EN200 Foundations of Literary Studies
Four credit hours. L.
TR 11-12:15 Sagaser; TR 2:30-3:45 Walker
How and why do we read? Why do some books last and others disappear? What counts as knowledge for readers of imaginative texts? We begin to answer these questions in this broad ranging course. Required for the English major, the introduction to college-level literary studies incorporates poetry, drama, and fiction, explores canon formation with a historical range of literary works, and emphasizes close reading, interpretive vocabulary, and critical writing skills. Prerequisite: W1 course or equivalent (can be taken concurrently).

EN232 Early African American Literature
Four credit hours. L.
MWF 12:00n-12:50pm Plasencia
Introduces early African American literature as an inscription of fugitive existence—or as Fred Moten calls it, stolen life. Our goal is to sketch this story of unruly writing from 1773 to 1900 by considering how black citizens usurped and (re)-formed dominant literary genres and political institutions in order to carve out a space of freedom within a hostile nation. We will read sermons, political tracts, spiritual autobiographies, testimonials of enslavement, and newspapers to ascertain how people of African descent theorized anti-blackness as a way of life and, in response, fashioned other forms of being-in-the-world. Fulfills English C and D requirements.

EN245 Poems, Paintings, and Printing: Text Versus Image in the Lyric
Four credit hours. L. Gibson TR 1-2:15
An exploration of the relationship between poetry and the visual arts from creative, analytical, historical, and experiential perspectives. In the Colby College Museum of Art we will write poems about paintings and photographs. In Special Collections we will examine a broad range of printed texts. At the Pickwick Press in Portland, we will handset type for our own poetry broadside. Students will analyze and use appropriate technical terms for understanding poetry, identify several poetic traditions in which poets encounter other arts, articulate ideas and insights in visual and written media, and reflect upon their own work. Fulfills English C and P requirements. Prerequisite: Any W1 course (may be taken concurrently).

EN255 Studies in American Literary History: Pre-1860
Four credit hours. L. TR 1-2:15 Stubbs
Introduces key movements in American literature and works written by American writers of different cultural backgrounds. Attends to themes that run throughout American literature prior to 1865 and considers how and why they are adapted and transformed. Explores the role of literature in shaping conceptions of the American self and how it has been used as a form of social protest. Traces the development of the American literary tradition, with particular attention to relationships between generic traditions, contexts surrounding the birth of certain genres, and how genre relates to a work’s cultural and historical context. Fulfills English D and E requirements. Prerequisite: W1 course (may be taken concurrently).

EN264 Comparative Studies: Emily Dickinson and English Poetry
Four credit hours. L. TR 2:30-3:45 Sagaser
This course compares poems by 19th c. American poet Emily Dickinson with poems by writers she admired and read intensely, from Shakespeare and Milton to Keats, the Brontés and E. B. Browning. Students will gain analytical skills and creative strategies for engaging with poetry as they discover poetry’s power to bring thoughts and voices from faraway centuries and continents into the minds and memories of newly present readers and thinkers. They will explore some additional contexts for Dickinson’s reading and writing, including her education, material conditions, and the Civil War. Fulfills English C, E, and P requirements. Prerequisite: Any W1 course.

EN271 Critical Theory
Four credit hours. L. MW 1-2:15 Shabangu
Introduction to major ideas in critical theory that influence the study of language, literature, and culture. Students gain mastery over an array of theoretical discourses and develop awareness of how underlying assumptions about representation shape reading practices. Possible approaches include classical theory, cultural materialism, structuralism, poststructuralism, psychoanalysis, Marxism, feminist theory, or postcolonial theory. Students learn to read complex arguments, recognize assumptions about interpretation and language, and use theoretical approaches and tools for interpreting the systems of representation that constitute culture. Prerequisite: English 120, 172, or 200 (may be taken concurrently.)
English Department
200 Level Courses - Fall 2020

EN278 Fiction Writing I
Four credit hours. A.
MW 2:30-3:45 Spark; TR 11-12:15 Mayer
Writing short literary fiction. No prior experience with fiction writing presumed, only interest. Class sessions will be devoted to talking about fiction basics, analyzing short stories, and critiquing fellow students' fiction in workshops. Outside of class, students will be writing fiction exercises and complete stories, as well as reading professional stories. By the end of the semester, students should have insight into the creative process. They should have learned the basics of the craft of writing, and they should have practiced what they have learned through writing and rewriting. Prerequisite: Any W1 course.

EN279 Poetry Writing I
Four credit hours. A.
MW 2:30-3:45 White; TR 11-12:15 Giannelli
What distinguishes a poem from a story from an advertisement from a phone call home? How do poems get written? And does it need to rhyme? In this workshop, students investigate these and many other questions about poetic process and craft by reading and critically analyzing contemporary poetry, writing their own poems, and offering feedback on the work of their peers. By semester’s end, students will produce a portfolio of revised poems and a statement of what they have learned about their creative process, aesthetic preferences, and their growing mastery of craft. No prior experience with poetry presumed. Fulfills English P requirement.
Prerequisite: Any W1 course.

EN280 Creative Nonfiction Writing I
Four credit hours. A. MW 1-2:15 Burke
A creative writing workshop that introduces students to the forms and possibilities of creative nonfiction, including essays of time and place, memoirs, profiles, and literary journalism. Progresses through a review of models, writing exercises, drafts, and finished pieces, with an emphasis on the workshop process, in which students share work and comment on each others’ efforts. Prerequisite: Any W1 course.

EN283 Environmental Humanities: Stories of Crisis and Resilience
Four credit hours. L. TR 9:30-10:45 Walker
What can literature teach us about nature and environmental justice? Do the humanities and environmental studies share a vision of a sustainable future? Is it possible to understand climate change without telling stories about its uneven global impacts? To address these and other questions, we will examine how the environmental humanities implicitly respond to the "two cultures" debate. We will then investigate the relationship between environmental justice and western societies' extractive logics, economies, and management of nature. From within this theoretical framework we will analyze novels, poetry, and environmental films. Fulfills English C and D requirements.

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<th>Course</th>
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