English Course Offerings for Fall 2020
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Courses in blue satisfy general education requirements
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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/

Note for Students

Registration begins April 13th. Advising week is April 6th – April 10th. We encourage you to meet with your advisor or Dr. Thomas Klein, our undergraduate director. He has office hours MW 1:30-3 or TR 10:30-12:00 (noon).
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: MWF 9-9:50
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.

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

01: TR 11-12:15
Instructor: Staff
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 1126 (Objective 4A): The Art of Film I

Multiple sections offered, see BengalWeb class schedule.

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.
ENGL 1175 (Objective 4A): Literature and Ideas: Literature and the Human Experience

01: Online  
Instructor: Dawn Lattin  
How does literature help us understand human nature, society, and how we live our lives? Exploring literature through historical and cultural contexts will help us answer this question. From Shakespeare’s poetry to Tennessee Williams’ *A Streetcar Named Desire*, the readings are diverse enough that there will be something to interest everyone.

ENGL 1175 (Objective 4A): Literature and Ideas: Families and Communities

01: 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*, *Housekeeping*, *Station Eleven*, and more!
ENGL 2206: Creative Writing Workshop

01: M 4-6:30 pm
Instructor: Susan Goslee
This class will introduce you to the study of creative writing craft. While self-expression is necessary to the creative process, this class will focus on creating poems and stories that are valuable to and rewarding for an audience of readers. In other words, in this class you are writing for others beyond yourself. That means we will practice being receptive to critical feedback and practice engagement in the writing process, including revision.

Students will complete exercises in multiple genres—such as poetry, fiction, and nonfiction—to emphasize the importance of early, generative writing. In discussions and written comments, students will learn to read critically and respond to literary examples of contemporary poetry and prose. Students will participate in workshops to improve in giving and receiving criticism. The course encourages students to view writing as a process by incorporating substantial revision assignments. Throughout the semester, we will incorporate basic terminology and forms associated with prose and poetry to aid in critical discussion and construction of creative texts.

ENGL 2206: Creative Writing Workshop

02: TR 11-12:15
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 workshops 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 2210 (Objective 9): American Cultural Studies: Disney, Ghosts, and Culture

01: Online
Instructor: Will Donovan
Learn about American Culture through what entertains us: ghost stories, Disney animated features, and elite culture.
Textbook Folklore Rules available in Kindle for under $12!

ENGL 2211: Introduction to Literary Analysis

01: MWF 10-10:50
Instructor: Matthew VanWinkle
Writing that lives in our memories often does so because it’s caught something particularly intricate or enduring about experience. This course provides a vocabulary for writing about these representations of complexity, these compelling insights into what abides, in more detailed, discerning, and persuasive ways. It provides methods in close reading, and in recognizing interpretive possibilities. It also provides a vocabulary for describing significant features of literary craft, and how an attention to these features can help refine decisive responses to the choices offered by challenging and evocative texts.

ENGL 2211: Introduction to Literary Analysis

02: TR 1-2:15
Instructor: Matthew Levay
What does it mean to read or write like an English major? What strategies can we use to interpret a literary work, and what makes those strategies effective? How do we do research in literary studies? This course answers these questions by introducing students to a wide variety of literary forms – novels, poems, and plays from multiple time periods and national contexts – and an even wider variety of possibilities for analysis. We’ll learn what makes literature formally distinctive from other art forms, how literature affects and is affected by its historical and cultural contexts, and why people still debate what counts as “literature.”
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 start by exploring the processes of folk performance and transmission, the role of folklorists, and categories of folklore and folk groups. Then, we will apply these folklore foundations as we look more closely at traditional narratives—old and new—such as jokes, fairy tales, and urban legends, and at contemporary internet lore.

ENGL 2257 (Objective 4A): Survey of World Literature I
01-03: TR 11-12:15
This is a distance learning course with sections in Pocatello (01), Idaho Falls (02), and Twin Falls (03).
Instructor: Alan Johnson
This class introduces you to literary works produced in the ancient times and continuing to about the year 1650 that describe many of the same challenges, ideas and feelings that we’re familiar with today. The difference is that most of these works are not "modern," in the sense that we use that term. Reading and discussing them therefore encourages us to think about how we are both similar to, and different from, the cultural outlooks that these texts express. We’ll also consider how literary elements like metaphor, plot, and characterization have changed over time; how to interpret these features; and how and why our reading of these works are important to a sense of what it means to be human as well as modern. We’ll think about such questions as, Why are stories about, for example, the Norse god Thor and the ancient battle of Troy still so popular? What events and developments in history shaped both the original writing of these stories and our current understandings of them? Requirements include two papers, homework assignments, quizzes, and class discussions.
ENGL 2267: Survey of British Literature I  

01-03: TR 9:30-10:45  
This is a distance learning course with sections in Pocatello (01), Idaho Falls (02), and Twin Falls (03).  
Instructor: Roger Schmidt  
This is a survey of British literature from Beowulf to Boswell, including Malory’s Morte Darthur, Shakespeare’s Othello, Milton’s Paradise Lost and other major works. Text: The Norton Anthology of English Literature, the Major Authors, Vol. 1

ENGL 2277: Survey of American Literature I

01: MWF 12-12:50  
Instructor: David Lawrimore  
This course offers a survey of a nearly 500-year literary heritage—from Contact to the Civil War—that will introduce students to the range of texts, genres, and identities that make up “early American literature.” This is, of course, a nearly impossible task. As such, we will do our best to mind the gaps in our reading by considering how each work enriches and/or challenges traditional ideas about American history, literature, and identity. We will also discuss how these works reflect and contribute to larger social issues (colonization, nation-building, westward expansion, slavery, etc.) and aesthetic trends (storytelling, life writing, poetry, drama, short stories, novels, etc.). Rather than attempt to offer a definitive overview of early American literature, then, this course asks students to read a range of early American texts as component pieces of a much larger and more diverse field of which we will only skim the surface.
ENGL 2280: Introduction to Grammar and Usage

01-03: MW 11-12:15
This is a distance learning course with sections in Pocatello (01), Idaho Falls (02), and Twin Falls (03).
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

01-03: TR 1-2:15
This is a distance learning course with sections in Pocatello (01), Idaho Falls (02), and Twin Falls (03).
Instructor: Thomas Klein

English 2281 introduces us to the field of linguistics. The premise of this course is that language is interesting. We believe that understanding how language works can be really helpful for anyone going into teaching or a career that involves writing or reading. We’ll spend two-thirds of the course on what is called descriptive linguistics, the study of the sound system of language, words, phrases and sentences, and meaning. The last third focuses on applied linguistics, which considers such topics as language learning, social interaction, and psycholinguistics.
ENGL 3305: The Art of Film II: Film Noir Traditions

01: MW 11-12:15
Instructor: Harold Hellwig

The course will evaluate the genre characteristics of film noir, specifically those that explain the solitude of modern individuals and the precariousness of their identities. The range of film noir artifacts will include not just the traditional detective—quite often a male stereotype—but those who transcend the usual definition of what it means to be a character in a film noir. Film noir itself as a definition will be examined, particularly in the context of what it has become, sometimes a television series that portrays comedy and not the usual tragedy. In short, this course will examine the tropes, visual elements, contexts, and genre characteristics of a mainstream part of our American culture, that of film noir.

Potential films and television series include some of the following:
Out of the Past
It’s A Wonderful Life
The Maltese Falcon
Chinatown
Treasure of the Sierra Madre
The Flight of the Phoenix (1965 version)
Frasier, various episodes
Double Indemnity
The Big Sleep (1946 version)
North by Northwest
Blade Runner (1982 version)

ENGL 3307: Professional and Technical Writing

Multiple sections offered, see BengalWeb class schedule.

No matter what field you are going into, communication both written and oral will be a major part of your daily life. This course will teach you how to communicate professionally through various documents such as proposals, emails, reports, webpages, resumes and more. Course content will enable students to tailor documents for readers and users within their chosen fields of study. Additionally, since most people will be working collaboratively in the professional world, team work is stressed. Students often remark that this is one of the most valuable courses they have taken because it prepares them for work beyond the university.
ENGL 3308: Business Communications

02: TR 11-12:15
Instructor: Margaret Johnson
Are you ready to tackle writing on the job? Employers consistently list strong communication skills as vital for their employees, and hiring decisions are based in part on an applicant's ability to communicate effectively. The goal of ENGL 3308 is to provide students with the skills you need to communicate successfully in the workplace. To accomplish this goal, the course will teach you the rhetorical skills necessary for effective professional communication and the stylistic conventions of contemporary business writing. The course will also give you experiences designing documents for a variety of common communication tasks that you are likely to face on the job, including preparing reports, proposals, and résumés. Students will also write in response to case studies and will have a final exam.

ENGL 3308: Business Communications

03: 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: MWF 9-9:50
Instructor: Brian Attebery
Why is it worthwhile to study literature? How can we write about poems and stories in a way that increases knowledge and enjoyment? Literary theory is an attempt to answer these and related questions. To do so, it often uses ideas from other areas, including philosophy, psychology, linguistics, and history, to generate theoretical approaches such as feminist, psychoanalytic, Marxist, structuralist, ecocritical, and postcolonial criticism. In this course we will apply different theories to a sampling of literature, focusing on the way literary study adds value—personal and social—to the reading experience.
ENGL 3324: Genre Studies in Non-Fiction: Prose

01: TR 11-12:15
Instructor: Roger Schmidt

In this course in non-fiction prose we will read writers known for their craft, their inventiveness with the genre, and their insights into human life. Books to be read will include Dinesen’s *Out of Africa,* Orwell’s *Why I Write and Other Essays,* Nabokov, *Speak Memory,* Sei Shonagon, *The Pillow Book,* F. Scott Fitzgerald, *The Crack-Up and Other Essays,* Virginia Woolf, *Moments of Being and Other Essays,* De Quincey, *Confessions of an Opium Eater,* Baldwin, *Notes of a Native Son.*

In addition to in-class quizzes, there will be three short essays and a final exam.

ENGL 4405/5505: Creative Writing in the Schools

01: TR 9:30-10:45
Instructor: Susan Goslee

This class is structured as a hybrid pedagogy seminar/creative writing workshop. In the pedagogy portion of the class, students will gain experience with creative writing instruction at the elementary level, particularly for schools with youth from a variety of backgrounds and levels of school-preparedness. Our students will research, discuss, and then craft brief lesson plans that fit within this rubric. Under the course professor’s supervision, the students will share their lessons and activities with children at a local school. Because southeastern Idaho’s elementary schools serve children from a range of economic and cultural backgrounds, in the creative writing portion of the course, we will investigate issues of identity and marginalization in published poetry, fiction, and creative nonfiction. In their own works, students will examine identity in regards to dominant cultures. How do we conceive of ourselves as “inside” or “outside” of any particular cultural group? How stable are the constructions of those positions? In addition to creative assignments, students will complete short critical papers on the course readings and draw on these for class discussion. At the end of the semester, students will write a final critical paper based on their pedagogy reading and classroom experience, and will compile a portfolio of their creative works.
ENGL 4407: Topics in Professional Writing
01: W 4-6:30 pm
Instructor: Lydia Wilkes
Professional writing majors and minors can expect to learn core skills and develop professional and personal characteristics needed in today’s professional writing workplaces, including social media writing, content transformation, risk communication, collaboration, etc. English Education majors can expect to satisfy program requirements by studying core concepts in writing and rhetoric, developing student-centered lesson plans to actively teach conceptual and procedural knowledge at an age- and grade-appropriate level, etc.

ENGL 4408/5508: Advanced Creative Writing Workshop: Short Fiction
01: W 4-6:30 pm
Instructor: Bethany Schultz Hurst
This class is an advanced study of short fiction writing. As our framework, we’ll follow Catherine Brady’s *Story Logic and the Craft of Fiction*, which considers how elements such as chronology, image, point-of-view, and more work to shape what’s at stake in a story. We’ll use Brady as a guide in craft-based analyses of works by writers such as Alice Munro, Kelly Link, Ted Chang, Karen Russell, and George Saunders. Students will also focus on producing their own short fiction works, at first in exploratory form and then in revised, polished pieces that will be workshopped by instructor and peers.

ENGL 4431: Teaching and Writing Projects
01: 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 criticism to future and current instructors in order to prepare them to effectively teach students multiple genres and modes of writing.
ENGL 4433: Methods of Teaching English

01-03: MW 2:30 - 3:45
This is a distance learning course with sections in Pocatello (01), Idaho Falls (02), and Twin Falls (03).
Instructor: David Lawrimore

This course studies the objectives and methods of teaching literature and composition in secondary schools (grades 6-12). In this course, you will learn strategies and techniques for teaching reading as well as listening and speaking; you will become aware of and think critically about current problems in pedagogy; and you will prepare to defend your pedagogical choices rationally and articulately. English 4433 is intended for students near the end of their undergraduate career. The course assumes that students have a strong background in literary analysis and are now looking for methods to teach this material.

ENGL 4464/5564: Studies in Seventeenth Century Literature: Milton's Revolutionary World

01: T 4-6:30 pm
Instructor: Curtis Whitaker

The seventeenth century, or late Renaissance, was a period of revolutions—political, scientific, philosophical—and John Milton was at the center of this intellectual upheaval. His epic Paradise Lost addresses fundamental questions about public and private life as English society radically altered its understanding of government, religion, education, and marriage. Our course will focus on this classic of world literature and the revolutionary context it was written in, a moment in history that reconceived how people should relate to their government and to each other. Additional authors to be studied include Francis Bacon, Lucy Hutchinson, Margaret Cavendish, Gerard Winstanley, Andrew Marvell, and Blaise Pascal.
ENGL 4466/5566: Studies in Nineteenth Century Literature: The Transports of British Romanticism

01: MWF 1-1:50
Instructor: Matthew VanWinkle
British Romantic poetry and fiction often conveys a sense of fulfilling or even exceeding an auspicious sense of individual human potential; at its best, it transports writer and reader alike beyond what was previously thought possible. At the same time, however, this body of literature tracks a more immediately engaged sense of spatial and chronological shifts and relocations. This course will explore the tension between, the intersection of, transport as idealized aspiration and transport as meticulous mapping of worldly experience.

ENGL 4470/5570: Postcolonial Literature: Language, Identity, Power

01: TR 1-2:15
Instructor: Alan Johnson
This course introduces you to the vibrant field of postcolonial literature, by which we mean works produced in countries that were once colonized by western European powers like England and France (hence the term post-colonial). Some writers in these areas adopted the languages, such as English, French, and Spanish, of their occupiers in order to express their own ideas. But adoption also means adaption—changing the language to suit local needs. This could be a liberating but traumatic process. Indian writer Arundhati Roy, in her novel The God of Small Things, describes her English-speaking characters in 1960s India, just 20 years after independence from Britain, as “a family of Anglophiles” who are “Pointed in the wrong direction, trapped outside their own history and unable to retrace their steps—because their footprints had been swept away.” In this class, we’ll read a mix of notable works from across the globe, supplementing these with film clips, other images, and critical sources. These texts, besides being supremely entertaining, ask all readers to think about what we mean by nationality, location, and cultural identity in a globalized world. Basic requirements are two formal papers, exams, and homework assignments.
ENGL 4476/5576: Shakespeare

01-03: M 4-6:30 pm
This is a distance learning course with sections in Pocatello (01), Idaho Falls (02), and Twin Falls (03).
Instructor: Jessica Winston

Shakespeare's plays are famously difficult, but there are techniques for making sense of them that emphasize accessibility and relevance. This class employs approaches that are dynamic even fun. The class will offer backgrounds and contexts for making sense of Shakespeare, and we will especially explore how performance -- film clips, stage history, and up-on-your-feet reading and movement -- can help us to develop new understandings of plays, whether you are encountering the assigned plays again or for the first time. Plays will include: Merchant of Venice, Twelfth Night, Hamlet, and two stories about the rise and reign of one of England's greatest (or "greatest") kings, 1 Henry IV, and Henry V. Professor Winston has twice been named an ISU Master Teacher.

ENGL 4488/5588: Introduction to Sociolinguistics

01: Thurs. 4-6:30 pm
Instructor: Sonja Launspach

Sociolinguistics is the study of how language is used in different social contexts, both on an individual level and on a societal level. This course will present an introduction to the basic concepts and different areas sociolinguistics studies. Topics to be covered include: language maintenance and language death, language and identity, language ideologies, multilingualism, code-switching, and language variation. The course material will be presented through various media: texts, primary materials and visual media.
Upper Division/Graduate
(4000/6000)

ENGL 4491: Senior Seminar in Literature: Readers and Writers in the World

01: TR 9:30-10:45
Instructor: Thomas Klein

English 4491 is established as a capstone course, a culmination and reflection of the entire English course of study. As such, we aim both to look back over what has been learned—what skills acquired—and to consider the place that literary study may occupy in the “outside world,” both in general and in your particular experience.

Many of the texts chosen for this course are intended to recall what for many of us was perhaps our first experience of imaginative or creative literature: riddles, fables, and tales. But even as they recall these modes, these texts often demonstrate a striking sophistication in the ways that they reflect on voice, narrative framing and audience. Reading them will help us to reconsider what it means to move from observation to writing to reading, how writing recreates the world, and why we read creative texts at all.

ENGL 6612: Introduction to Graduate Studies in English

01: W 4-6:30 pm
Instructor: Matthew Levay

This course introduces new MA and PhD students to the debates, issues, and methodologies that make up the discipline of English studies. We will focus on questions of specialization (what is a field, and how do you get up to speed with its major journals, conferences, and intellectual currents?), research (what defines graduate-level research in English?), criticism and theory (what methods and thinkers have been most significant in establishing English studies as we know it today?), and professionalization (what are the best strategies for reading and producing academic writing in a variety of genres?). In an effort to answer these questions in personally meaningful ways, each student will complete a series of assignments tailored to their own interests within the program.
ENGL 6621: Seminar in a Major Literary Genre: Novels Before "The Novel"

01: Thurs. 7-9:30 pm
Instructor: David Lawrimore
Before the 1820s, when advances in print technology and communication networks helped solidify the novel as a distinct category, the so-called "novel" in the US was less a definite genre than a cluster of disparate and hard-to-categorize works of extended fiction. Because a cogent theory of the early US novel remains unsettled, early US fiction is an especially broad field in which scholars offer a range of interpretative models that draw from other fields including gender studies, ecocriticism, Native American studies, Marxism, critical race studies, transatlantic studies, the history of the book, and more. This course therefore serves as an introduction to the US novel before 1820 but also as an overview of various approaches to literary and cultural analysis. Emphasizing skills that translate to other areas of study, we will also apply secondary criticism to primary works, practice close reading and structural analysis, and consider how research informs our teaching.

ENGL 6631: Seminar in Teaching Writing

01: W 7-9:30 pm
Instructor: Margaret Johnson
What are the best practices for teaching college writing? What is needed to create an inventive and productive writing class? The Seminar in Teaching Writing will introduce students to the theory and practice of writing instruction, focusing on the ways in which various pedagogical models inform our methods of teaching. As part of the class, students will also learn about creating writing assignments and class activities, evaluating student writing, designing courses, selecting texts, and performing other actions associated with teaching writing at the college level. Students will be responsible for a variety of oral and written work, including an annotated bibliography, textbook review, teaching portfolio, and seminar paper.
ENGL 6682: TESL Methodology

01: T 7-9:30 pm
Instructor: Brent Wolter

Building on the theoretical framework of ENGL 6681, students develop effective ESL materials and curricula, taking into account SLA research as well as the characteristics, needs, and motivation of learners. The class will involve a large practical component.