

English Course Descriptions

ENG 1101 – Invention and Analysis I

This course introduces the concept of rhetorical invention and begins students' education in college-level analysis. It empowers students to use writing to investigate concepts, issues, and events in ways that eschew obvious meanings and common conclusions. Emphasis is placed on the social nature of writing, and students will practice a variety of invention, revision, and reflection techniques en route to final portfolios of their work. The assignments prioritize abstract thinking, relationship building, and the importance of public resonance in academic writing. (2 credits)

ENG 1102 – Invention and Analysis II

Prerequisite: English 1101

This course deepens students' understanding of the relationship between rhetorical invention and intellectual analysis. It introduces strategies for composing arguments in public and academic settings, and provides opportunities to work in multiple genres and writing environments. Students will learn research techniques and develop ways of assessing and incorporating primary and secondary sources. Emphasis is placed on the social nature of writing, and students will practice a variety of invention, revision, and reflection techniques en route to final portfolios of their work. (2 credits)

ENG 1103 – College Writing and Public Life

Prerequisite: Placement in English 1103

This course engages students in writing projects designed to strengthen their interpretive and analytical skills while empowering them to investigate and respond to issues confronting their various communities. Emphasis is placed on the social nature of writing, and students will practice a variety of invention, revision, and reflection techniques en route to final portfolios of their work. Students will develop efficient research strategies and learn to incorporate and converse with the ideas of others. The course also emphasizes technological literacy. (4 credits)

ENG 2121 – Intermediate Writing

Prerequisite: English 1102 or 1103

This course furthers students' education in composing non-fiction essays (including text-based compositions and multi-media pieces). The course emphasizes public writing; that is, writing meant to engage audiences beyond the members of the class. To facilitate reaching such audiences, the course will experiment with delivery technology, such as wikis, blogs, video compositions, and social networks. Sections are organized around contemporary themes, providing students with opportunities to write in multiple genres about current issues and trends. (4 credits)

ENG 2122 – Introduction to Creative Writing

Prerequisite: English 1102 or 1103

Introductory instruction in analyzing, evaluating, and writing fiction, poetry, and creative non-fiction. Required of English Writing majors, this course should be taken by the end of the sophomore year. (4 credits)

ENG 2200 – Critical Reading and Interpretation

Prerequisite: English 1102 or 1103. Meets university core requirement in literature.

Organized around one specific theme, topic, or tradition (such as monstrosity, literary adaptation, text and image, American identities, coming-of-age narratives, or the literature of peace), this course focuses on the close reading and careful analysis of literary texts. Through the study of a limited number of works, students develop their ability to read carefully and to understand the relationships between literary texts and a range of cultural, historical, and/or literary contexts. The course introduces students to some of the terms, critical approaches, and research methodologies necessary for literary study. (4 credits)

ENG 2206 – Literary Theory, Research, and Scholarly Writing

Prerequisite: English 1102 or 1103

Examines the major trends, theories, interpretative methodologies, and techniques of literary research and criticism. Required of English Literature majors, this course should be completed by the end of the sophomore year. (4 credits)

ENG 2217 – Post-colonial Literature in English

Prerequisite: English 1102 or 1103

Readings in selected works by writers from former British and American colonies, with attention to the theoretical and aesthetic issues raised by the emergence of Anglophone literary traditions among formerly colonized peoples. (4 credits)

ENG 2225 – African-American Literature

Prerequisite: English 1102 or 1103

Examines the principal traditions and movements in African American writing and culture from the 1800s to the present, with a concentration on major themes and the evolution of African American voice and identity. (4 credits)

ENG 2239 – Literature of the American South

Prerequisite: English 1102 or 1103

Readings in the literature of the southern United States from colonization to the present, focusing on the historical and cultural contexts that shape the literary contours of the southern region. Some attention to recent southern literature and its global context. (4 credits)

ENG 2249 – American Humor

Prerequisite: English 1102

Explores both literary and popular culture texts, including folk tales, urban tales, stories, sketches, parodies, comic strips, editorial cartoons, situation comedies, clips from film, caricatures, and stand-up comedy within the context of humor theory. (4 credits)

ENG 2250 – Literatures in English 1

Prerequisite: English 1102 or 1103

Surveys the major texts and traditions of literature in English, from its beginnings to about 1800. English Literature majors must take either 2250 or 2255, and should complete this requirement by the end of the sophomore year. (4 credits)

ENG 2255 – Literatures in English 2

Prerequisite: English 1102 or 1103

Surveys majors works written in English between 1800 and the present day. English Literature majors must take either 2250 or 2255, and should complete this requirement by the end of the sophomore year. (4 credits)

ENG 2284 – Survey of World Literature

Prerequisite: English 1102 or 1103

Surveys representative non-Anglophone literary works from antiquity to the present day, considering texts in their social and intellectual contexts. (4 credits)

ENG 2710 – Mark Twain, the Mississippi River, and American Culture

Prerequisite: English 1102 or 1103

Explores the history and literature of the Mississippi River region through the life and works of Mark Twain. Meets during Spring semester on the High Point campus, and culminates in a faculty-guided study tour during the May term. (4 credits)

3111 – Writing Fiction

Prerequisite: ENG 2122

Practice in analyzing, evaluating, and writing short fiction, focusing on elements of craft such as plot, characterization, point of view, and setting. (4 credits)

ENG 3112 – Writing Poetry

Prerequisite: ENG 2122

Practice in writing poetry, with particular attention to the nature of the poetic line, meter, rhyme, figures of speech, sound effects, forms like the ballad and sonnet, and ways to avoid sentimentality and triteness. (4 credits)

ENG 3129 – Writing Creative Non-fiction

Prerequisite: ENG 2122

Practice in analyzing, evaluating, and writing literary non-fiction, with particular attention to style, voice, point of view, and setting. (4 credits)

ENG 3281 – World Literature to 1600 C.E.

Prerequisite: ENG 1102 or 1103

Readings in major works of non-Anglophone literature from Western and non-Western traditions, with a focus on comparative mythology. (4 credits)

ENG 3300 – Anglo-Saxon and Medieval British Literature

Prerequisite: ENG 2206 and ENG 2250

Examines influential literary works from c. 750 to 1400 C.E., including the Old English epic of Beowulf and other heroic poems in translation, Chaucer's major works, and the earliest compilations of the legends of King Arthur, Thomas Malory's *Le Morte Darthur*. (4 credits)

ENG 3310 – Early Modern British Literature

Prerequisite: ENG 2206 and ENG 2250

Readings in selected poems, plays, and prose from early modern Britain, c. 1500 to 1800. (4 credits).

ENG 3330 – Nineteenth-Century British Literature

Prerequisite: ENG 2206

Readings in British literature from c. 1780 to 1900, with particular attention to the intersections between the arts and politics, science, and philosophy. (4 credits)

ENG 3350 – Twentieth-Century British Literature

Prerequisite: ENG 2206

Readings in the major themes and aesthetic characteristics of British literature between 1900 and 2000, with particular attention to literature's role in social commentary, the depiction of warfare, and modernist poetic and narrative techniques. (4 credits)

ENG 3400 - American Literature: Colonial and Federal

Prerequisite: ENG 2206

Readings in major genres and authors from the colonial and revolutionary eras of the future United States, with particular emphasis on understanding the texts in their historical, intellectual, and cultural frameworks. (4 credits)

ENG 3410 - American Literature: Romanticism

Prerequisite: ENG 2206

Examines representative works of early nineteenth-century American romantic writing, emphasizing on the American Renaissance, 1830-1865, and on the relationship between literary developments and social change. (4 credits)

ENG 3420 - American Literature: Realism and Naturalism

Prerequisite: ENG 2206

Examines the development and evolution of literary realism and naturalism in the context of post-Civil War cultural history from 1865-1914. (4 credits)

Eng 3450 – Twentieth-Century American Literature

Prerequisites: ENG 2206

Readings in major genres and works between 1900 and 2000, with particular attention to literature's relation to society, the meaning of America, and emergent poetic and narrative techniques. (4 credits)

ENG 3530 – Shakespeare on Stage and Screen

Prerequisite: ENG 1102 or 1103.

Designed for non-English majors, this course examines the history, major traditions, and interpretive issues of performing Shakespeare's plays, both on the stage and in electronic media. (4 credits)

ENG 4110 – Digital Storytelling

Prerequisite: EITHER ENG 3111, ENG 3112, or ENG 3129

Practice in analyzing, evaluating, and producing creative works in a digital environment, weaving together images, music, narrative and voice in order to create characters, situations, experiences, and insights. This is a studio course with class hours divided between lecture/discussion and lab time. (4 credits)

ENG 4111 – Advanced Techniques in Fiction

Prerequisite: ENG 3111

Advanced work in writing fiction, focusing on voice, perspective, characterization, style, and form. (4 credits)

Eng 4112 – Advanced Techniques in Poetry

Prerequisite: English 3112.

Advanced work in writing poetry, focusing on unified sound, imagery, and structure. (4 credits)

ENG 4113 – Advanced Techniques in Creative Non-fiction

Prerequisite: ENG 3129

Advanced work in writing creative non-fiction, focusing on developing techniques for creating plot and character under the factual constraints imposed by nonfiction, authorial subjectivity and presence, the faulty nature of memory, and the importance of speculation and attitude. (4 credits)

ENG 4200 – Studies in Critical Theory

Prerequisites: ENG 2206

Advanced study in the history, philosophy, methods, and practice of literary theory, emphasizing primary sources and application of theory to sample texts. (4 credits)

ENG 4205 – Genre Theory

Prerequisites: ENG 2206

Advanced examination of the theoretical underpinnings of genre, with particular emphasis on the philosophical, experiential, and aesthetic implications of classifying literature according to formal, contextual, and aesthetic categories. (4 credits)

ENG 4220 – Topics in Literary and Cultural Studies

Prerequisite: ENG 2206

Advanced studies of the intersections between literature and popular culture. Topics vary from semester to semester; see English Department website for current and upcoming course descriptions. (4 credits)

ENG 4305 – Studies in Medieval Language and Literature

Prerequisites: ENG 2206, 2250

In-depth study of topics in early English literature. (4 credits)

ENG 4315 – Studies in Early Modern English Language and Literature

Prerequisites: ENG 2206, 2250

In-depth study of the early modern period, focusing on individual authors, themes, schools of thought, formal considerations, or historical movements. (4 credits)

ENG 4355 – Studies in Nineteenth-century British Language and Literature

Prerequisites: ENG 2206

In-depth examination of topics, literary characteristics and trends, and themes in British literature and culture between 1790 and 1900. (4 credits)

ENG 4370 - Studies in British Modernism and Postmodernism

Prerequisites: ENG 2206

Advanced study of topics in British literature, language, and culture between 1900 and the present day. (4 credits)

ENG 4410 - Studies in Early American Literature and Culture

Prerequisite: ENG 2206

In-depth examination of critical issues, themes, and topics surrounding the intersection of American literature and culture between first European contact and 1865. (4 credits)

ENG 4460 - Studies in American Modernism and Postmodernism

Prerequisites: ENG 2206

Advanced study of topics in twentieth-century American literature and culture. (4 credits)

ENG 4531 - Shakespeare: Comedies and Romances

Prerequisites: ENG 2206 and 2250 or 2255

In-depth study of selected Shakespeare comedies and romances. (4 credits)

ENG 4532 - Shakespeare: Histories and Tragedies

Prerequisites: ENG 2206 and 2250 or 2255

In-depth study of selected Shakespeare histories and tragedies.

4540 - Studies in Shakespeare

Prerequisites: ENG 2206 and 2250 or 2255

Advanced study of topics in Shakespeare. (4 credits)

ENG 4600 – Major Authors

Prerequisite: ENG 2206

In-depth study of the works of 1-2 significant authors. Authors studied will vary from semester to semester; see English Department website for current and upcoming course descriptions. (4 credits)

ENG 4999 – Senior Project

Prerequisite: Senior standing

Individually-directed course in completing a substantial research or creative work and compiling a major portfolio. (4 credits)