

Spring 2024 Graduate Course Offerings

ENG 616: Research Methods for Writing, Teaching, and Criticism WTC Methods, Professor Seth Kahn

Mondays 4:25-7:10pm

Research class in which students design independent research projects derived from their prior interests, expertise, and coursework in areas of writing, teaching, and criticism. Class includes instruction in research methodologies and collaborative critiquing and workshopping. Required for WTC Track.

ENG 508: Writing Seminar (Non-Fiction Prose), Professor Kristine Ervin

Tuesdays 4:25-7:10pm

This course draws upon the discussions and investigations regarding the creative nonfiction genre from Creative Nonfiction Workshop I to closely examine the form of the lyric essay. What is a lyric essay? Who writes lyric essays, who or what is the subject of study, and who reads such works? We will examine the social ramifications and guises of the lyric essay by reading and responding to collections of various lyric forms. Additionally, we will examine the travel essay, investigating the theme of a journey and how environments shape experience. Our readings will encourage us to interrogate form and genre by determining differences of style, tone, and other rhetorical and creative processes among contemporary practitioners of the essay. We will also analyze elements of craft—such as narration, dialogue, scene development, imagery, figurative language, character development, the presence or non-presence of the I and subjectivity, the historicizing of the subject, and shifting points of view—and then draw upon this analysis to improve upon our own creative writing. As we move through the course, we will discuss historical movements like New Journalism, which viewed traditional journalism's emphasis on objectivity as problematic, and engage in debates surrounding truth, falsehood, story-telling, and form, as well as the role of the lyric essay as cultural and historical artifact.

ENG 509: Writing Seminar in the Novel, Professor Virginia Wood

Wednesdays 4:25-7:10pm

A course in the writing and preparing of book-length manuscripts (novels, novellas, and 'nonfictional' novels) with the intention of submission for publication. Also includes coverage of fictional aspects and techniques used in writing memoirs, biography, and current history.

ENG 626: Rhetoric, Culture, and Identity, Professor Tim Dougherty

Wednesdays 7:15-10:00pm

This course will operate from the framework provided by Lisa Flores's 2016 call for more "racial rhetorical criticism" that recognizes and investigates the co-constitutive role that rhetoric and race play in social contexts. We'll first review key scholarly touchstones from Flores & a broader cultural rhetorics conversation before moving into a brief case study of the Irish-American experience. We'll then conduct article-length projects of our own where we analyze the intersections between race and rhetoric in public life at a site of our choosing (we'll think broadly together about the many possible sites in educational, literary, public/political, social movement, familial, athletic, creative, or even quotidian everyday contexts). Participants will pay particular attention to the discursive nature and social bases of representations within, and in response to, structures of power.

ENG 560: Locating Literature, Professor Erin Hurt.

Thursdays 4:25-7:10pm

Study of critical approaches to literary texts that focus on the historical construction of literary value, canonicity, and norms of reading, including the idea of national literature and cross-cultural approaches to literature (postcolonial, transnational, multiethnic).

ENG 515: Scientific and Medical Editing, Professor Kyle Vealey Online

Online - Asynchronous

This online graduate course will provide an introduction to the rhetorical principles and practices of editing in technical, scientific, and medical contexts. Though you may not yourself become a professional or technical editor, you will most likely be asked to edit and provide actionable feedback on others' writing. In this course, we will study what technical, scientific, and medical editing is, how the terrain of editing is shifting today, what roles editors play in various kinds of organizations, and the diverse processes used to get the work of editing done.

As Carolyn Rude (2002) suggests, to prepare students to be effective editors today, we need to re-imagine the work of editing as a form of design or information architecture. In keeping with this understanding, we will approach editing as encompassing not only sentence-level grammatical corrections but also the production, management, and revision of documents and artifacts that function well for their intended users.

ENG615: Canonicity and the Cult of Genius [1660-1900 Period], Professor Joseph Navitsky

Hybrid: Online 12 weeks, in-person 7:15-10:00pm Jan 30, Feb 27, March 26, & April 30

This course investigates the formation of the English literary canon during the years 1660-1900 and will explore many of the concepts—artistic genius, periodization, and identity—that structure literary studies today. Students will focus on four or five authors across time periods with special attention being paid to the reception of their works and formation of their reputations in England and the United States. There will be an educational history component as well, as we look at how, when, and why certain authors and texts migrated into the classroom.