems, short stories, and novels explore topics like sacrifice, honor, religion, love, death, and technology. They also show that although cultures vary, people everywhere share common emotions and experiences. We will contemplate what motivates individuals and cultures to express themselves in particular art forms, how this art reflects its time and place, and why it matters to us today. We'll also consider why these works of literature have lasted so long, and how their ideas and values compare to ours.
ENGL 2268: Survey of British Literature II

01: MWF 11:00-11:50
02: MWF 11:00-11:50 SO
Instructor: Matthew VanWinkle

This course offers an overview of British literature from the late eighteenth century to the end of the twentieth century. This era encompasses a variety of changes in literature and culture: new ways of imagining the individual’s relationship to society, the fluctuating fortunes of Britain on the global stage, and the constant renegotiation of the relationship between the present and a variety of imagined pasts. As a thread through these changes, this course will dwell on the attitude toward change itself. How possible, how desirable is change? How quickly or slowly, how dependently or independently of human activity, does change occur? We will read the poetry and prose of the last three hundred years that both responds to and helps to shape a range of answers to these questions.

ENGL 2278: Survey of American Literature II

01: TR 11:00-12:15
Instructor: Harold Hellwig

We’ll be reading some of the most astonishing works of literature from any country in the world, and all of those works are American! You’ll analyze and evaluate cultural materials in American society as it evolved from roughly 1865 to 2020. You’ll read fiction, poetry, and drama, from a number of regional and national movements. You’ll see why American literature is so good at figuring out why American history, culture, and values are so important in understanding life in general. While including mainstream figures, such as Crane, Faulkner, and Frost, the readings will also include writers who represent movements or periods, such as 19th and 20th Century women, Realism, Naturalism, the Harlem Renaissance, Beatniks, Native American, Cold War, political, and so-called Postmodern writers. We might have time to look at the influence of American literature on the development of other cultural events/artifacts/artwork (film noir, television comedies, paintings), at least those that have direct links to the anthology readings in the course.
ENGL 2280: Grammar and Usage

01: TR 11:00-12:15 SO
Instructor: Sonja Launspach

This course is a basic introduction to the grammar of standard English. Through preparation and participation, students should be able to use grammar terminology appropriately, identify the lexical categories of words, and analyze the different components of grammar, such as phrases and clauses. The class uses a Team Based Learning approach. Part of our discussion may include the historical development and use of grammatical forms. Assignments will include individual knowledge application exercises, team concept explorations, quizzes, textual analysis and a final grammatical analysis.

ENGL 2281: Introduction to Language Studies

01-04: TR 9:30-10:45
This is a distance learning course with sections in Pocatello, Idaho Falls, Twin Falls, and Meridian.
Instructor: Brent Wolter

The emergence of language is perhaps the most important development in human history. And although most people deftly use their first language, many of them don’t understand the basic structures and principles that underpin it. The first part of this course introduces students to the predictable patterns and systems that underlie human languages, such as syntax (the order words can occur in sentences), semantics (what words mean), phonology (how sounds are physically produced and perceived), and phonology (the rules that underlie the sound systems of a language). The second part of the course takes a closer look at various applied fields of linguistics, such as sociolinguistics, psycholinguistics, first and second language acquisition, pragmatics, and so forth.
ENGL 3305: The Art of Film II: Film and Jane Austen

01-04: Thurs. 7:00-9:30 pm
This is a distance learning course with sections in Pocatello, Idaho Falls, Twin Falls, and Meridian.
Instructor: Roger Schmidt

“I love Jane Austen. I’ve seen all her films.” In this course we will examine adaptations of Jane Austen’s novels into film and television. We will read the original texts (Sense and Sensibility, Pride and Prejudice, Emma, and Sanditon) and explore the wide, creative, and seemingly unending stream of films these novels have inspired.

ENGL 3306: Intermediate Creative Writing Workshop

01: MWF 11:00-11:50
Instructor: Susan Goslee

In this intermediate creative writing course, we will work in fiction, creative nonfiction, and poetry. We will read individual essays, poems, and stories as well as a full volume of poems. Each writing prompt focuses on a different formal or thematic move that you will later draw on to write complete works. These polished pieces will strive to reward multiple readings, avoid the familiar, respect (or knowingly slight) grammar, earn their surprises, and make a stab at beauty—or decide to do otherwise. My aim is that every student will be workshopped twice during the semester.
ENGL 3307: Professional and Technical Writing

*Multiple sections offered.
See BengalWeb class schedule.*

An intensive course covering skills and conventions pertinent to writing in the professions, including technical writing. Applications in disciplines or subjects of interest to the individual student. Especially appropriate for science, engineering, and pre-professional majors.

ENGL 3308: Business Communications

01-04: MW 1:00-2:15
This is a distance learning course with sections in Pocatello, Idaho Falls, Twin Falls, and Meridian. Instructor: Tera Cole

05: Asynchronous Online
Instructor: Cathy Peppers

An advanced course in conventions of business communications, emphasizing purpose and audience. Focus on style, semantics, research skills, format, persuasion, and critical analysis and synthesis of data.
ENGL 3311: Literary Criticism and Theory
01: TR 1:00-2:15 SO
Instructor: Amanda Zink

In this writing-intensive course you will continue honing your close-reading skills. We will build on these skills by introducing ourselves to the major critical and theoretical patterns of thought in literary scholarship, reading both critical essays on each trend and literary and cultural texts that can bear such theoretical scrutiny. You will learn about ten such trends: New Criticism, Structuralism, Deconstruction, Psychoanalysis, Feminism, Queer Studies, Marxism, Historicism and Cultural Studies, Postcolonial and Race Studies, and Reader-Response Criticism.

ENGL 3321: Genre Studies in Drama
01: MWF 12:00-12:50
02: MWF 12:00-12:50 SO
Instructor: Jessica Winston

French author Tristan Bernard is credited with saying, “In the theater the audience wants to be surprised but by things that they expect.” This course explores the expectations of the genre of drama by studying its history, forms, conventions, techniques, and subjects; we will discuss the usefulness and the limitations of considering genre in the interpretation of literature; and we will consider how dramatic literature is a springboard for another mode, theatrical production. We will read and discuss selected plays from the classical Greece through contemporary American and British drama and, when available, we will view and discuss contemporary theatrical productions of the assigned plays.
ENGL 4401/5501: Advanced Composition: Genre, Media, Ensembles, and Form: A Rhetorical Roadmap for Professional Writing

01: Asynchronous Online
Instructor: Robert Watkins

Rhetorical genre applies the concept of literary genre to all recognizable writing ensembles. Recent research indicates that genre recognition aids graduating professional writers in their job search and subsequent writing careers. This class will provide a rhetorical roadmap to navigate the professional writing world. We will do this by exploring multiple genres of writing (including music criticism, analysis, and evaluation) as well as ensembles (e.g., infographics and comics) and the media they are presented in (such as digital and print).

ENGL 4406/5506: Advanced Poetry Workshop

01: Thurs. 4:00-6:30 pm
Instructor: Bethany Schultz Hurst

Places, both real and imagined, have served as a continual source of inspiration in poetry. Poet KC Trammer writes that “poems of place contain the psychological and geographic maps we make of the worlds we know, think we know, and those we remember.” This semester, we’ll consider the intersection of imagination and place in collections such as Traci Brimhall’s Come the Slumberless to the Land of Nod, where a sailing trip to the Arctic intertwines with versions of mythical Nod, and Deaf Republic, where the residents of a fictional Soviet-era town resist their oppressors by feigning deafness. Other collections include Tommy Pico’s Nature Poem and Reginald Dwayne Betts’s Felon. We’ll write and workshop our own poems with specific settings, using Diane Lockward’s new craft book The Strategic Poet as a guide.
ENGL 4409/5509: Literary Magazine Production

01: T 4:00-6:30 pm
Instructor: Susan Goslee

From the call for American independence in the pamphlet “Common Sense” to the first state-side publication of “The Waste Land” in the *Dial*, small magazines and presses have fomented political and literary change in our country. While students in this course may not bring about similar revolutions, they will gain exciting hands-on experience in the production of *Black Rock & Sage*, ISU’s literary journal. Students will first develop strategies for soliciting literary, art, music, and schematic submissions. Then in exciting and lively debates, they will select the stories, poems, and essays that are to be published. Students will also organize and produce different events on campus to promote the magazine and support ISU’s art culture. To inform our production of *Black Rock & Sage*, we will survey a variety of well-established student-run journals, read interviews with significant journal editors, study the history of the “little” magazine, and consider briefly the relationship among the arts, democracy, and culture. Students will participate with critical papers of varying lengths and discussion. In this class, students will help shape the ways in which Idaho State contributes to the nation’s literary dialogue.
Upper Division/Graduate (4000/5000)

ENGL 4431: Teaching and Writing Projects

01 : Asynchronous Online
Instructor: Robert Watkins

This class provides instructors of all professions the tools and theory they need to teach students how to write. This class fills in the gaps of teaching writing that often get overlooked. The course will cover rhetoric, composition theory, multimodality, and general rhetorical criticism to future and current instructors in order to prepare them to effectively teach students multiple genres and modes of writing.

ENGL 4453/5553: American Indian Literature: Murders and Monsters

01: T 7:00-9:30 pm SO
Instructor: Amanda Zink

In this course you will read literary works by North American native peoples, especially in relation to history, genre, and culture, including oral traditions and graphic narratives. We will begin by reading Thomas King’s The Truth About Stories and then read contemporary novels and graphic story collections that feature monsters and murders. This course will not make you an “expert” about American Indians: the history, culture, and literature of the native peoples on this continent is too vast and varied for any course to purport such a claim. Likewise, as you will see in our readings, this course will also not teach you what it means to be Native: individual experiences of Indians in the many and diverse native communities across the Americas preclude any definition of “Indianness.” Rather, by reading a variety of genres, you will learn how Native Americans have used narrative—oral, written, and graphic—to survive and adapt through over five centuries of colonialism on this continent.
ENGL 4461/5561: Studies in Classical Literature: Greco-Roman Myth

01: W 4:00-6:30 pm
02: W 4:00-6:30 pm SO
Instructor: Curtis Whitaker

The Greco-Roman pagan myths have entranced the West since they were first formulated three millennia ago. Part religion, part literature, they explore human problems in a manner that subsequent cultures have found deeply satisfying. This course will focus on what it is about these myths that makes their themes, images, and narrative structures resonate so deeply with readers. A variety of theoretical viewpoints on myth will provide us with a toolkit to consider how these special stories function.

The class will begin with an examination of many core myths as told in Homer’s Odyssey and Aeschylus’s Oresteia; we will then consider the role of myth in Sappho’s love poetry and Ovid’s Metamorphoses.
ENGL 4466/5566- Studies in Nineteenth Century Literature: The American Writer as Activist

01: Asynchronous Online
Instructor: David Lawrimore

Explore activists-writers in the nineteenth-century US who utilize various forms of print culture for the advancement of their social group. We will also consider how different literary genres influence and reshape their beliefs. Readings include novels, drama, short stories, poetry, and autobiographies by transatlantic merchants, early feminists, Native American activists, African American abolitionists. This class is completely online.

ENGL 4472/5572: Seminar in a Major Literary Figure: Film and Jane Austen

01-04: Thurs. 7:00-9:30 pm
This is a distance learning course with sections in Pocatello, Idaho Falls, Twin Falls, and Meridian.
Instructor: Roger Schmidt

“I love Jane Austen. I’ve seen all her films.” In this course we will examine adaptations of Jane Austen’s novels into film and television. We will read the original texts (Sense and Sensibility, Pride and Prejudice, Emma, and Sanditon) and explore the wide, creative, and seemingly unending stream of films these novels have inspired.
ENGL 4493: Senior Seminar in Professional Writing
02: M 4:00-6:30 pm SO
Instructor: Margaret Johnson

What does it mean to be a professional writer? In ENGL 4493, we will work together to answer this question. This class serves as the capstone course for those in the professional writing option of the English major. Through this course, you will tie together what you have learned in previous courses in order to strengthen your abilities in professional and technical communication. During the semester, we will address current issues in the field of professional communication, including crisis communication and writing during the COVID pandemic. Students will develop a professional portfolio, will do a project on a company’s communication methods, will prepare a post-crisis communication tool kit, and will prepare materials for applying for professional writing positions, in addition to other assignments.

ENGL 4480/5580: Varieties of American English
01: TR 1:00-2:15 SO
Instructor: Sonja Launspach

This course will explore the diversity of American English in depth. It will begin with the historical evolution of the different dialects, the effect of migration on dialects, and the influence of non-English immigrant languages on the development of American English. The course will also examine different dialects, such as Appalachian, Chicano, and African-American, in depth. Part of the course will be a hands-on project studying the language variation. The course work will include homework, short research papers and fieldwork assignments. The readings will include texts and a reading packet. Graduate students will have additional assignments that might include a longer research paper or annotated bibliography.
ENGL 4499/5599: Advanced Academic Writing

01: M 4:00-6:30 pm  
H1: M 4:00-6:30 pm  
Instructor: Thomas Klein

This course seeks to teach the writing patterns of advanced academic writing, reading strategies, and effective writing techniques. It focuses on understanding strategies particular to given academic genres. Students will produce an article-length document that demonstrates audience and discipline awareness as well as effective academic writing conventions. The course is designed to help students understand the many unspoken expectations of writing theses and conference papers, and preparing articles for publication.

ENGL 4494: Senior Seminar in Creative Writing

01: TR 11:00-12:15  
Instructor: Bethany Schultz Hurst

In English 4494, the capstone course for Creative Writing majors and minors, students will focus on semester-long creative projects (poetry collections, novel chapters, short story collections, etc.) of their own design, while exploring specific craft issues in contemporary creative and critical texts. We’ll also consider what it means to be part of a writing community; we’ll not only workshop one another’s work but will interact with communities beyond our classroom. By the end of the course, students will have the skills necessary to meaningfully self-direct their creative writing and will be prepared to be citizens in larger writing communities.
ENGL 6610: Careers in English

01: W 3:00-3:50
02: W 3:00-3:50 SO
Instructors: Alan & Margaret Johnson

Careers in English is designed to help English doctoral students nearing the end of the program as they navigate the academic job market. Though primarily intended for those about to complete their dissertations, anyone interested in the academic job search process — including graduate students from other programs, English graduate students at an earlier stage in their programs, and adjunct instructors — is also welcome to enroll.

Topics will include the process of searching for faculty jobs, Carnegie classifications and distinctions between institutions, dissertation/research abstracts, teaching philosophies, CVs, application letters, and interviewing techniques. Although the course is largely focused on the job market for teaching positions, we will also discuss alt-ac careers and the process of searching for positions in other areas of academia (e.g., academic administration, writing and editing services, publishers, museums, libraries, government, non-profits, etc.). The class will combine theoretical and rhetorically oriented discussions of job search materials with workshop-style evaluation of documents written by enrolled students.

ENGL 6623: Seminar in Literary Themes: Victorian and Neo-Victorian Fictions

01: W 7:00-9:30 pm
02: W 7:00-9:30 pm SO
Instructor: Matthew VanWinkle

A striking abundance and variety of early 21st century fictions express a fascination with the Victorian era: with the narrative shapes that it popularized, with the emergent genres that characterized it, with its defining historical realities. What are the sources of this fascination? What are its consequences? To what extent are these returns to the Victorian an excavation, a supplement, or even a renovation?

This class will pursue these questions by reading Victorian and neo-Victorian texts in dialogue with each other, along with selections from the growing body of scholarly commentary that examines the implications of this dialogue. These implications, as Ann Heilmann has observed, articulate the “fundamental problem of how we use the Victorian literary and cultural heritage that surrounds us without undermining the distinctive, important, and definitive differences” between the late nineteenth century and the early twenty-first. As we read, we might consider how effectively relevant Victorian texts remain, and how appropriately neo-Victorian texts present that relevance as something other than the mere reflection of our current concerns.
ENGL 6635: Special Topics in Teaching of English: Teaching Science Fiction and Fantasy Literature

01: M 7:00-9:30 pm
02: M 7:00-9:30 pm SO
Instructor: Brian Attebery

Fantasy and science fiction are capable of as much artistry as the more academically favored forms of contemporary realism and historical fiction, and yet they are also popular genres: which is to say, the kinds of books people read voluntarily, outside of school. In this course, we will look at techniques for teaching students to read non-realistic fictions with an eye to narrative techniques, genre conventions, and what Jane Tompkins calls their “cultural work.”

Core examples will include two classic novels, Hope Mirrlees’s *Lud-in-the-Mist* and Philip K. Dick’s *The Man in the High Castle*; selected short stories by Octavia E. Butler and Ursula K. Le Guin; and editor Jonathan Strahan’s compilation of the best speculative fiction of 2020. We will also read excerpts from pedagogical books by Robert Scholes, Elaine Showalter, and Ken Bain, along with this year’s winner of the Teaching Literature Book Award. Students will be asked to teach selected short stories, to develop sample syllabi, and to develop a teaching philosophy that addresses both the aesthetic pleasures and the social functions of imaginative fiction.
ENGL 6681: Theory of Second Language Acquisition

01: Thurs. 4:00-6:30 pm
02: Thurs. 4:00-6:30 pm SO
Instructor: Brent Wolter

The course will: 1) address theories describing the processes underlying second language acquisition, as well as relevant research, 2) consider what conditions increase the likelihood of successful second language acquisition, and 3) review the implications of 1 and 2 for second language learning and teaching.

ENGL 7731: Practicum in Teaching Composition

01: W 2:00-3:50
Instructor: Robert Watkins
This course is limited to second semester MA GTAs.

The purpose of this practicum is to create a forum for the discussion of teaching practices and experiences for those teaching college writing. When we meet, each member of the class will have the opportunity to share ideas and questions about teaching composition with the rest of the class. In addition, readings and discussion of composition theory will be part of our group meetings.

Furthermore, each class participant who is teaching his or her own section of writing courses will be observed during the semester, and we will discuss teaching issues relevant to these particular class observations.