

English

Websites: Creative Writing (<https://new.sewanee.edu/programs-of-study/creative-writing/>), English (<https://new.sewanee.edu/programs-of-study/english/>)

The study of English language and literature has long held a prominent place among Sewanee's educational offerings. English majors at Sewanee receive an unsurpassed training in Shakespeare, English literature before 1750, and other traditional elements of British and American literary history. They can also choose to take courses in modern and contemporary literature, world literature in English, and diverse literary genres, as well as other distinctive available offerings such as courses devoted to literature of the American South, Irish literature, women and literature, poetry and contemplation, and American literary journalism.

For majors and non-majors alike, Sewanee's Department of English contributes to an education in which students learn to interpret both texts and the world with deep imagination and to write with grace, clarity, and cogency.

Creative Writing

Building upon the great literary tradition of Sewanee, including *The Sewanee Review* and the Sewanee Writers' Conference, the University offers instruction in fiction, playwriting, and poetry, in both beginning and advanced workshops, for students interested in the craft of writing. Using existing creative works to help students understand the necessary elements of successful writing, the workshops focus on critiquing the original work of each student.

From time to time, students also have opportunities to participate in campus readings from their own creative work, or to seek publication in the student-run literary journal, *The Mountain Goat*. Students are encouraged to take part in informal discussions with the esteemed poets, novelists, and playwrights who visit Sewanee each semester.

Faculty

Professors: Carlson, Engel, E. Grammer, J. Grammer, Irvin (Chair), K. Malone, Michael, Prunty, Tucker

Associate Professors: Bruce, Ettensohn, Macdonald, K. Wilson

Assistant Professors: Duarte-Gray, Foy, Jafri, Jang, Jensen, Rai, Siegrist, Wilder

Majors

Majors

- English (<http://e-catalog.sewanee.edu/archives/2022-2023/arts-sciences/departments-interdisciplinary-programs/english/english-major/>)
- Creative Writing - Fiction Track (<http://e-catalog.sewanee.edu/archives/2022-2023/arts-sciences/departments-interdisciplinary-programs/english/creative-writing-major-fiction-track/>)
- Creative Writing - Playwriting Track (<http://e-catalog.sewanee.edu/archives/2022-2023/arts-sciences/departments-interdisciplinary-programs/english/creative-writing-major-playwriting-track/>)
- Creative Writing - Poetry Track (<http://e-catalog.sewanee.edu/archives/2022-2023/arts-sciences/departments-interdisciplinary-programs/english/creative-writing-major-poetry-track/>)

Certificate

Although a major or minor is not currently offered in creative writing, students, regardless of the major field of study, may earn a certificate of curricular study in creative writing. Students are expected to declare the certificate before the Spring semester of their junior year.

Requirements for the Certificate in Creative Writing

This certificate of curricular study requires successful completion of the following:

Code	Title	Semester Hours
Course Requirements		
Select three of the following:		
WRIT 205	Beginning Poetry Workshop	12
WRIT 206	Beginning Fiction Workshop	
WRIT 207	Beginning Playwriting Workshop	

WRIT 208	Beginning Narrative Nonfiction Workshop
WRIT 305	Intermediate Poetry Workshop
WRIT 306	Intermediate Fiction Workshop
WRIT 307	Intermediate Playwriting Workshop
Select one additional literature course from the following (attribute CWLT): ¹	
ENGL 381	Making Nothing Happen: Modern and Contemporary British and Irish Poetry
ENGL 382	British Fiction From "On or about December 1910"
ENGL 383	British Fiction Right Now
ENGL 386	Joyce
ENGL 390	Power Plays: Modern and Contemporary Drama
ENGL 391	Modern American Poetry
ENGL 392	Modern American Fiction
ENGL 393	Faulkner
ENGL 394	Literature of the American South
ENGL 395	African-American Literature
ENGL 397	Contemporary American Fiction
ENGL 398	American Poetry Since World War II
ENGL 399	World Literature in English

Total Semester Hours **16**

Code	Title	Semester Hours
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Additional Requirements

A capstone project ²

¹ English majors must present a single literature course offered through a department of classical or modern languages that has the prior approval of the director of the certificate in Creative Writing. The course may be either in the original language or in translation; if the course is in the original language, the course must surpass the minimal standards of the College's general education requirements.

² The capstone project could be a sheaf of poems or short stories, a more substantial single piece of fiction such as a novella, or a one-act play. Students must present the capstone project before the end of the first semester of their senior year, demonstrating thereby their mastery within and critical self-consciousness regarding a particular genre. Because the successful completion of the capstone project requires careful planning and supervision, we strongly advise that students declare the certificate before the spring semester of their junior year.

Courses

English Courses

ENGL 101 Literature and Composition (4)

This writing-intensive introduction to literature written in English may include a selection of formal verse, fiction, drama, and at least one play by Shakespeare. The course is designed to develop the student's imaginative understanding of literature along with the ability to write and speak with greater clarity. It is intended to be of interest to students at any level of preparation.

ENGL 200 Representative Masterpieces (4)

An examination of several masterpieces of Western literature, including Homer's *Iliad* and Dante's *Divine Comedy*. Some sections are writing-intensive. *Prerequisite:* One course with attribute G1 including AP or IB credit.

ENGL 203 Roots of the English Literary Tradition (4)

An examination of several key texts of the classical and late-classical periods that provide critical reference-points for the English literary tradition. Texts will be read with an eye to how they shape writerly efforts in the subsequent centuries, and the class will ask students to think carefully about the status of the classical world as an element of literary value, both past and present. Texts (in translation) might include the dramatic tradition of Sophocles and Aeschylus, the poetry of Ovid, Lucretius, Statius, the writing of Boethius, Apuleius, Boccaccio, Augustine, and more. Some sections are writing-intensive.

ENGL 207 Women in Literature (4)

A consideration of the role of women in literature. Topics include Gothic fiction, nineteenth and twentieth century women writers, and women in fiction. Drawing on authors of both genders, the course considers gender relations, the historic role of women, the special challenges that have faced women writers, and the role of women in fiction. *Prerequisite:* One course with attribute G1 including AP or IB credit.

ENGL 210 Studies in Poetry (4)

An examination of poems from British and American literature selected by the instructor. Writing-intensive some semesters. *Prerequisite: One course with attribute G1 including AP or IB credit.*

ENGL 211 Studies in Fiction (4)

An examination of novels and short fiction from British and American literature selected by the instructor. Writing-intensive some semesters. *Prerequisite: One course with attribute G1 including AP or IB credit.*

ENGL 212 Studies in Literature (4)

A course which examines texts in various genres and which may focus on a particular theme chosen by the instructor. *Prerequisite: One course with attribute G1 including AP or IB credit.*

ENGL 215 Studies in Drama (4)

An introduction to drama, with an emphasis on history, form, and adaptation. Different sections may focus on such topics as the influence of classical forms on later playwrights, on genre, or on plays as a form of social commentary. Writing intensive some semesters. *Prerequisite: One course with attribute G1 including AP or IB credit.*

ENGL 216 Studies in Literature: American Literary Journalism (4)

Students examine, compare, and analyze the journalistic and literary writings of 19th and 20th century American writers such as Walt Whitman, Mark Twain, Fanny Fern, Ernest Hemingway, and Katherine Anne Porter. They also study 20th century "New Journalism" (Wolfe, Thompson, Didion, Mailer) and conclude with an examination of contemporary journalism, creative non-fiction, personal essays, and multi-media journalism. Students are required to analyze literary and journalistic writing with an eye towards discerning the difference between news writing, editorials, and literary journalism. They write journalistic pieces as well as analytical essays. *Prerequisite: One course with attribute G1 including AP or IB credit.*

ENGL 218 Studies in Literature: Literature and Religion (4)

Study of a broad range of imaginative writings, from ancient to modern, concerned with the human search for God, transcendence, and ultimate meaning. The specific focus of this course and the readings will vary from year to year. *Prerequisite: One course with attribute G1 including AP or IB credit.*

ENGL 221 The Literature of Memoir (4)

Students examine the memoirs of writers such as Richard Wright, Maya Angelou, Tobias Wolff, Joan Didion, Patti Smith, J. Drew Lanham, Garrett Hongo, Jesmyn Ward, Maggie Nelson, Stephanie Danler, and Kiese Laymon. Students analyze the techniques of memoir with an eye towards addressing the difference between memoir and autobiography, engaging the matter of "truth" in memoir, and discerning the influence of literary traditions as well as regional, racial, ethnic, and gendered histories within an author's articulation of self. Students write several short memoir pieces as well as analytical essays. *Prerequisite: One course with attribute G1 including AP or IB credit.*

ENGL 224 Slavery and Race in the American Literary Imagination (4)

Slavery and its legacy, systemic racism, have been subjects for American writers, for more than two centuries. Revealing a yawning gap between American ideals and practices, they continue to tell us something vital about our country. This course examines representations of slavery and racism in major texts such as *Uncle Tom's Cabin* by Harriet Beecher Stowe, *Absalom, Absalom!* by William Faulkner, *Invisible Man* by Ralph Ellison, *Underground Railroad* by Colson Whitehead, *Citizen* by Claudia Rankine, and *I Can't Think About the Trees Without the Blood* by Tiana Clark. *Prerequisite: One course with attribute G1 including AP or IB credit.*

ENGL 227 Studies in Speculative Fiction (4)

Speculative fiction is a genre that asks "what if," allowing us to imagine alternative social arrangements while holding up a mirror to our own assumptions about culture and human identity. The nationality and time period of speculative fiction examined in this course may vary based on the instructor. In different semesters, this class may focus on such topics as the origin and development of science fiction, featuring such writers as Mary Shelley and H.G. Wells; climate speculative fiction (Richard Powers), feminist speculative fiction (Margaret Atwood, Ursula K. Le Guin), or Afrofuturism (Octavia Butler, N.K. Jemisin). *Prerequisite: One course with attribute G1 including AP or IB credit.*

ENGL 251 History of the English Language(s) (4)

A survey of the development of the English language from its Indo-European roots to its present variations with attention to both historical linguistics and sociolinguistics. The course explores the concept of language, the early origins of English, patterns of pronunciation and spelling, linguistic diversity through time, and modern dialectal variation. As well, it explores political, economic, and cultural factors that have helped to determine the character of the multiple forms of the language that are spoken today. Students engage in some close study of earlier forms of English. *Prerequisite: One course with attribute G1 including AP or IB credit.*

ENGL 301 Old English Language and Literature (4)

This course is an introduction to the language of the Anglo-Saxons (Old English) and to their literature. Students will learn pronunciation, vocabulary, and grammar as they read a variety of Anglo-Saxon works, both prose (including selections from *The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle*) and verse (including "Cædmon's Hymn," "The Dream of the Rood," "The Wanderer," "The Battle of Maldon," and selections from *Beowulf*). This course (with the addition of two courses in Latin) satisfies the language requirement for the medieval studies major. *Prerequisite: One course in English with attribute GFWI.*

ENGL 316 The Novel in the Global Age (4)

This course explores the contemporary Anglophone novel since 1989, a period that coincides with the increased pace of globalization. Written largely from transnational perspectives that defy traditional national boundaries, the novels in this course share a common concern with capturing global experience and analyzing the cultural and economic impact of globalization. Potential readings include works by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, Teju Cole, Amitav Ghosh, Michael Ondaatje, and Ruth Ozeki. *Prerequisite: One course in English with attribute GFWI.*

ENGL 320 Poetry, Nature, and Contemplation (4)

This course approaches the reading and writing of poems as contemplative practices through a diverse selection of poetry with environmental themes, combined with daily meditation in and outside of class, and assigned journals and other writing. In doing so, it explores the relationship of the self to its surroundings and the role of the written word in defining that relationship. *Prerequisite: One course in English with attribute GFWI.*

ENGL 330 The Life and Literature of Tennessee Williams (4)

A study of the major dramatic works of Tennessee Williams, as well as his poetry and fiction. The course also examines Williams' life and his impact on twentieth-century American literature and theatre. *Prerequisite: One course in English with attribute GFWI.*

ENGL 331 Melville and his World (4)

A course centered upon one of the most ambitious and challenging novels ever composed in English, *Moby-Dick*; or, *The Whale* (1851) by Herman Melville. But readings range well beyond that text, attempting to place it in several of its contexts: that of Melville's prior and subsequent career (possible titles include *Typee*, *Clarel*, and *Billy Budd*), his intellectual milieu (works by contemporaries such as Ralph Waldo Emerson, Edgar Allan Poe, and Nathaniel Hawthorne), and the nautical and scientific literature available to Melville as he wrote. Much more than a fish story, *Moby-Dick* makes claims about literary history, politics, philosophy, religion, and—to use a term available to us though not to Melville—ecology. This course tries to engage as many of those claims as possible. *Prerequisite: One course in English with attribute GFWI.*

ENGL 338 Border Fictions: Literature of the U.S.-Mexico Border (4)

This course focuses on literary representations—in fiction, nonfiction and poetry—of the experience and meaning of the imaginary line that divides the United States and Mexico. Among the themes to be discussed are the experience of border-crossing (in both directions), the possibility or impossibility of assimilating to life across the border, and especially the desire that draws migrants toward *el otro lado* (the other side). Writers to be discussed may include Maria Amparo Ruiz de Burton, Katherine Ann Porter, Americo Paredes, Sandra Cisneros, Cormac McCarthy, Oscar Casares, and Luis Alberto Urrea. *Prerequisite: One course in English with attribute GFWI.*

ENGL 349 Special Topics (4)

Though its content will vary from semester to semester, this class always focuses on a special topic in English, Anglophone, or American literature not fully covered in existing courses. Examples might include courses on a single author, a literary movement or tradition, a genre, or a theme. This course may be repeated for credit when the topic differs. *Prerequisite: One course in English with attribute GFWI.*

ENGL 350 Medieval Drama and its Legacy (4)

A study of the drama of late medieval and early modern England. The course will include selections from liturgical drama, the mystery cycles (from York, Chester, and Wakefield), morality plays and non-cycle drama (such as the Digby *Mary Magdalene*, *Mankynde*, *Everyman*), folk plays and farces (such as the *Robin Hood* plays), as well as early school and professional plays (such as *Ralph Roister Doister*, *Gorbuduc*, and *Thomas of Woodstock*). *Prerequisite: One course in English with attribute GFWI.*

ENGL 351 Medieval English Literature (4)

A study of several key works from the Anglo-Saxon (in translation) and Middle English, chiefly *Beowulf*, *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*, selections from Chaucer, and a number of shorter Anglo-Saxon poems. *Prerequisite: One course in English with attribute GFWI.*

ENGL 352 Chaucer (4)

A study of the *Canterbury Tales* and other poems by Chaucer. A term paper is usually expected. *Prerequisite: One course in English with attribute GFWI.*

ENGL 353 English Drama to 1642 (4)

A study of the drama of Elizabethan and Jacobean England, excluding the works of Shakespeare but including tragedies by Kyd, Marlowe, and Webster, and comedies by Jonson and Beaumont. *Prerequisite: One course in English with attribute GFWI.*

ENGL 354 Early Women's Voices (4)

A study of women's literature before 1800, this course examines how feminine voices were presented and heard in their historical contexts. Readings for the class are drawn from the Middle Ages through the seventeenth century, and ask students to think through the conditions of feminine authorship and identity in the pre-modern period. *Prerequisite: One course in English with attribute GFWI.*

ENGL 357 Shakespeare I (4)

A study of several plays written before 1600. *Prerequisite: One course in English with attribute GFWI.*

ENGL 358 Shakespeare II (4)

A study of several plays after 1600. *Prerequisite: One course in English with attribute GFWI.*

ENGL 359 Renaissance Literature I (4)

A study of the major sixteenth-century genres, with emphasis on sources, developments, and defining concerns. Readings include the sonnets of Wyatt, Surrey, Sidney, Spenser, and Shakespeare; the mythological verse narratives of Marlowe and Shakespeare; the pastoral poems of Spenser; and Books I and III of Spenser's *Faerie Queene*. *Prerequisite: One course in English with attribute GFWI.*

ENGL 360 Renaissance Literature II (4)

A study of the major seventeenth-century poets, concentrating on such poets' redefinitions of genre, mode, and source. Readings emphasize works by Donne, Herbert, Jonson, Herrick, Milton, and Marvell. *Prerequisite: One course in English with attribute GFWI.*

ENGL 362 Milton (4)

A study of Milton's poetry and prose in the context of religious and political upheavals in mid-seventeenth-century England. Particular emphasis is on *Lycidas* and *Paradise Lost*. *Prerequisite: One course in English with attribute GFWI.*

ENGL 365 The Restoration and Eighteenth Century (4)

This course examines major authors of the period from 1680 to 1800, including Behn, Dryden, Swift, Pope, Gay, Johnson, Gray, Goldsmith, and Burns. Topics may include Restoration cultures and theater, neoclassicism, satire, and sensibility. *Prerequisite: One course in English with attribute GFWI.*

ENGL 367 Inventing the British Novel (4)

The British eighteenth-century novel was at heart experimental, riffing on but also departing from established literary and popular forms. This reading- and writing-intensive survey includes such authors as Daniel Defoe, Henry Fielding, Samuel Richardson, Lawrence Sterne, Horace Walpole, Ann Radcliffe, and Jane Austen, inviting us to explore the early British novel in all its multifarious inventiveness. *Prerequisite: One course in English with attribute GFWI.*

ENGL 368 Fictions of Empire (4)

From the rise of the British Empire to its decline and fall, this course considers literary responses to the colonial experience, ranging from narratives of imperial adventurers, travelers, and administrators to contemporary responses to and reflections on the imperial era. The course analyzes how Britain's territorial and ideological expansion abroad shaped both British and colonial world views as well as the form and content of literary expression. Potential readings include works by Daniel Defoe, Joseph Conrad, E.M. Forster, and Chinua Achebe. *Prerequisite: One course in English with attribute GFWI.*

ENGL 369 Authorship and Authority in 18th Century Britain (4)

This course explores some of the radical shifts that occurred in English literature during the late eighteenth century. These developments involved not only changes in style, subject matter, and poetic theory, but also changes in the role of the author and the social purpose of writing. Both "major" and "minor" authors, male and female, are read as part of a complex revolution in cultural taste and literary practice. *Prerequisite: One course in English with attribute GFWI.*

ENGL 370 British Romanticism: the Early 19th Century (4)

A study of the poetry and poetic theory of British romanticism. Included is an examination of such writers as Wordsworth, Coleridge, Byron, Shelley, and Keats. *Prerequisite: One course in English with attribute GFWI.*

ENGL 371 Blake (4)

A study of the poetry and designs of William Blake in the context of his revolutionary era. Selected readings from Milton and the *Bible* will be assigned as essential background; prior knowledge of these sources is helpful but not required. Digital resources will aid in our study of the visual art, and students will read and report on selected critical works. *Prerequisite: One course in English with attribute GFWI.*

ENGL 373 Victorian Poetry and Prose (4)

A survey of British poetry and non-fiction prose of the Victorian era (1837 to 1901). Texts include poetry by Tennyson, Elizabeth Barrett Browning, Robert Browning, Arnold, Swinburne, D.G. Rossetti, Christina Rossetti, Hopkins, and Hardy, as well as prose by Carlyle, Darwin, Arnold, Ruskin, Morris, and Wilde. *Prerequisite: One course in English with attribute GFWI.*

ENGL 374 The Victorian Novel (4)

A study of the fiction of Charlotte and Emily Bronte, Dickens, Trollope, Eliot, and Hardy. *Prerequisite: One course in English with attribute GFWI.*

ENGL 377 American Literature, Beginnings to 1855 (4)

Many people know one sentence from early American literature: Puritan leader John Winthrop's 1630 claim that "we shall be as a City on a Hill." Often misinterpreted as a promise of inevitable national success, these words were actually a warning that America's redemptive promises carried the risk of disastrous and conspicuous failure. This course traces the efforts of English-language writers to respond to both the promises and the failures of the tiny colonial settlements that became the United States. Authors studied include Anne Bradstreet, Mary Rowlandson, Phillis Wheatley, Frederick Douglass, Edgar Allan Poe, Henry David Thoreau, Nathaniel Hawthorne and Walt Whitman. *Prerequisite: One course in English with attribute GFWI.*

ENGL 378 American Literature from 1850-1900 (4)

Like Abraham Lincoln's announcement of "a new birth of freedom" in the Gettysburg Address, the American literature covered in English 378 struggles to articulate, then problematize, American freedom in the era surrounding the Civil War and emancipation. What is freedom? To whom does it extend? What are its blessings and its costs? Nobody has ever thought more profoundly about these issues than the American writers who emerged before, during, and after the war America fought with itself: Nathaniel Hawthorne, Herman Melville, Harriet Jacobs, Emily Dickinson, Mark Twain, Henry James, Charles Chesnut, Charlotte Perkins Gilman, and others. *Prerequisite: One course in English with attribute GFWI.*

ENGL 379 Origins and Development of the American Novel: 1790 to 1920 (4)

"In the four quarters of the globe," sneered the English critic Sidney Smith in 1820, "who reads an American book?" This course introduces the U.S. writers who answered Smith's challenge, such as Hannah Webster Foster, James Fenimore Cooper, Nathaniel Hawthorne, Herman Melville, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Henry James, Charles W. Chesnutt, Willa Cather, and Theodore Dreiser. They invented a distinctively American novel and in the process produced masterpieces that are still recognized in all four quarters of the globe. *Prerequisite: One course in English with attribute GFWI.*

ENGL 380 Emily Dickinson (4)

A study of one of the most important American poets, whose tight, elliptical lyrics inspired American poets for the next hundred years. This course examines in detail Dickinson's career, sometimes in relation to her poetic contemporaries, and many of the nearly 1800 poems she is known to have written. *Prerequisite: One course in English with attribute GFWI.*

ENGL 381 Making Nothing Happen: Modern and Contemporary British and Irish Poetry (4)

Including poets from Thomas Hardy and W.B. Yeats to Carol Ann Duffy and Bernardine Evaristo, this course is a romp through the variety of forms, styles, and questions that shaped the modern lyric in England and Ireland. Arising amid and out of global wars, cosmopolitan cultural movements, changing political and national imaginaries, these texts are unpredictable, innovative, stubborn, wry, and complex. W.H. Auden claimed in a poem that "poetry makes nothing happen," but reading these poets will give you plenty to think about. *Prerequisite: One course in English with attribute GFWI.*

ENGL 382 British Fiction From "On or about December 1910" (4)

"On or about December 1910" human character changed," Virginia Woolf wrote, and we will consider what truth might have been in her cheeky claim. Starting about twenty-five years before this supposed inflection point (Conrad, Wilde) and continuing about twenty-five years after it (Bowen, Anand), this course focuses on the British aspect of the complex global movement known as literary modernism: its ambivalences, false starts, poses, challenges, habits, and experiments. *Prerequisite: One course in English with attribute GFWI.*

ENGL 383 British Fiction Right Now (4)

A consideration of British fiction from the last half-century, this course will put you into the most current currents of literary expression. There is no canon yet in this course; instead, you will be invited to make and test bold claims about canonicity and how literary value is accorded and revised. *Prerequisite: One course in English with attribute GFWI.*

ENGL 384 Fantasy Island: Visions of England in Modern and Contemporary Brit Lit (4)

This course introduces students to modern British poetry, fiction, and drama, starting with the fin de siècle, continuing through high modernism and its mid-century detractors, and reaching to postmodernism. Using and breaking a variety of familiar forms, tropes, and conventions, the writers of this period work to understand and represent the practice of modern warfare, the disintegration of the British Empire, the rise of the English welfare state, and the slippery concept of "Britishness" itself. The survey explores these historical and cultural contexts, observes the different kinds of critical attention these genres demand, and emphasizes the practice of close reading. *Prerequisite: One course in English with attribute GFWI.*

ENGL 385 Revivals, Riots, Roots: Modern and Contemporary Irish Literature (4)

This course introduces students to modern Irish and Northern Irish poetry, fiction, and drama, beginning with Yeats and the last phase of the Celtic Revival and reaching up through the short-lived Celtic Tiger of the Twenty-First Century. These texts are concerned with borders and bequests of all kinds, but class discussions focus primarily on literary responses to high modernism, cultural nationalism and the Irish language, sectarian violence, and the role of the Catholic Church. The survey explores these historical and cultural contexts, observes the different kinds of critical attention these genres demand, and emphasizes the practice of close reading. *Prerequisite: One course in English with attribute GFWI.*

ENGL 386 Joyce (4)

A study of *Dubliners*, *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*, and *Ulysses*. *Prerequisite: One course in English with attribute GFWI.*

ENGL 389 Gothic Literature (4)

By turns terrifying, melancholy, and bizarre, Gothic literature channels real anxieties in monstrous forms. This course features literature of the mysterious, uncanny, supernatural, and grotesque. The specific focus of the class may vary from year to year (e.g. a special focus on American Gothic fiction, Literature of the Sublime, and so forth). *Prerequisite: One course in English with attribute GFWI.*

ENGL 390 Power Plays: Modern and Contemporary Drama (4)

An exploration of the development of Modern Drama from Ibsen's ground-breaking naturalism to contemporary drama's new variations. The course will emphasize the relationship between the theater and society and issues of performance, as well as close study of the plays themselves. Authors covered are both British and American and may include Wilde, Shaw, Beckett, Williams, Stoppard, and others. *Prerequisite: One course in English with attribute GFWI.*

ENGL 391 Modern American Poetry (4)

The origin and development of the modern period in American poetry, concentrating on the work of the major modernist poets: Frost, Pound, Stevens, Williams, and Eliot. The course includes a brief examination of their influence in poems by Berryman, Bishop, Brooks, Hughes, Lowell, Moore, Rich, Roethke, Wilbur, and others. *Prerequisite: One course in English with attribute GFWI.*

ENGL 392 Modern American Fiction (4)

A study of fiction by James, Hemingway, Cather, Wright, Faulkner, Ellison, Petry and others. *Prerequisite: One course in English with attribute GFWI.*

ENGL 393 Faulkner (4)

The most innovative American novelist of the twentieth century is also the writer we need to make sense of the twenty-first. “The past is never dead,” Faulkner said. “It isn’t even past.” But why isn’t it? Why can’t we, as so many Americans ask, “just move on”? Faulkner’s novels keep asking this plaintive question, his characters yearning for the freedom of the fresh start but caught by a tragic past that doesn’t want to let go. This class focuses on the major novels Faulkner wrote, in blindingly quick succession, between 1929 and 1942, what he later called his “matchless time.” *Prerequisite: One course in English with attribute GFWI.*

ENGL 394 Literature of the American South (4)

A paradox of American literary history is that the South--the poorest and least educated American region, the one beset by the most glaring injustices, the one that seemed to resist modernity most fiercely--produced the most innovative and important American writers of the twentieth century, writers like William Faulkner, Zora Neale Hurston, Eudora Welty, Flannery O’Connor, and Ernest Gaines. This course focuses most intently on their era, “the Southern renaissance,” but examines its origins in the nineteenth century and its echoes in the remarkable Southern writing of contemporaries like Jesmyn Ward, Natasha Trethewey, Janice Ray, and others. *Prerequisite: One course in English with attribute GFWI.*

ENGL 395 African-American Literature (4)

A study of African-American writers from the nineteenth century to the present, including some of the following: Frederick Douglass, Harriet Jacobs, Zora Neale Hurston, Langston Hughes, Richard Wright, Ralph Ellison, Gwendolyn Brooks, Ernest Gaines, James Baldwin, Toni Morrison, Natasha Trethewey, Frank X. Walker, Jesmyn Ward, Claudia Rankine, Honorée Jeffers, Colson Whitehead, Jericho Brown, and Tiana Clark. *Prerequisite: One course in English with attribute GFWI.*

ENGL 396 American Environmental Literature (4)

A study of the American environmental imagination. Readings include both literary fiction and nonfiction. *Prerequisite: One course in English with attribute GFWI.*

ENGL 397 Contemporary American Fiction (4)

A study of representative American fiction published after World War II, including work by Thomas Pynchon, Josephine Humphreys, Louise Erdrich, Ernest Gaines, Barbara Kingsolver, Robert Stone, and Tim O’Brien. *Prerequisite: One course in English with attribute GFWI.*

ENGL 398 American Poetry Since World War II (4)

A study of American poets whose major work was published after World War II, concentrating on Elizabeth Bishop, Anthony Hecht, Donald Justice, Robert Lowell, Howard Nemerov, Sylvia Plath, Theodore Roethke, Richard Wilbur, and Mona Van Duyn. Among others, John Berryman, Maxine Kumin, Adrienne Rich, X.J. Kennedy, and Derek Walcott will also be considered. *Prerequisite: One course in English with attribute GFWI.*

ENGL 399 World Literature in English (4)

A study of twentieth-century literature written in English from Africa, South Asia, and the Caribbean, concentrating on colonial and post-colonial themes, as well as issues of gender, politics, and nationalism. Possible authors include Chinua Achebe, Wole Soyinka, Nadine Gordimer, J. M. Coetzee, Salman Rushdie, Arundhati Roy, V. S. Naipaul, and Derek Walcott. *Prerequisite: One course in English with attribute GFWI.*

ENGL 401 Literary Criticism (4)

A study of criticism from classical times to post-structuralism and contemporary approaches to literary and cultural analysis, students will read closely and discuss major critical documents in the literary tradition of the West. Emphasis is placed on practical application of critical theory as well as on its history and development. *Prerequisite: One course in English with attribute GFWI.*

ENGL 444 Independent Study (2 or 4)

To meet the needs and particular interests of selected students. This course may be repeated for credit when the topic differs. *Prerequisite: Instructor prerequisite override required.*

ENGL 451 Honors Seminar (4)

This course supports students in conceiving and writing an honors thesis. Students explore the research and writing methods required by a thesis, such as creating a project bibliography, reading scholarship critically, identifying a compelling research question, drafting sections, and bringing multiple pieces of writing together into an extended work of scholarship. The writing for this course will culminate in a polished draft of the thesis. *Open only to seniors pursuing majors in English. Prerequisite: Instructor prerequisite override required.*

ENGL 452 Honors Tutorial (4)

Graduating seniors only. Permission of the chair of the department is required. *Prerequisite: Instructor prerequisite override required.*

Creative Writing Courses**WRIT 205 Beginning Poetry Workshop (4)**

Discussions will center on students’ poems. Selected readings are assigned to focus on technical problems of craftsmanship and style.

WRIT 206 Beginning Fiction Workshop (4)

Discussions will center on students’ fiction. Selected readings are assigned to focus on technical problems of craftsmanship and style.

WRIT 207 Beginning Playwriting Workshop (4)

Discussions will center on students’ plays. Selected readings are assigned to focus on technical problems of craftsmanship and style.

WRIT 208 Beginning Narrative Nonfiction Workshop (4)

Discussions will center on students' narrative nonfiction. Selected readings are assigned to focus on technical problems of craftsmanship and style.

WRIT 210 Forms of Poetry (4)

Craft-based instruction in specific formal issues in the tradition of poetry. Students will read poems through the lens of technique and craft, studying how writers utilize certain forms. The class will also focus on the generation of creative work, adhering to the forms discussed in class. *Prerequisite: WRIT 205 or WRIT 206 or WRIT 207 or WRIT 208.*

WRIT 211 Forms of Fiction (4)

Craft-based instruction in specific formal issues in the tradition of fiction. Students will read literature through the lens of technique and craft, studying how writers utilize certain forms. The class will also focus on the generation of creative work, adhering to the forms discussed in class. *Prerequisite: WRIT 205 or WRIT 206 or WRIT 207 or WRIT 208.*

WRIT 215 Forms of Drama (4)

Craft-based instruction in specific formal issues in the tradition of drama. Students will read plays through the lens of technique and craft, studying how writers utilize certain forms. The class will also focus on the generation of creative work, adhering to the forms discussed in class. *Prerequisite: WRIT 205 or WRIT 206 or WRIT 207 or WRIT 208.*

WRIT 305 Intermediate Poetry Workshop (4)

In the intermediate workshop, students expand their skills writing, reading, and critiquing poems, as well as share their writing with peers in a workshop setting. The course builds upon the basics of craft learned in the Beginning Poetry Workshop and explores more complex ways of utilizing that craft. Students read a diverse range of published poems, but the primary focus is the creation and critique of their own work and the work of their peers. *Prerequisite: WRIT 205.*

WRIT 306 Intermediate Fiction Workshop (4)

In the intermediate workshop, students expand their skills writing, reading, and critiquing short stories, as well as share their writing with peers in a workshop setting. The course builds upon the basics of craft learned in the Beginning Fiction Workshop and explores more complex ways of utilizing that craft. Students read a diverse range of published short stories, but the primary focus is the creation and critique of their own work and the work of their peers. *Prerequisite: WRIT 206.*

WRIT 307 Intermediate Playwriting Workshop (4)

In the intermediate workshop, students expand their skills writing, reading, and critiquing dramatic work, as well as share their writing with peers in a workshop setting. The course builds upon the basics of craft learned in the Beginning Playwriting Workshop and explores more complex ways of utilizing that craft. Students read a diverse range of published dramatic work, but the primary focus is the creation and critique of their own work and the work of their peers. *Prerequisite: WRIT 207.*

WRIT 405 Advanced Poetry Workshop (4)

In the advanced workshop, students focus on their capstone project, sharing that work with peers in a workshop setting. The course requires students to work with the professor to develop specific reading lists with the goal of shaping their own capstone project. The primary focus of the workshop is the creation and critique of their own work and the work of their peers. *Prerequisite: WRIT 305.*

WRIT 406 Advanced Fiction Workshop (4)

In the advanced workshop, students focus on their capstone project, sharing that work with peers in a workshop setting. The course requires students to work with the professor to develop specific reading lists with the goal of shaping their own capstone project. The primary focus of the workshop is the creation and critique of their own work and the work of their peers. *Prerequisite: WRIT 306.*

WRIT 407 Advanced Playwriting Workshop (4)

In the advanced workshop, students focus on their capstone project, sharing that work with peers in a workshop setting. The course requires students to work with the professor to develop specific reading lists with the goal of shaping their own capstone project. The primary focus of the workshop is the creation and critique of their own work and the work of their peers. *Prerequisite: WRIT 307.*

WRIT 444 Independent Study (2 or 4)

To meet the needs and particular interests of selected students. This course may be repeated for credit when the topic differs. *Prerequisite: Instructor prerequisite override required.*