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SO courses are Online Courses that meet Synchronously Online.
AO courses are Online Courses that meet Asynchronously Online.

Courses in blue satisfy general education requirements.
Registration begins November 2nd.
Advising week is Oct. 26th - Oct. 30th. We encourage you to meet with your advisor or Dr. Thomas Klein, our undergraduate director. He has in-person office hours MW 1:30-3:00 or TR 3:00-4:00, though appointments are encouraged.

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: 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 here: https://www.isu.edu/english/scholarships--awards/
Lower Division (1000)

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 1123: Advanced Academic Writing for Non-native Speakers of English

01: TR 9:30-10:45
Instructor: Yousef Deikna

Introduction to the writing process (prewriting, drafting, revising, editing) and concepts such as audience, purpose, and thesis. Continued emphasis on development of grammar and vocabulary.

ENGL 1107 (Objective 7): Nature of Language

01: SO TR 9:30-10:45
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.
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 1175 (Objective 4A): Literature and Ideas: Families and Communities

02: MWF 10-10:50
Instructor: Tera Cole
Families are foundational to our sense of belonging and community, and our earliest experiences with our family shape how we respond to the society around us. As we grow up, we sometimes choose to see our friends and extended community as our family. Literature often explores the function and the dysfunction of family and communities. This course will utilize novels, short stories, drama, and poetry—through the theme of “families and communities”—as a way to better help us understand ourselves and our place in this world.
Texts include: Things Fall Apart, A Raisin in the Sun, Station Eleven, and more!

ENGL 2206: Creative Writing Workshop

01: TR 9:30-10:45
Instructor: Bethany Schultz Hurst
This class will introduce you to the study of creative writing craft in the genres of poetry and the short story. We’ll read a variety of contemporary texts from a craft-based perspective to learn how authors construct their work. We’ll also practice elements of the creative process, from generating material to revising polished drafts, with the goal of creating works that are valuable to and rewarding for an audience of readers. In class-wide work-shops of student works, we’ll practice giving and being receptive to critical feedback. We’ll also have fun with discussions and collaborative activities designed to encourage creative thinking.
ENGL 2211: Introduction to Literary Analysis

01: TR 9:30-10:45
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 2210 (Objective 9): American Cultural Studies: Disney, Ghosts, and Culture

01-02: TR 1-2:15
This is a distance learning course with sections in Pocatello (01) and Idaho Falls (02).
Instructor: Wiliam Donovan
This class studies American Folk, Popular, and Elite Culture through the lens of what entertains us: ghostly folklore, Disney animated features, and more! Textbook available as an ebook online for under $20!
ENGL 2212 (Objective 9): Introduction to Folklore/Oral Tradition

01: SO MWF 11-11:50
02: SO TR 11-12:15
Instructor: Brian Attebery
Folklore is any form of culture shared informally among a group of people. Though often misunderstood as belonging solely to a simpler, rural way of life, folklore includes a range of contemporary forms such as urban legends and gaming culture. In this course, we will explore the processes of folk performance and transmission, the role of folklorists, and categories of folklore and folk groups. Readings will focus on contemporary adaptations of older traditions, such as Appalachian versions of British folktales, Mexican American foodways, Native American powwows, and "legend-tripping" as an adolescent rite of passage.

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

01-04: TR 9:30-10:45
This is a distance learning course with sections in Pocatello (01), Idaho Falls (02), Twin Falls (03), and Meridian (04).
Instructor: Roger Schmidt
A survey of major literary works from around the world, most of them read in translation, from the eighteenth-century to the present day. Highlights will include: Kafka’s *The Metamorphosis*, the poetry of Neruda, and Silko’s *Yellow Woman*.
ENGL 2268: Survey of British Literature II

01-04: MW 1-2:15
This is a distance learning course with sections in Pocatello (01), Idaho Falls (02), Twin Falls (03), and Meridian (04).
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: SO MWF 10-10:50
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! (My profuse apologies in advance to other countries.)
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 how American literature presents American history, culture, and values in many different ways. 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 will 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 readings in the course.
ENGL 2280: Grammar and Usage

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

This course is a basic introduction to the grammar of standard English. Students will learn the vocabulary of grammar as well as phrase and clause structure. Part of our discussion may include the historical development and use of grammatical forms. The last part of the course will look at how different grammatical structures are used in written texts. Assignments will include homework exercises, quizzes and papers.

ENGL 2281: Introduction to Language Studies

01: SO MW 11-12:15
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: Ecocinema

01: TR 11-12:15
02: SO TR 11-12:15
Instructor: Curtis Whitaker

Film depicts our current environmental crisis with a power no other medium can match. With its combination of image and sound, environmental cinema enables us to apprehend instantly the scale of the ecological problems we face. This course will examine in detail the aesthetics of film and how it accomplishes this end of making us see our impact on the planet we inhabit.

We will study films from around the world that treat humanity’s impact on land, water, and air. The films considered will range from the early days of cinema to the present, showing how attitudes toward the environment have been transformed in the last hundred years.

ENGL 3306: Intermediate Creative Writing

01: TR 11-12:15
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. Every student can expect to be workshopped at least 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: TR 11-12:15
Instructor: Brandon Hall
02: AO 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 3308: Business Communications

03: AO Online Late 8 Week
Instructor: Robert Watkins
Do you love the outdoors and business? Would you like to fulfill your Business Communication requirements in only 8 weeks? Would you prefer to do it online? Then this is the course for you! This course takes the traditional business communication course and infuses Patagonia’s business philosophy to make a more audience-aware and environmentally conscious course.

ENGL 3311: Literary Criticism and Theory

01: AO Online
Instructor: Matthew Levay
This course introduces students to some of the most influential schools, methods, and questions of literary theory, and asks why we might productively turn to theory as a way of understanding literary works. From Structuralism to Deconstruction, psychoanalysis to Marxism, theory offers diverse models of interpretation that allow us to analyze any work of literature from multiple perspectives. We’ll explore the variety and richness of these perspectives, considering how they have shaped the development of literary criticism over the last few decades, and how they might influence our own interpretations of a literary work.
ENGL 3322: Genre Studies in Poetry
John Keats: Poetics, Reception, Response
01: M 4-6:40 pm
Instructor: Matthew VanWinkle
Like the Grecian urn in one of his most famous odes, Keats’s poetry continues to "remain...a friend to [humankind]" two centuries after its initial articulation. This course offers a sustained and detailed attention to the variety of forms and modes in which Keats worked: sonnets, verse narratives, ballads, and odes. It will also explore the ongoing conversation prompted by his poetry over the 200 years since his untimely death in January 1821. This course may be taken either as a genre studies course (ENGL 3322) or as a major authors class (ENGL 4472/5572). (Please consult Dr. VanWinkle if you have questions about these options.)

ENGL 3327: Special Topics in Genre:
African American Slave Narratives
01: TR 1-2:15
Instructor: David Lawrimore
Between 1740 and 1920, more than 100 expatriated African slaves and their African-American descendants responded to slavery and white supremacy in the form of autobiographical narratives. This seminar will explore the developments in the African American slave narrative, from its inception in the fragmented narratives of Britton Hammon and Venture Smith to the genre’s historic prominence in the narratives of Fredrick Douglass and Harriet Jacobs to its rebirth in postmodern fiction. Structured chronologically, this class will consider how the genre begins, coalesces, and eventually solidifies as well as how these developments influence and are influenced by historical phenomena related to slavery in the United States. Secondary readings will introduce students to the history of US slavery, the central scholarship of slave narratives, and to broader theories of genre, race, and the intersections of aesthetics and politics.
ENGL 3356: Ethnicity in Literature: Latino Literature in the US

01: W 2-3:45
Instructor: Carmen Febles

What is US-Latino literature? What does that category even mean about the body of work we might ascribe to it, and those who produce it? Is that even the right term for it? This course will examine literature and other cultural products from and about Latino/Hispanic-identified people from the 19th through the 21st centuries, focusing on issues of identity and the representation of Latinos in the US literary canon, and in US society. All texts for this class will be made available in English, so Spanish reading proficiency, while an asset, is not required or expected.

ENGL 4401/5501: Advanced Composition: Genre, Media, Ensembles, and Form: A Rhetorical Roadmap for Professional Writing

01: AO 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 Creative Writing Workshop: Poetry

01: SO Thurs. 4-6:30 pm
Instructor: Bethany Schultz Hurst
In “Asphodel, That Greeny Flower” William Carlos Williams writes: “It is difficult to get the news from poems, yet men die miserable every day for lack of what is found there.” This semester, we will consider Docupoetics—poems that respond to or integrate primary source material (i.e., the news). Our texts will include The Afflicted Girls (Nicole Cooley), Blood (Shane McCrae), and The Wise and Foolish Builders (Alexandra Teague), which examine, respectively, the Salem Witch Trials, American slave narratives, and white settlement of the American West. We will consider why “the news” and poetry have been conceived of as mutually exclusive and how these collections in particular manage to transform researched material into poetry. We will additionally consider issues of appropriation: when we no longer tell our “own” stories, to what extent can we claim those of others? We will write our own poems using external texts as inspiration, study craft strategies through Diane Lockward’s The Practicing Poet, Writing Beyond the Basics, and respond to one another’s poems in a workshop setting.

ENGL 4409/5509: Literary Magazine Production

01: W 4-6:30 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.
ENGL 4465/5565: Studies in Eighteenth Century Literature: Richardson to Austen

01-04: T 4-6:30 pm
This is a distance learning course with sections in Pocatello (01), Idaho Falls (02), Twin Falls (03) and Meridian (04).
Instructor: Roger Schmidt
A survey of the late eighteenth-century British novel, starting with Samuel Richardson, whose groundbreaking novel, Clarissa, transfixed all Europe. Other writers will include Lawrence Sterne, Fanny Burney, Ann Radcliffe, Maria Edgeworth, and Jane Austen.

ENGL 4467/5567: Studies in Late Nineteenth Century Literature: British Empire in Literature

01: TR 1-2:15
Instructor: Alan Johnson
This course introduces you to late-nineteenth-century and early-twentieth-century British literature through the prism of "high imperialism" in the years 1870-1914. Works of fiction at this time profoundly shaped the way in which British citizens, both in the British Isles and in the so-called colonies (such as India and Kenya), saw themselves in national and international terms. Fiction, along with all other literary genres as well as art and photography, also shaped the views of colonized, educated non-Europeans. In the male ethos of empire, people saw versions of their imagined selves in terms of, for example, gender roles, sexuality, professions, new technologies, and laws. Ironically, this imperial context generated ideas that subverted imperial ideals, such as women's rights, anti-colonial nationalism, and racial equality. Fictional styles and genre, too, responded to, and reflected, imperial aspirations and anti-imperial activities, as we'll see in our reading discussions on, to name a few, Gothicism, sensationalism, realism, and travel literature.
ENGL 4472/5572: Seminar in a Major Literary Figure: John Keats: Poetics, Reception, Response

01: M 4-6:40 pm
Instructor: Matthew VanWinkle

Like the Grecian urn in one of his most famous odes, Keats’s poetry continues to “remain...a friend to [humankind]” two centuries after its initial articulation. This course offers a sustained and detailed attention to the variety of forms and modes in which Keats worked: sonnets, verse narratives, ballads, and odes. It will also explore the ongoing conversation prompted by his poetry over the 200 years since his untimely death in January 1821. This course may be taken either as a genre studies course (ENGL 3322) or as a major authors class (ENGL 4472/5572). (Please consult Dr. VanWinkle if you have questions about these options.)

ENGL 4484/5584: Rotating Topics in Linguistics: Discourse Analysis

01: AO Online
Instructor: Elizabeth Kickham

Rotating topics in different areas of linguistics and linguistic analysis. Consult current schedule of classes for exact course being taught. May be repeated for up to 6 credits.

ENGL 4487/5587: History of the English Language

01: MWF 1-1:50
Instructor: Thomas Klein

This course aims to give you a historical perspective on the (ongoing) development of English, and to provide you with analytical tools to perceive the ways in which language operates and changes. We will trace the story of how English, once the dialect of an obscure Germanic tribe, came to be one of the world’s most widespread languages; we will see how it changed and why.
ENGL 4493: Senior Seminar in Professional Writing
01: SO W 4-6:30 pm
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 writing during the COVID pandemic. Students will develop a professional portfolio, will do a research project on a company's communication methods, and will prepare materials for applying for professional writing positions, in addition to other assignments.

ENGL 4494: Senior Seminar in Creative Writing
01: TR 11-12:15
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 class-room. 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 4499/5599: Advanced Academic Writing

01: Thurs. 4-6:30
Instructor: Robert Watkins
Learning the language of thesis and academic writing can be daunting. This course seeks to demystify the process by teaching academic writing patterns, academic reading strategies, and effective writing techniques. The course is designed to help honors students and graduate students approach their theses like seasoned academics. It also focuses on writing genre strategies that will improve anyone’s writing. Students will produce a journal-length document that demonstrates audience and discipline awareness as well as effective academic writing conventions.

ENGL 6610: Careers in English

01: TBD
Instructor: Matthew Levay
This course is designed to help English doctoral students nearing the end of the program as they navigate the academic faculty 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 PhD students at an earlier stage in their program, and English MA students – is also welcome to enroll. Topics include: the process of searching for faculty jobs, distinctions between institutions, teaching philosophies, CVs, application letters, interviewing techniques, and applying for “alt-ac” positions.
ENGL 6625: Seminar in a Literary Period: Post-1800 Seminar: Contemporary Global Literature

Thurs. 7-9:30 pm
*In-seat or online synchronous options available*
Instructor: Alan Johnson

This seminar introduces you to a sampling of contemporary global literature, written originally in English as well as in translation, and to significant critical and theoretical conversations about this topic. As the topic implies, the focus is on works that explicitly concern cross-cultural, transnational themes and storylines, and cosmopolitan characters. We’ll discuss reasons for the popularity of this broad category, and consider what in particular makes these various literary works fit that label. Our discussions will involve a number of related topics, including globalization, cosmopolitanism, nationalism, realism, postmodernism, genre, and traveling theory, all of which elicit important questions concerning literary expression in an increasingly small but divided world. We’ll consider such questions as: What relationships do these works have with national literatures, vernacular traditions, and dominant languages? Do they challenge, or do they complement more-local works? What kinds of intertextuality are on display, and to what ends? Do these works offer worldviews that are different from mainstream (primarily Western) worldviews? If so, how and why? How does globalization influence narrative style and the works that get published?

ENGL 6632: Seminar in Teaching Literature: Teaching Shakespeare Now

W 7-9:30 pm
*In-seat or online synchronous options available*
Instructor: Jessica Winston

Current Shakespeare pedagogy is characterized by two seemingly opposing trends. One involves performance approaches—pedagogical techniques that emphasize presence and physical student engagement through up-on-your-feet in-class exercises and student productions. Another trend allows for physical distance and separation, including distant, hyflex, and online delivery, where up-on-your-feet exercises and collaborative student productions are far more difficult. This class explores both pedagogical approaches and considers a question that has yet to be addressed in the pedagogical literature: How can we integrate performance pedagogies into the remote teaching context?
ENGL 6662: Seminar in Creative Writing:
Using and Re-Fusing Poetic Form

M 7-9:30 pm
In-seat or online synchronous options available
Instructor: Susan Goslee

This seminar will be a hybrid literature course and creative writing workshop that focuses on three of our most significant and versatile poetic forms: the epic, the pastoral, and the sonnet. We will consider canonical examples as well as work by more recent innovators who use and productively re-fuse these traditions, including twentieth- and twenty-first century writers of color. This course is for both students interested in expanding their familiarity with poetic form to improve their teaching and for students interested in feedback on their own poetry. Because most young writers today have less exposure to formal verse, students new to workshops will be on equal footing with those who have taken other creative writing classes. In addition to creative assignments, students will complete short critical papers and draw on these writings for class.