

Department of English and Literary Arts
COURSE DESCRIPTIONS—

**Attributes for DU and departmental requirements are listed after each description. All English courses, except those used to fulfill common curriculum requirements, can also count for English elective credit. Please note, no more than 12 credit hours of 1000-level coursework—including ENGL 1010 and any AP/transfer credit from other colleges or universities—will be counted towards major requirements. ENGL 1010: Introductory Topics in English is required for all majors. Please refer to our department website for more details.*

ENGL 1000 Section 1

CRN 1028

Intro to Creative Writing

Kim, Catherine

Mondays and Wednesdays 10:00 – 11:50

COURSE DESCRIPTION: In this introductory workshop, we will examine creative works that involve transformation, whether of the body or of a dream or of the world, as a theme or a device or approach to genre. Drawing from these examples, we will transfigure the familiar into new and challenging forms. The goal is to approach “transformation” as a method of creative reading, writing, and thinking, and consider what these metamorphoses might do for us and the worlds around us.

Fulfills Requirements: This Foundations course is required for all ENGL majors concentrating in Creative Writing.

ENGL 1000 Section 2

CRN 1772

Intro to Creative Writing

Lawrence, Monroe

Mondays and Wednesdays 8:00 – 9:50

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course will facilitate student engagement with the writing of fiction and poetry. Our approach will harness the workshop model: students submit weekly writing and devote time to discussing one another’s work in a safe, encouraging environment. We will read and discuss numerous pieces of poetry and fiction by established writers, in the class—but the focus will be on producing and workshopping our own writing. (In each genre, there will be a slight emphasis on “experimental” traditions.) By workshopping our own stories and poems we aim to enhance our thinking about our own creative process, elaborate what it means to “improve” our writing, and advance a set of ideas about what generates literary and poetic value.

In the context of poetry, we will aim to develop a sophisticated understanding of cliché as something to tarry with, to navigate by, to avoid. In the context of fiction, we will investigate other understandings of cliché: what might it mean to claim that fiction is made up of an “army” of clichés? Each genre will flow smoothly into the other, producing hybrids. The course is geared

toward beginning and advanced poets or fiction writers, and will present a fun challenge to any writer as much as it will reward novices or those looking for a way in.

Readings include: Lisa Robertson, M Nourbese Philip, Flannery O'Connor, Gerald Murnane, Vi Khi Nao, Leanne Betasamosake Simpson, Wallace Stevens, Anne Carson, Jos Charles, Ben Lerner, Laura (Riding) Jackson, George Herbert, Nate Marshall, Tao Lin, Barbara Guest, and Claudia Rankine.

Fulfills Requirements: This Foundations course is required for all ENGL majors concentrating in Creative Writing.

ENGL 1000 Section 3

CRN 1993

Introduction to Creative Writing

Wiora, Brian

Tuesdays and Thursdays 8:00 – 9:50

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course is designed as an introduction to the study of writing poetry and fiction. In this class we will read and study an assortment of poems and stories, then apply the methods and techniques we observe to our own writing. Since this is a **workshop-based class**, we will be less concerned with the history and theory of literature. Instead, we will primarily focus on your own writing, with a keen eye towards understanding the fundamentals of poetry and fiction through it. Ultimately, successful completion of this course will involve **discovering, reflecting, and refining** your own distinct, individual voice as a writer.

Final Grades for this class will be decided based on these three qualities, manifested in the following ways: **Participation, Weekly Reflections, and a Final Portfolio**. The common element inherent in each of these criteria is **effort**. Simply put, the more you put into this class, the more you will get out of it, and your final grade will reflect that effort in all three parts. One important note is that the quality of individual poems and stories will **not** be graded. Instead, the **improvement** in your writing over the whole course of the semester, i.e. how well you edit and hone in on your writing, will be evaluated. Hopefully, this will encourage you to **take risks**, in terms of both form and content, in your writing. Write what feels true, not what feels right.

Fulfills Requirements: This Foundations course is required for all ENGL majors concentrating in Creative Writing.

ENGL 1006 Section 1

CRN 1991

Art of Fiction: Haunted Narratives

Nelson-Olivieri, Michelina

Tuesdays and Fridays 10:00 – 11:50

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Welcome to English 1006, the Art of Fiction! Throughout this quarter, we will be exploring different forms of fiction through the theme of haunted narratives. While we will be reading a few ghost stories, we will also be reading narratives that are haunted by social

issues, memories, the past, the future, and everything in-between. We will also be reading a combination of classic, modern, long, and short fiction. The main goals of this course are to discuss several forms of fiction in a variety of contexts and to explore the ways in which fiction contributes to modern conversations. Though this course will be discussion driven, there will be a few written assignments including reflections, a midterm project, and a final project.

Fulfills Requirements: May be used as an ENGL elective.

ENGL 1007 Section 1

CRN 1891

Art of Poetry: Formal Poetry

Dorfman, Kaily

Wednesdays and Fridays 10:00 – 11:50

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This class will consider the study of poetry through a close examination of poetic form, both in the broadest sense—what does it mean for any poem to have a form? how might analogous ideas of form in genres like painting, dance, or mystery novels clarify our research?—and in the specific sense of traditional received poetic forms like the sonnet and the villanelle. We will think about questions of genre, tradition, and pattern, and investigate what it means to ‘break the rules’ of an art form by both writing poems in some of these received forms, and then experimenting with ways to transgress against them. The course will involve elements of both critical and creative writing, and assign readings in both poetry and prose.

Fulfills Requirements: May be used as an ENGL elective.

ENGL 1008 Section 1

CRN 4706

Art of Drama

Anderson, Samia

Tuesdays and Thursdays 8:00 – 9:50

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Art of Drama is a course in which we will investigate the innerworkings and classic elements of drama. This course will cover a wide range of drama including classics, abstract theatre, and theatre which traverses the lives of minority groups. You will gain a critical understanding of the art of drama and its relationship to society and life as a whole, you will be asked to consider how and why the works we will be covering were written and the audience they were written for, and you will be asked how these plays are working in a historical, situational, and/or societal context. Dramatic terminology, dramatic theory, and methods of analysis will also be introduced and assessed through critical readings, in-depth discussion, discussion posts, and dramatic interpretation of the works.

Fulfills Requirements: May be used as an ENGL elective.

ENGL 1110 Section 1

CRN 2523

Literary Inquiry: Literature of Love

Soong, Jennifer

Mondays and Wednesdays 10:00 – 11:50

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This introductory course explores the literature of love by studying the history of its tropes, genres, questions, and forms. How does love interact, subvert, and complicate questions of agency, consent, morality, rationality, and power? What does it mean to love the “wrong” thing, or to love wrongly? What is the relationship between the lover and the beloved? And what is love’s relationship to reading and writing, absence and presence, self and other, and madness and clarity? Throughout the term, students will master the basics of literary analysis and close reading. *N.b.* The course has a strong emphasis on poetry, so students who do not like poetry, or are not open to reading it, should consider another course.

Readings (TBC) may include works by Roland Barthes, Emily Brontë, John Donne, Toni Morrison, Frank O’Hara, James Schuyler, William Shakespeare, and Walt Whitman.

Fulfills Requirements: This course can count toward the AI: Society requirement and can also be used as an English elective.

ENGL 2001 Section 1

CRN 2058

Creative Writing: Poetry

Beasley, Francesca

Mondays and Wednesdays 2:00 – 3:50

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

‘FORM IS NEVER MORE THAN AN EXTENSION OF CONTENT.’ – Charles Olson

‘this space of radical openness is a margin - a profound edge’. – bell hooks

What is the relationship of marginality, marginalia & poetic form to one another? We will read across the 16th – 21st centuries in order to experiment with form in our poetry: to find containers which meet us at our furthest edge. Writers whose work we will engage with may include: Spenser, Herbert, Keats, Dickinson, Browning, Cesar Vallejo, Federico Garcia Lorca, Theodore Roethke, Jackson MacLow, Bernadette Mayer, Veronica Forrest-Thomson, Will Alexander, and many more.

Fulfills requirements: All ENGL majors concentrating in the Creative Writing must take two 2000-level Creative Writing workshops.

ENGL 2010 Section 1

CRN 3036

Creative Writing: Fiction

De La Garza, Manuel

Mondays and Wednesdays 10:00 – 11:50

COURSE DESCRIPTION: In this course we will foster our own writing practices and generate our own writing with the help of prompts and exercises. We will also explore the elements of fiction by studying a variety of its forms.

Fulfills requirements: All ENGL students concentrating in the Creative Writing must take two 2000-level Creative Writing workshops.

ENGL 2020 Section 1

CRN 4707

Studies in Non-Fiction: Narrative Nonfiction 1940 to today

Hesse, Douglas

Tuesdays and Thursdays 2:00 – 3:50

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course will tour several engaging works of modern and contemporary creative nonfiction, focusing on narrative-driven literary works, from memoirs and personal essays to literary journalism and travel writing. In addition to generous portions of the books ordered for the class, we'll also read short excerpts from works by Baldwin, Ehrlich, Sanders, Kincaid, Kingsolver, McPhee, Conover, Purpura, and others. We'll explore implications for writers (including some options to write your own CNF, if you'd like), for readers wanting to explore this genre, and for cultural critics.

Fulfills Requirements: This Core Studies course counts toward the 1900 and beyond component of the department's time period distribution requirement for majors who entered DU in Fall 2023 or later.

ENGL 2700 Section 1

CRN 3591

Foundations of Early American Literature

Davis, Clark

Mondays and Wednesdays 12:00 – 1:50

COURSE DESCRIPTION: From its beginnings, American literature has reflected the tensions and paradoxes, the high purpose and low violence of cultural and colonial conflict on the North American continent. This course provides a broad overview of the major historical and cultural themes that structure and animate our understanding of this important foundational period. Though literature in a variety of forms will be our primary focus, significant emphasis will be placed on providing historical and political contexts through which to read this extremely various collection of both practical and literary texts. We will address four major influences on early American writing and culture: 1) the conception of land or space as an organizing principle and ideological foundation; 2) the role of religion or spirituality in the formation of cultural narrative; 3) the influence of race, generally, and slavery, specifically, on narrative and other modes of literary expression; and 4) the continued literary relevance of fundamental ideals of American political and social organization.

Fulfills Requirements: This Core Studies course counts toward either the pre-1700 or the 1700-1900 component of the department's time period distribution requirement for majors who entered DU in Fall 2023 or later. Students should consult with the instructor and/or an advisor to determine which period requirement this class will fulfill.

ENGL 2741 Section 1

CRN 4708

American Jewish Literature: Immigrant Fiction

Rovner, Adam

Tuesdays and Thursdays 10:00 -11:50

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course surveys over 100 years of American Jewish immigrant narratives beginning with the great exodus of Eastern European and Russian Jewry at the end of the 19th century and ending with the first decades of the 21st century. Canonical works by central authors reveal the great material successes of Jewish immigrants alongside their spiritual failures. A selection of memoir, novels, short stories, and poetry in English and in translation from Hebrew and Yiddish demonstrate the multilingual character of the Jewish experience in America. Ultimately, the story of Jewish immigration emerges as an American rags-to-riches story that all immigrant groups share. **While helpful, no knowledge of Jewish languages, religious tradition, or cultural practice is necessary to succeed in this course.**

Fulfills Requirements: This Core Studies course counts toward the department's diversity distribution requirement. It also counts toward the 1900 and beyond component of the department's time period distribution requirement for majors who entered DU in Fall 2023 or later.

ENGL 2830 Section 1

CRN 4709

Representations of Women

Carter-Todd, Sheila

Tuesdays and Thursdays 10:00 – 11:50

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Representations of women in literature, as a subject, is multifaceted because as a topic it involves not only the politics of women empowerment and subjugation, but also, the politics of literary representation itself. Beside this, exploring women's representation through history involves an astonishingly wide range of texts, considering the wide spectrum of world literatures. This course will provide an introductory explorational overview, with specific "deep dives" into key works.

Focusing on representational tropes, in a variety of literary works, the aim of this course will be to identify some seminal works written by women which foreground the lives they lead, the circumstances which marginalize them and the strategies they have adopted to overcome their unique challenges. Students in this course will be able to demonstrate an understanding of the representations of women and by women in various periods of literary history and diverse cultural contexts.

Fulfills requirements: This Core Studies course counts toward the department's diversity distribution requirement. It also counts toward the 1900 and beyond component of the department's time period distribution requirement for majors who entered DU in Fall 2023 or later.

ENGL 3001 Section 1

CRN 4710

Advanced Creative Writing--Poetry

Soong, Jennifer

Mondays and Wednesdays 10:00 – 11:50

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course is an advanced-level workshop for students interested in expanding, developing, and experimenting with their poetic practice. Students will be introduced to innovative forms, genres, and styles. They will also read and be exposed to the work of contemporary poets. Students will be expected to generate and submit writing each week. Classes will revolve around participation, respect, risk-taking, attentiveness, inclusivity, and constructive criticism.

Fulfills Requirements: All ENGL students concentrating in the Creative Writing must take at least one Advanced Creative Writing workshop once they complete two intermediate workshops. Students who wish to write a creative thesis for honors/distinction must take an additional Advanced workshop.

ENGL 3010 Section 2

CRN 4711

Advanced Creative Writing--Fiction

Howard, Joanna

Tuesdays and Thursdays 12:00 – 1:50

COURSE DESCRIPTION: ENGL 3010 is an advanced fiction workshop for undergraduates. The advance fiction workshop will combine a traditional workshop model and a diminishing workshop model which means students will be working in both large and small groups to improve and develop their stories or novels, while reading and critiquing the work of their peers, and discussing work by very contemporary authors in the field. Students will be writing fiction or prose works, offering written comments to their peers, and participating in weekly discussions in either full class workshop or smaller group workshop. Readings will be partially selected by the instructor and partially curated by the students. Ideally, the class will allow writers with some experience to continue to focus and hone their craft, expand their reading base, and practice articulating their aesthetic goals for 21st century fiction.

Fulfills Requirements: All ENGL students concentrating in the Creative Writing must take at least one Advanced Creative Writing workshop once they complete two intermediate workshops. Students who wish to write a creative thesis for honors/distinction must take an additional Advanced workshop.

ENGL 3800 Section 1
CRN 2397
Bibliography and Research Methods
Davis, Clark
Mondays and Wednesdays 10:00 – 11:50

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course is an introduction to methods of research and the development of critical and/or creative projects that depend upon engagement with external sources. Co-taught by library and English Department faculty, it provides undergraduate students with the practical skills necessary to undertake and then complete an honors thesis; it provides graduate students with the expertise and readiness needed to write one of the following documents: a prospectus for a master's thesis; a prospectus for a doctoral dissertation; an essay for presentation at a conference; or an article for publication in a scholarly journal.

Fulfills Requirements: This Advanced Studies course is required for any ENGL major wishing to write a critical thesis for honors/distinction.

ENGL 3891 Section 1
CRN 4712
Beginning Old English
Ellard, Donna Beth
Mondays and Wednesdays 12:00 – 1:50

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Beginning Old English is the first of a two-part sequence (Fall: Beginning Old English; Winter: *Beowulf* in Old English) that introduces students to the Old English language so that they can develop proficiency on a basic level. Language learning in this course will focus on understanding and learning simple phrases, limited vocabulary, and basic grammatical structures. All language skills will be practiced: listening, speaking, reading, and writing.

This course also introduces students to the history, culture, and literature of early medieval England as a part of the culturally, ethnically, racially, and religiously diverse and interconnected world of Europe, Africa, and Asia. Students will learn similarities and differences in the values, attitudes, and actions of Old English and Modern English speakers as they investigate the histories and cultures of the island of Britain within the early medieval world. Most importantly, students will be exposed to Old English prose and poetic texts in translation and, over the course of the term, begin to read texts about elves, battles, saints, talking onions (!?), and fortune telling in their original, Old English forms.

Because of the intensive nature of the course and the focus on developing all four skills in Old English (reading, writing, listening, speaking, as well as the cultural-global component), students should be prepared to devote a significant amount of time to the course in independent study in addition to class contact hours.

Fulfills Requirements: This Advanced Studies course counts toward the pre-1700 component of the department's time period distribution requirement for majors who entered DU in the Fall 2023 or later.

ENGL 3900 Section 1

CRN 3288

Senior Seminar: Jane Austen

Feder, Rachel

Tuesdays 12:00 – 3:40

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This senior seminar will focus on selected works of Jane Austen in the contexts of the Gothic, nineteenth-century women's writing, and race in the Regency era.

Fulfills Requirements: All ENGL majors concentrating in Literary Studies and entering DU prior to Fall of 2023 must take two sections of ENGL 3900; all ENGL majors concentrating in Creative Writing and entering DU prior to Fall of 2023 must take one section of ENGL 3900.

This Advanced Studies course counts toward the 1700-1900 component of the department's time period distribution requirement for majors who entered DU in Fall 2023 or later.