**Department of English Course Descriptions  
Spring 2019**

**English 3301.251: Critical Theory and Practice for English Majors (WI)  
MW 11am-12:20pm, FH 225**

**Instructor:** Allan Chavkin

**Course Description:** Current approaches to literature with attention to reading strategies and artistic techniques and conventions We will examine a variety of subjects, the major theoretical approaches to literature, and the literary techniques in the works. In addition to learning about the traditional literary genres (e.g. drama, poetry, prose fiction), we will examine film as an art form. When possible, we will compare classic works with their film adaptations, such as the plays Death of a Salesman and The Crucible by Arthur Miller. Students will read some of the best works of world literature, including several short stories by Saul Bellow, novellas by Henry James and Junichiro Tanizaki,, plays by Arthur Miller, a novel by Louise Erdrich, and poems by Shakespeare, Sylvia Plath, and others.

**Books:** Saul Bellow, Collected Stories; Henry James, The Turn of the Screw, A Case Study in Contemporary Criticism edited by Peter Beidler; Arthur Miller, The Portable Arthur Miller; Louise Erdrich, Shadow Tag, David Mikics, New Handbook of Literary Terms, and Junichiro Tanizaki’s The Key (It’s okay to substitute eBooks for the books above if you want. If you already own different editions of any of the books above, it is fine to use them.)

**Film:** Death of a Salesman; The Crucible; The Innocents (based on Henry James’ novella), and The Road

**Evaluation:** class participation (attendance is required), quizzes, papers and exams.

**Contact:** e-mail Chavkin@txstate.edu or talk to him in his office (239 FH)

**English 3301.252: Critical Theory and Practice for English Majors (WI)  
TR 3:30pm-4:50pm, FH 224**

**Instructor:** Robert T. Tally Jr.

**Description:** This course offers an introduction to the critical theories underpinning rhetorical and literary analysis within various branches of English Studies. We will pay particular attention to literary and critical theory, both as a foundation for critical practices in literary scholarship and as a form of scholarship in its own right. That is, theory not only serves criticism and scholarship in framing questions, providing background, or enabling speculative interpretation, but theory is itself a scholarly practice or even genre of critical writing and thinking. A major part of literary scholarship involves “doing” theory in one way or another, and many important contributors to the literary humanities, whether in the form of literary history, biography, criticism, or what have you, are also engaged in projects of critical theory. In this course, we will examine a selection of major works of theory and criticism, focusing especially on a number of “classics” (i.e., extremely influential works) of the genre. In addition to the these, we will also look at the disciplinary field of English more broadly, connecting its concerns with those of other areas of modern critical practice.

**Goals:**

(1) To become familiar with the principles and practices of literary scholarship and critical theory; (2) to read a number of important works of modern critical theory and practice; (3) to understand the literary, social, historical, and disciplinary background of these works and their subjects; and (4) to analyze these works.

**Required Texts:** The reading list has not been finalized, but we will likely use both original essays by literary critics and theorists, as well as one or more introductory surveys of theory.

**Format**: Seminar (interactive lecture and discussion).

**Evaluation**: Based on overall contributions, including papers and class discussion.

**Spring Office Hours:** T-TH 8:00–9:00, and by appointment.

**For more information:** Email Professor Tally at robert.tally@txstate.edu

**English 3301.253: Critical Theory and Practice for English Majors (WI)  
TR 2:00pm-3:20pm, FH 228**

**Instructor:** Dr. Eric Leake

**Course Description:** This course introduces critical theories underpinning literary and rhetorical analysis within various branches of English Studies and develops the skills of reading, writing, and research.

**Books (tentative):**

Morrison, Toni. Beloved. Vintage, 2004.

O’Brien, Tim. The Things They Carried. Houghton Mifflin, 1990.

Tyson, Lois. Critical Theory Today: A User-Friendly Guide. Routledge, 2014.

**Evaluation:** Reading responses, quizzes, essays, class participation.

**Contact:** eleake@txstate.edu

**English 3301.254: Critical Theory and Practice for English Majors (WI)  
TR 11:00am-12:20pm, FH 252**

**Instructor:** Dr. Kathryn Ledbetter

**Course Description:** This course is designed to acquaint English majors with contemporary conversations about interpreting literature, culture, and critical theory. This course has a strict attendance policy that may further affect your grade.

**Required Texts** (please use only the editions listed):

*Steven Lynn, Texts and Contexts: Writing About Literature with Critical Theory (4th edn, Longman)*

*The MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers (8th edn, MLA)*

*Ross Murfin & Supryia M. Ray, The Bedford Glossary of Literary Terms, 3rd edition (Bedford)*

*Mary Shelley, Frankenstein (1818), 3rd edn (Broadview Press)*

*Graham Greene, Brighton Rock (Penguin)*

**Evaluation:**

* 60% Two Critical Research Essays
* 20% Literary and Theory Terms Exam
* 10% Daily quizzes and class participation
* 10% Final Exam

**Contact:** Dr. Kathryn Ledbetter, FH 242, KLedbetter@txstate.edu, (512) 245-2362.

**English 3301.255: Critical Theory and Practice for English Majors (WI)  
MWF 10:00am-10:50am, FH 254**

**Instructor:** Dr. Graeme Wend-Walker

**Course Description:** This course introduces students to the branches of studies in English, and to the critical toolbox – the approaches, methods, and priorities that help to enable the effective reading of literature. We will consider the major approaches critics use, the literary terms appropriate to them, and the benefits and limitations of each kind of critical lens. We will question the assumptions we as readers make about texts (and the assumptions we may make about ourselves as readers) in order to understand how texts reflect, challenge, and complicate the notions a society has about itself.

**Books:** Texts are likely to include: novels; a film; and a variety of texts provided in-class, from short stories and poems to magazine ads and on-line materials, as well as materials sourced by the students.

**Format:** Student presentations, lectures, discussion, group work.

**Evaluation:** Student presentations, essays, exams, quizzes.

**E-Mail**: graeme@txstate.edu

**English 3302.251: Film and Video Theory and Production (WI)  
MW 5pm-6:30pm, FH 120**

**Instructor**: Kathleen McClancy

**Course Description**: This course will introduce students to the techniques and theories of film and digital video production by teaching students how movies are made. This is a hands-on class, and students should expect to spend significant time with a camera. We will discuss shot composition, location scouting, cinematography, and non-linear editing, among other topics. As we learn the elements of the medium of film, we will put our new knowledge into action, creating our own digital videos. Necessary equipment is provided.

**Books**: Bowen and Thompson, *Grammar of the Shot* and *Grammar of the Edit*, 4th eds.

**Evaluation**: Individual and group film projects, weekly written, photographic, and video work, participation, quizzes.

**Contact:** [krm141@txstate.edu](mailto:krm141@txstate.edu)

**English 3303.252: Technical Writing (WI)  
MWF 9am-9:50am, FH G14**

**English 3303.253: Technical Writing (WI)  
MWF 10am-10:50am, FH G14  
English 3303.259: Technical Writing (WI)  
TR 8am-9:20am, FH G14**

**Instructor:** Laura Ellis-Lai

**Course Description:** The study and practice of expository writing in technical and scientific professions. Emphasis on planning, writing, revising, editing, and proofreading proposals, reports, and other forms of professional communication for a variety of audiences. Computer technology included.

**Books:** *Practical Strategies for Technical Communication*, Mike Markel [978-1-4576-0940-4]

**Evaluation:** projects, quizzes, final exam

**Contact:** [le17@txstate.edu](mailto:le17@txstate.edu)

**English 3303.254: Technical Writing (WI)  
MW 11am-12:20pm, FH G14**

**English 3303.276: Technical Writing (WI)  
TR 11am-12:20pm, FH 114**

**English 3303.277: Technical Writing (WI)  
TR 12:30pm-1:50pm, FH 114**

**Instructor:** Sean Rose

**Course Description:** This course concerns writing in technical professions. It emphasizes planning, writing, revising, editing, and proofreading proposals, reports, instructions, and other forms of professional communication for a variety of audiences. (WI).

**Books**: *Practical Strategies for Technical Communication*, 2nd Edition, Mike Markel

**Contact:** [sgr24@txstate.edu](mailto:sgr24@txstate.edu)

**English 3303.260: Technical Writing (WI)  
TR 9:30am-10:50am, FH G14  
English 3303.261: Technical Writing (WI)  
TR, 11am-12:20pm, FH G14**

**Instructor:** Pinfan Zhu

**Course Description:** This course prepares students with skills for workplace writings. Specific genres include: instructions, proposals, memos, reports, job letters and résumés, Web design, use of graphics, and document design. Students also learn how to analyze audiences and use rhetorical strategies to target them. Communicating with cross-cultural audiences is also one of the focuses. Other skills students will learn in the course are skills used throughout the writing process from invention to editing and research skills. The course is writing intensive but also teaches students oral presentation skills, research skills, and some application software skills. Students have to participate in group discussion, online research, and in-class exercises.

**Books:** *Practical Strategies for Technical Communication*, Mike Markel [978-1-4576-0940-4]

**Evaluation:**

* Job application materials (individual) – 10%
* Instructions (individual), definitions & description – 10%
* Research proposal (individual) – 10%
* Oral presentation (individual) – 5%
* Completion report (group project) – 10%
* Business letters and a memo (group project) – 5%
* Informal reports (group project) – 5%
* Self-quizzes (homework) – 10%
* Three quizzes – 15%
* Web design – 10%
* Final exam – 10%

**Contact:** [pz10@txstate.edu](mailto:pz10@txstate.edu)

**English 3303.262: Technical Writing (WI)**

**TR 12:30pm-1:50pm, FH G14**

**English 3303.263: Technical Writing (WI)**

**TR 2:00pm-3:20pm, FH G14**

**Instructor**: Amanda Scott

**Course Description:** This is an advanced course designed specifically to study the special demands of technical writing in your future profession. The course will emphasize and help you develop the skills necessary to solve complex workplace problems, initiate and complete communication projects, and even challenge and revise outdated or ineffective communication processes and documents. The premise of the course is to give you experience in developing the writing and communication skills you will be expected to have as you make the transition from student to professional.

**Books:**

*Technical Communication Today by Richard Johnson-Sheehan, 6th edition (978-0134425733)*

**Evaluation:**

* Project 1 – Resume & Cover Letter (10%)
* Project 2 – Document Analysis & Revision (15%)
* Project 3 – Proposal (20%)
* Project 4 – Website Analysis & Revision (20%)
* Final Project – Multimedia Project & Presentation (15%)
* In-Class Activities, Homework, & Quizzes (10%)
* Project Peer Reviews & Commentary (10%)

**Contact**: aes126@txstate.edu

**English 3303.269: Technical Writing (WI)  
MW, 11am-12:20pm, FH 114**

**Instructor:** Miriam Williams

**Course Description:** This course prepares students for writing in the workplace. Specific genres include letters, memos, job application materials, manuals, reports, and presentations. Specific skills developed include document design, web page design, use of graphics, collaborative writing, audience analysis, and project management. The course is writing and computer intensive and requires active participation

The study and practice of expository writing in technical and scientific professions. Emphasis on planning, writing, revising, editing, and proofreading proposals, reports, and other forms of professional communication for a variety of audiences. Computer technology included.

**Contact:** [mfw@txstate.edu](mailto:mfw@txstate.edu)

**English 3303.272: Technical Writing (WI)  
MW, 3:30pm-4:50pm, FH 114**

**Instructor:** Alan Schaefer

**Course Description:** English 3303 is an advanced writing course designed specifically to study the special demands of technical writing in your future profession. Students will learn to produce concise, precise, and useful technical writing and communication in a variety of genres, including job application materials, instructions, definitions, workplace memos, and notes on ethical concerns in various professional fields.

**Book:** Practical Strategies for Technical Communication, 2nd edition, by Mike Markel, ISBN-13: 978-1319143138

**Evaluation:** Numerous short writing assignments and a major project

**Contact:** es46@txstate.edu

**English 3303.274: Technical Writing (WI)  
TR 8am-9:20am, FH 114  
English 3303.275: Technical Writing (WI)  
TR 9:30am-10:50pm, FH 114**

**Instructor:** Octavio Pimentel

**Course Description:** The study and practice of expository writing in technical and scientific professions. Emphasis on planning, writing, revising, editing, and proofreading proposals, reports, and other forms of professional communication for a variety of audiences. Computer technology included.

**Contact:** op11@txstate.edu

**English 3303.284: Technical Writing (WI)  
MW 11am-12:20pm, FH 120  
English 3303.285: Technical Writing (WI)  
MW 12:30pm-1:50pm, FH 120**

**Instructor:** Lauren Schiely

**Course Description:** The study and practice of expository writing in technical and scientific professions. Emphasis on planning, writing, revising, editing, and proofreading proposals, reports, and other forms of professional communication for a variety of audiences. Computer technology included.

**Contact:** lauren.schiely@txstate.edu

**English 3303.289: Technical Writing (WI)  
Note: This course taught online**

**Instructor:** Dr.Scott Mogull

**Course Description:** This course explores writing in technical professions. The class emphasizes planning, writing, revising, editing, and proofreading proposals, reports, instructions, and other forms of professional communication for a variety of audiences. This course is conducted online with lectures, discussions, assignments, and quizzes through TRACS.

**Books:** Technical Communication (12th ed.) by Markel & Selber, ©2018, ISBN: 978-1-319-05861

**Evaluation:** Anticipated assignments and grade weighting include:

* Weekly quizzes covering the readings and lectures (20%)
* Analysis assignments and online discussions (20%)
* Four large writing projects (60%)

**Contact**: mogull@txstate.ed

**English 3303.275: Technical Writing (WI)  
TR 12:30am-1:50pm, FH 120**

**Instructor:** Chris Margrave

**Course Description:** The study and practice of expository writing in technical and scientific professions. Emphasis on planning, writing, revising, editing, and proofreading proposals, reports, and other forms of professional communication for a variety of audiences. Computer technology included.

**Contact:** cm85@txstate.edu

**English 3303.326: Technical Writing (WI)  
R 6:30pm-9:20pm, RRC  
English 3303.327: Technical Writing (WI)  
W 6:30pm-9:20pm, RRC**

**Instructor:** Dan Price

**Course Description:** This course prepares students for writing in the workplace. Specific genres include letters, memos, job application materials, manuals, reports, and presentations. Specific skills developed include document design, web page design, use of graphics, collaborative writing, audience analysis, and project management. The course is writing and computer intensive and requires active participation

**Books:** Markel, Mike. *Technical Communication*, 11th ed. Boston: Bedford/St. Martin’s, 2015.\

**Format:** Hybrid course with two face-to-face meetings. The bulk of the course material is presented online.

**Evaluation:** Five major writing assignments and a final.

**Contact:** [dprice@txstate.edu](mailto:dprice@txstate.edu)

**English 3303.328: Technical Writing (WI)  
English 3303.329: Technical Writing (WI)  
TBA, RRC**

**Instructor:** Keri Fitzgerald

**Course Description:** The study and practice of expository writing in technical and scientific professions. Emphasis on planning, writing, revising, editing, and proofreading proposals, reports, and other forms of professional communication for a variety of audiences. Computer technology included.

**Contact:** keri.fitzgerald@txstate.edu

**English 3306.251: Writing for Film (WI)**

**MW 11:00am-12:20pm, FH 227**

**Instructor:** Jon Marc Smith

**Course Description:** This course is and introduction to screenwriting that combines the study of published film texts with workshop practice in writing for film.

**Contact:** [js71@txstate.edu](mailto:js71@txstate.edu)

**English 3307.251: Introduction to the Study of Film (WI)  
TR 9:30am-10:50am, FH 130**

**Instructor:** Dr. Rebecca Bell-Metereau

**Course Description**: English 3307 introduces students to concepts and vocabulary of film analysis. The thematic topic is the construction of identity and reality through film and other technologies. The course goals are to understand the history and influence of film and media and methods for analyzing and writing about film. Format: Class include short lectures, but primarily discussion, brief reports by students, video clips, outside viewing of movies, unless otherwise announced.

**Readings and Films:** Readings on topics are in TRACS Resources. Film viewing outside of class is required. Students should purchase, rent, or stream movies through Netflix, Hulu, Amazon, Alkek, or share viewings with class members. Some arranged viewings or DVDs available.

**Films**: Freaks (1932), Citizen Kane (1941), Some Like It Hot (1959), La Jetée (1962), One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest (1975), Alien (1979), Total Recall (1990), The Piano (1993), Dead Man Walking (1995), Frida (2002), Gasland (2010), Selma (2015)

**Evaluation:**

* 30% = three 500-word essays
* 20% = 1000-word final essay
* 20% = daily work, grading, attendance
* 10% = presentation
* 10% = midterm multiple choice
* 10% = final multiple choice

**Contact:** [rb12@txstate.edu](mailto:rb12@txstate.edu) ,FH335 TR1:30-4:00 or by appt. Phone: 512-245-2163 Cell 512-665-2157

**English 3309.251: The Southwest in Film (WI)  
MW 12:30pm-1:50pm, FH 228**

**Instructor:** Kate McClancy

**Course Description:** Ever since the founding of the United States, the western frontier has figured prominently in American culture. And ever since the founding of Hollywood, from the western to the film noir, the Southwest has figured prominently in American films. This course examines the Southwest in film: how film presents and constructs not only the region itself but its iconography in the American cultural consciousness. In the process, we will consider how the medium of film works to create place, ideology, and nation.

**Books:** TBD.

**Films:** May include Desperado, El Mariachi, A Fistful of Dollars, Giant, Lone Star, No Country for Old Men, Red River, Stagecoach, Tender Mercies, The Last Picture Show, The Texas Chain Saw Massacre, Thelma & Louise, Them!, Touch of Evil, Transpecos, Tremors, Unforgiven.

**Format**: Discussion.

**Evaluation:** Essays, written responses, class participation.

**Contact:** krm141@txstate.edu

**English 3311.251: Practices in Writing and Rhetoric (WI)**

**Topic: Writing for the Web**

**TR 9:30am-10:50am, FH 112**

**Instructor:** Laura Ellis-Lai

**Course Description:** Do you interact with social media to feel creatively inspired, become politically involved, or connect with others? What's your favorite blog, podcast, or website? We will explore theories of composing, craft online personas, and tell transmedia stories using Web 2.0 tools, but we will also discuss emergent Web 3.0 composing practices. No prior experience writing for the web is needed.

**Evaluation:** projects, quizzes, final exam

**Contact:** le17@txstate.edu

**English 3311.252: Practices in Writing and Rhetoric (WI)**

**Topic: Writing about Music  
MW 11am-12:20pm, FH 226**

**Instructor:** Alan Schaefer

**Course Description**: This course introduces students to a variety of approaches to writing about music. We will listen to music and read, study, and produce a diverse body of writing: music criticism; analyses of the cultures and economies of music industries; musicians’ memoirs; oral histories; texts with regional musical concerns; liner notes; fiction, poetry, and visual interpretations of music; and promotional texts.

**Books (a tentative list):** Shake It Up: Great American Writing on Rock and Pop from Elvis to Jay Z, edited by Jonathon Lethem. ISBN-13: 978-1598535310

The Blues: A Very Short Introduction, by Elijah Wald. ISBN-13: 978-0195398939

Beyoncé in Formation: Remixing Black Feminism, by Omise’eke Tinsley. ISBN-13: 978-1477318393

**Evaluation:** In-class writing, short response papers, two short essays, promotional texts, and a research project

**Contact**: es46@txstate.edu

**English 3311.253: Practices in Writing and Rhetoric (WI)**

**Topic: Food Writing with an Emphasis on Mexican Food**

**TR 11am-12:20pm, FH 226**

**Instructor:** Jaime Armin Mejía

**Course Description:** Since this course focuses on writing essays analyzing food, Mexican food more specifically, and literature-based readings related to food more generally. The topic of food, whether it’s about its preparation, presentation, or its consumption, holds great potential for students to engage their analytical skills as well as their stylistic rhetorical skills. The class will discuss the assigned readings about food and will also have many in-class peer-responding sessions to review and proofread each other’s drafts prior to submitting their final drafts for assessment. The first book of readings the class will examine and discuss is Eating Words: A Norton Anthology of Food Writing. This anthology is filled with pieces and excerpts from literary works from different genres covering a wide spectrum of topics.

The next book, Taco USA, is a collection of fourteen essays by noted Orange County Chicano critic, Gustavo Arellano. His essays trace the history and spread of what is generally known as Mexican food throughout the US. The third book we’ll cover is Know That What You Eat You Are: The Best Food Writing from Harper's Magazine. This last collection of readings offers another wide array of thinking about food. There will also be other assigned readings and videos.

**Evaluation:** There will be three major essay assignments, each about eight pages (about 2000 words) in length (with images), with the last one due on the day of the final. The last one will report on visiting a local San Marcos Mexican restaurant and will analyze that experience. Field trips and food samplings, where possible, will likely be part of the assignments.

**Contact:** jm31@txstate.edu

**English 3311.254: Practices in Writing and Rhetoric (WI)**

**Topic: Arguing for Nature  
TBA, RRC**

**Instructor:** Keri Fitzgerald

**Course Description:** Students will read both classic and new selections from nature writers and apply what they learn to their own written arguments for nature appreciation, conservation, environmentalism, etc., further developing the expository writing skills gained in first-year English courses.

**Contact:** keri.fitzgerald@txstate.edu

**English 3312.251: Internship in English Studies  
M 6:30pm-9:20pm, FH 224**

**Note: This course taught online**

**Instructor:** Dan Price

**Course Description:** This course is paired with an internship during which students apply knowledge of writing, editing, design, copy editing, and production in the professional workplace. Students will have worked with professors in their concentrations and the Internship Director to establish goals and learning objectives specific to their internships.

**Books:** Smith, Herb and Kim Haimes-Korn. *Portfolios for Technical and Professional Communications*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson-Prentice Hall, 2007.

**Format:** Hybrid seminar format with bi-weekly meetings alternating with online presentation of material.

**Evaluation:** Journal, timesheets, employer evaluations, presentation and portfolio.

**Contact:** [dprice@txstate.edu](mailto:dprice@txstate.edu)

**English 3315.251: Introduction to Creative Writing (WI)  
MW 11am-12:20pm, FH G04**

**Instructor:** Jason Coates

**Course Description: E**NG 3315 is an introductory course to creative writing. Students explore the facets of realistic fiction and poetry. The main emphasis of the course is the development of student writing. However, this development relies on studying craft and deconstructing texts. Students will read many well-known works and experimental works to better understand craft and technique. After taking this course, students should have a better understanding of their strengths and weaknesses as writers, and they should understand the structure and vocabulary of academic writing workshops.

**Attendance Poliy**

Because I conduct this class as a workshop, with in-class planning, writing, revising, and editing, regular attendance is essential. I expect students to attend every class meeting. Students who accumulate **three** absences—excused or unexcused—will receive an automatic 0 for participation. Students who accumulate 5 absences will fail the course.

**Books:** Janet Burroway, *Imaginative Writing: The Elements of Craft, 4th edition*

**Evaluation:**

Portfolios 50% (25% each)

Exercises 20%

Reading responses 20% (10% each)

Workshop participation 10%

**Contact:** jc209@txstate.edu

**English 3315.252: Introduction to Creative Writing (WI)  
TR 3:30pm-4:50pm, FH G04**

**Instructor:** Roger Jones

**Course Description:** The introductory creative writing course in the department, this class will teach you the basics of writing and critiquing publishable poems and short stories.

**Books:** *Contemporary American Poetry*, M. Waters, A Poulin eds., 8th ed; Michael Kardos ed., *The Art & Craft of Fiction*

**Evaluation:** Lecture responses, workshop critiques, final portfolio

**Contact**: [rj03@txstate.edu](mailto:rj03@txstate.edu)

**English 3315.253: Introduction to Creative Writing (WI)  
TR 9:30am-10:50am, FH 253**

**Instructor:** Stan Rivkin

**Course Description:** A critical seminar for writers of fiction, poetry, and creative nonfiction. Creativity, criticism, and revision are emphasized.

**Books:** Janet Burroway, Imaginative Writing: The Elements of Craft, 4th edition

**Evaluation:** Creative submissions of poetry and fiction, class discussion, feedback letters to peers, craft reflections

**Contact:** s\_r236@txstate.edu

**English 3315.254: Introduction to Creative Writing (WI)  
MW 12:30pm-1:50pm, FH 257**

**Instructor:** Sean Rose

**Course Description:** A workshop-based seminar for writers of fiction, poetry, and creative non-fiction. Creativity, writing, reading, criticism, and revision are emphasized. (WI).

**Books:** Imaginative Writing: The Elements of Craft, Janet Burroway, 4th Edition

**Contact:** sgr24@txstate.edu

**English 3315.256: Introduction to Creative Writing (WI)  
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Note: This course taught online.**

**Instructor:** Roger Jones

**Course Description:** The introductory creative writing course in the department, this class will teach you the basics of writing and critiquing publishable poems and short stories.

**Books:** *Contemporary American Poetry*, M. Waters, A Poulin eds., 8th ed; Michael Kardos ed., *The Art & Craft of Fiction*

**Evaluation:** Lecture responses, workshop critiques, final portfolio

**Contact**: [rj03@txstate.edu](mailto:rj03@txstate.edu)

**English 3316.251: Film Studies (WI)**

**TR 11am-12:20pm, FH 225**

**Instructor:** Dr. Rebecca Bell-Metereau

**Course Description:** English 3316 introduces students to concepts and vocabulary of film analysis. The thematic topic is the idea of authorship in the construction of history, memory, identity and "reality," with an emphasis on global perspectives and examples of international cinema. The goals are to understand the history and influence of film and media worldwide, concepts of authorship and adaptation, and methods for analyzing and writing about film. Format is primarily discussion, brief reports by students, video clips, outside viewing of videos (streaming, at home, library, or showings scheduled outside of class in Flowers Hall).

**Books and Films:** Short readings in TRACS Resources folder; Authorship in Film Adaptation, ed. Jack Boozer

**Films:** Belle et la Bete (1946, French, Beauty and the Beast, Cocteau), The Manchurian Candidate (1962), Lolita (1962), Like Water for Chocolate (1992), Devil in a Blue Dress (1995), Smoke Signals (1998), Traffic (2000), High Fidelity (2000), Adaptation (2002), Let the Right One In (2008), BlacKkKlansman (2018). Video viewing outside of class is required. Students may view in showings after class (arranged with instructor), copies on reserve, purchase DVD's from Amazon.com or another dealer, or rent/stream videos through Netflix, Hulu, etc., share purchases and showings with class members, or checkout DVD from me or Alkek reserve.

**Evaluation:**

20% = responses, attendance, brief quizzes;

20% = 1000-word essay;

20% presentation;

20% = midterm multiple choice;

20% = final multiple choice

**Contact**: [rb12@txstate.edu](mailto:rb12@txstate.edu)

**English 3318.251: Theories of Writing and Rhetoric (WI)  
Topic: Understanding Writing**

**TR 9:30am-10:50am, FH 227**

**Instructor:** Dr. Rebecca Jackson

**Course Description:** In this course, we’ll seek to “understand writing” from several vantage points: why we write, how we write, what things influence and shape writing and, finally, what makes writing enjoyable, complex, and incredibly difficult. We’ll read research on writing, theories of writing, and writers’ perspectives on their own writing. One of our primary goals will be to better understand ourselves as writers in the university and in the world at large.

**Books:** Books may include the following:

* Adler-Kastner and Wardle, Naming What We Know: Threshold Concepts of Writing Studies
* Lamott, Anne. Bird by Bird: Some Instructions on Writing and Life
* Villanueva, Cross Talk in Comp Theory

**Evaluation**: reading responses, options for several short research studies and analyses, final portfolio

**Contact:** rj10@txstate.edu

**English 3319.251: The Development of English (WI)  
TR 9:30am-10:50am, FH 229**

**English 3319.252: The Development of English (WI)  
TR 11am-12:20pm, FH 229**

**Instructor:** Dick Heaberlin

**Course Description**: 3319. The Development of English: Origin and growth of the English language with particular attention to phonological, morphological, and grammatical changes; history of dialects, spelling, and dictionaries; sources of vocabulary.

**Books:** Textbooks: Ebooks and Streaming Media from Library and web.

**Format:** Lecture and group work.

**Evaluation:** Class work, quizzes, three tests, and a final exam.

**Contact:** For more information, see Professor Heaberlin in FH 244. 245-3710. Email Heaberlin@txstate.edu

Fall Office Hours: 9 to 9:30 TT, 3:20 to 3:50TT, and 6 to 6:30 W

**English 3323.251: Modern Poetry (WI)  
MW 11am-12:20pm, FH 252**

**Instructor:** Julie McCormick Weng

**Course Description**: This course will introduce students to transnational Anglophone modern and contemporary poetry. By reading a wide range of poems, we will grapple with their unique historical contexts while also examining how such strategies as form, rhyme scheme, and word-choice construct meaning. Beyond our anthology, we will read a collection of poems composed by a local poet who will also visit our class to discuss her work.

**Books:** Anthology TBA, Cecily Parks – O'Nights (9781938584114)

**Evaluation:** Essays, Presentations, and Exams

**Contact:** julie.weng@txstate.edu

**English 3325.251: Russian Literature in Translation (WI)  
TR 2pm-3:20pm, FH 224**

I**nstructor**: Suparno Banerjee

**Course Description:** This course introduces students to Russian fiction in English translation. Starting from the 19th century Russia produced some of modern western literature’s most important and influential writers whose thematic and stylistic impact can be seen in future generations all over the world. This course will cover fictions by some of those authors along with authors who are not so well known outside of Russia. We will focus on the selected works’ historical, socio-cultural, and literary implications inside and outside Russia. The types of texts we will cover include works of classic realism, as well as science fiction, fantasy, and folklore.

**Books:** Possible texts include Robert Chandler edited Russian Short Stories from Pushkin to Buida, Fyodor Dostoevsky’s Crime and Punishment, Leo Tolstoy’s The Death of Ivan Ilyich, Arkady & Boris Strugatsky’s Roadside Picnic, Yevgeny Zamiatin’s We.

**Evaluation:** Take home assignments, in-class essay exams, class presentation, and regular participation in class activities

**Contact**: sb67@txstate.edu

**English 3329.251: Mythology (WI)  
Topic: Myth, Fairy Tales, and Pop Culture  
TR 12:30pm-1:50pm, FH 225**

I**nstructor**: Dr. Katie Kapurch

**Course Description:** This section, Myth, Fairy Tales and Popular Culture, is organized thematically according to subject matter addressed by Joseph Campbell’s *The Power of Myth* interview series. We explore major myths and fairy tales that inform classic literature, along with popular music, film, and other contemporary media. While we use Campbell’s ideas as touchstones, we also problematize his ideas in light of contemporary theories, especially feminism and multiculturalism. **Special emphasis this semester: mermaids and local folklore.**

**Books:** Introduction to Mythology (Oxford UP);tbd

**Evaluation:** Essays, group projects, etc.

**Contact:** [kk19@txstate.edu](mailto:kk19@txstate.edu)

**English 3335.251: American Literature 1865-1930: The Rise of Realism, Naturalism, and Modernism (WI)  
MW 2pm-3:20pm, FH 224**

**Instructor:** Mark Busby

**Course Description:** The readings include works from various genres covering a wide range of themes and styles used by American writers of the period. These works will lead to investigations of the changing perceptions of America and American literature. Classes will primarily be class discussions of the assigned literary works after I provide brief introductions to the writers and their works. Objectives: The purpose of the course is to examine works by the important writers in the period covered to see how they confront the issues they found the most compelling and to compare how authors merged style and substance. Additionally, the readings are intended to enhance the reading, writing, and analytical skills of the students.

**Books:** The assigned works will include such works as Mark Twain’s The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn, Stephen Crane’s The Red Badge of Courage, stories by Ernest Hemingway, James Weldon Johnson’ Autobiography of an Ex-Colored Man, among others

**Evaluation:** One semester research essay, quizzes, two exams and final exam, attendance, and class participation

**Contact:** [mb13@txstate.edu](mailto:mb13@txstate.edu)

**English 3336.251: U. S. Literature, 1930-present**

**MW 12:30pm-1:50pm, FH 225**

**English 3336.252: U. S. Literature, 1930-present**

**MW 2:00pm-3:20pm, FH 225**

**Instructor:** Allan Chavkin

**Course Description:** An introduction to American literature from 1930 to the present. The course will concentrate on the major U. S. writers in the 1930-present period, including the playwrights Tennessee Williams and Edward Albee, novelists and short story writers Jack Kerouac, Louise Erdrich, Joyce Carol Oates, Flannery O’Connor and Cormac McCarthy, the poets Sylvia Plath, Anne Sexton, and Elizabeth Bishop. We will also view and study several outstanding films. We will examine a variety of subjects, literary techniques, and genres, including film as an art form.

**Objectives:**

1. To introduce students to some of the best American novels, short stories, poems, plays, and films from 1930 to present

2. To teach students to look critically at literature and to teach them to distinguish between serious literature and mere "entertainment" and to enable them to read and appreciate literature on their own in later years, if they should choose to do so.

3. To make students aware of different ways of looking at the American experience, some radically different from conventional views. Discussion mainly, some lecture.

**Books:**

* Albee, Edward. Who’s Afraid of Virginia Woolf?
* Erdrich, Louise. Shadow Tag
* Kerouac, Jack. On the Road
* McCarthy, Cormac. No Country for Old Men
* Roth, Philip. Goodbye Columbus (a novella)
* Williams, Tennessee. A Streetcar Named Desire
* Poems by Sylvia Plath, Anne Sexton, Elizabeth Bishop, James Dickey, and others.
* Short stories by Joyce Carol Oates, Flannery O’Connor and other writers (\*Either eBooks or print.)

**Films:** A Streetcar Named Desire, Who’s Afraid of Virginia Woolf?, and others

**Evaluation:** Papers, Exams, Class Participation (attendance is required).

**Contact:** see Allan Chavkin in FH 239; e-mail, chavkin@txstate.edu; phone, 245-3780.

**English 3338.251: The American Novel (WI)  
MWF 11am-11:50am, FH 252**

**Instructor:** Elvin Holt

**Course Description:** This course surveys the development of the American novel from its beginnings to the present. We will examine gothic, romantic, realistic, and modern expressions of the American novel and novella.

**Objectives**: Students will improve their critical thinking skills and gain greater insights into the social, cultural, and historical influences that inform the development of the American novel. Students will analyze the role of gender, class, and race in the American novel.

**Texts**: *Wieland* by Charles Brockden Brown, *Pudd'nhead Wilson* by Mark Twain, *Billy* *Budd* by Herman Melville, *The Scarlet Letter* by Nathaniel Hawthorne, *The Rise of Silas Lapham* by William Dean Howells, *Daisy Miller* by Henry James, *The Awakening* by Kate Chopin, *Light in August* by William Faulkner, *Bless Me, Ultima* by Rudolfo Anaya, and *Love* by Toni Morrison. **Note:** **The reading list is subject to change**.

**Format**: Mostly discussion, with occasional background lectures.

**Evaluation**: Class participation, reading quizzes, two hourly exams, term paper (7-10 double-spaced pages, at least 5 sources), final examination.

**Contact:** eh03@txstate.edu

**English 3340.251: Special Topics in Language and Literature (WI)  
Topic: British Women Writers  
TR 12:30pm-1:50pm, FH 252**

**Instructor**: Dr. Kathryn Ledbetter

**Course Description:** This course will introduce students to a selection of interesting, but perhaps unfamiliar, novels written by British women writers from the 18th to 21st centuries. Part of our mission will be to expand our knowledge of women’s writing and learn about the challenges women faced as authors. We will also explore how readers and critics responded to the novels upon publication, which will involve a guided research project using digitized, historical periodicals available on databases accessed through Alkek Library. This course has a strict attendance policy that may further affect your grade.

**Required Texts** (please use only the editions listed):

Eliza Haywood, Fantomina (Broadview)

Mary Shelley, The Last Man (Broadview)

Elizabeth Gaskell, North and South (Penguin)

Amy Levy, The Romance of a Shop (Broadview)

Rebecca West, Return of the Soldier (Broadview)

Zadie Smith, White Teeth (Vintage International)

**Evaluation:**

* 60% Two Critical Research Essays
* 20% Research Project
* 10% Daily quizzes and class participation
* 10% Final Exam

**Contact:** Dr. Kathryn Ledbetter, FH 242, KLedbetter@txstate.edu, (512) 245-2362.

**English 3340.252: Special Topics in Language and Literature (WI)  
Topic: Chicanx  
TR 11am-12:20pm, FH 255**

**Instructor:** Dr. Sara A. Ramírez

**Course Description:** This course will consider texts produced by people of Mexican descent living in the United States. As such, the course offers students an opportunity to enhance their multicultural competence and meets the requirements for an elective in the new Latina/o Studies minor. Under the guidance of Dr. Ramírez, this Special Topics course will focus on Chicanx literature and cultural productions that implicitly point to the necessity of the “x” in “Chicanx,” as they illuminate gender and sexuality as parts of a spectrum.

**Books:**

Gloria Anzaldúa, Borderlands/La Frontera: La New Mestiza

* Rios de la Luz, Itzá
* Anel Flores, Empanada: A Lesbiana Story en Probaditas
* Benjamin Alire Saenz, Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe
* Helena María Viramontes’s Their Dogs Came with Them

**Films:** Southwest of Salem

**Evaluation:** Pop quizzes, three 2-page reading responses, two 6-page essays

**Contact**: sramirez@txstate.edu

**English 3341.251: Studies in World Literature (WI)  
Topic: Global Science Fiction**

**TR 12:30pm-1:50pm, FH224**

**Instructor:** Suparno Banerjee

**Course Description:** This class will explore modern science fiction as a global genre. In addition to discussing the generic qualities of science fiction, we will study the different ways the genre developed around the world. We will read works and watch films not only from Europe and North America, but also from Asia, Africa, and South America. We will focus on works created in the 20th and 21st century.

**Books**: Possible texts include Arthur C. Clarke’s Childhood’s End, Arkady & Boris Strugatsky’s Roadside Picnic, Stanislaw Lem’s Solaris, Vandana Singh’s Distances, Ursula K. Le Guin’s The Left Hand of Darkness, Nalo Hopkinson’s Brown Girl in the Ring

**Films:** Possible films include Mamoru Oshii’s Ghost in the Shell, Miguel Llansó’s Crumbs, Andrei Tarkovsky’s Solaris, Stanley Kubrick’s 2001: A Space Odyssey, Wanuri Kahiu’s Pumzi, Chris Marker’s La Jette

**Evaluation:** Take home assignments, in-class essay exams, class presentation, and regular participation in class activities

**Contact:** sb67@txstate.edu

**English 3342.251: Editing**

**TR 2pm-3:20pm, FH 229**

**Instructor:** Dickie Heaberlin

**Course Description**: Editing. (3-0) A study of editing, to include instruction and practice in making editorial changes.

**Books:** Heaberlin's guidebooks—English Syntax, Skinny Writing, Connecting For Coherence, and Purposeful Punctuation—PDFs are available free on Tracs.

**Format**: Lectures, in-class individual practice, and group work.

**Evaluation:** class participation, quizzes, three test, and a final.

**Contact**: [heaberlin@txstate.edu](mailto:heaberlin@txstate.edu)

**English 3342.252: Editing**

**TR 9:30am-10:50am, FH 120**

**This course is a Hybrid class: Meets T in FH 120; R online**

**Instructor:** Dr.Scott Mogull

**Course Description:** In this course, students will learn professional copyediting skills and the publishing industries in which editors work. Students will practice editing at the sentence level and comprehensive revision at the document level. At the end of the semester, students will research issues related to the editing profession and present this information to the class.

**Books:** Course Pack (available through the University Bookstore)

**Evaluation:** Anticipated assignments and approximate grade weighting:

* Weekly workshop activities and quizzes (35%)
* Midterm exam (35%)
* Developmental editing analysis (15%)
* Research and presentation on topic related to editing (15%)

**Contact:** mogull@txstate.edu

**English 3343.251: The Interdisciplinary Approach to Literature (WI)**

**Author: Mary Shelley**

**TR 9:30am-10:50am, FH 252**

**Instructor:** Dr. Kathryn Ledbetter

**Course Description**: This interdisciplinary study of the literary career and cultural influence of Mary Shelley, or “The Author of Frankenstein,” as she became known. Shelley had a long and complex career that extended far beyond the novel that brought her fame. She also wrote other novels, essays, short fiction, drama, and biography. In this course, we will read four of her novels, including the classic 1818 text of Frankenstein, and a selection of her tales and stories. We will also examine artifacts of Shelley’s publications in literary annuals and periodicals. This course has a strict attendance policy that may further affect your grade.

**Required Texts** (please use only the editions listed):

* Frankenstein, 3rd edn (Broadview)
* Mathilda (Broadview)
* The Last Man (Broadview)
* Lodore (Broadview)
* Mary Shelley: Collected Tales and Stories (Johns Hopkins UP)

**Evaluation:**

60% Two Critical Research Essays

20% Interdisciplinary Project

10% Daily quizzes and class participation

10% Final Exam

**Contact**: Dr. Kathryn Ledbetter, FH 242, KLedbetter@txstate.edu, (512) 245-2362.

**English 3343.252: The Interdisciplinary Approach to Literature (WI)**

**Author: Sandra Cisneros**

**TR 12:30pm-1:50pm, FH 255**

**Instructor:** Geneva M. Gano  
**Course Description:** A seminar devoted to the work and career of Sandra Cisneros.  We will take various approaches to her work, reading it from many different literary-critical perspectives.  We will also work on independent research projects using select materials from the new Sandra Cisneros archive, housed in the Wittliff Collections in Alkek Library, and hear from major scholars who study her work.

**Books:**  Cisneros, *The House on Mango Street*; Cisneros, *My Wicked, Wicked Ways*, Cisneros, *Woman Hollering Creek*, Cisneros, *Caramelo*, Cisneros, *Loose Woman*

**Evaluation:** Formal and informal essays; oral participation, service learning, final research portfolio.

**Contact:** gmgano@txstate.edu

**English 3344.251: Chicano/a Narrative and Social History  
TR 9:30am-10:50am, FH 224**

**Instructor:** Samuel Saldívar

**Course Description:** In this class we will examine the impacts of Chicanx and Latinx Narratives (which include fiction, film, graphics, and poetry) in relation to a historically changing America. This course will also examine what literary tools Chicanx and Latinx narratives rely on to construct Latinidad.

**Books:** tbd

**Contact:** saldivar3@txstate.edu

**English 3346.251: Southwestern Studies II  
TR 12:30pm-1:50pm, FH 225**

**Instructor:** William Jensen

**Course Description:** This course is the second in a two-course sequence leading to a minor in Southwestern Studies, designed to examine the richness and diversity of the Southwestern United States and Northern Mexico. The course offers a multicultural focus by studying the region’s people, institutions, history, and physical and cultural ecology. An intercultural and interdisciplinary approach increases awareness of and sensitivity to the diversity of ethnic and cultural traditions in the area. Students will discover what distinguishes the Southwest from other regions of the United States, as well as its similarities, physically and culturally. The images, myths, themes, and perceptions of the region will be examined in light of historical and literary texts.

**Books:**

*Horseman, Pass By* by Larry McMurtry

*Anglos and Mexicans in the Making of Texas, 1836-1986* by David Montejano

*Ceremony* by Leslie Marmon Silko

*The Devil’s Highway* by Luis Alberto Urrea

**Contact:** [wj13@txstate.edu](mailto:wj13@txstate.edu)

**English 3348.251: Creative Writing: Fiction (WI)  
MW 2pm-3:20pm, FH G04**

**Instructor:** John Blair

**Course Description:** A workshop and seminar for writers of fiction, with emphasis on creativity, criticism, and revision. Prerequisite: ENG 3315.

**Contact:** jb20@txstate.edu

**English 3348.252: Creative Writing: Fiction (WI)  
TR 11am-12:20pm, FH G04**

**Instructor:** Chris Margrave

**Course Description:**

ENG 3348 is a workshop-based course for students who want to explore the craft of writing short fiction from both an artistic and theoretical perspective.  It is recommended that students, prior to enrolling in 3348, have taken Introduction to Creative Writing and come to class with an already-active commitment to improving their creative writing skills.  Students of all writing levels are welcome, but it is assumed that students taking 3348 already love to write and want to a spend a semester seriously discussing the craft of storytelling.

Because this class is conducted as a workshop (an on-going “show and tell” of each other’s writing), regular attendance and participation is essential.  Each student will have at least two manuscripts discussed in workshop (one work of flash fiction and one “longer” short story between 6-15 pages) and students will be evaluating and assessing the writing of their fellow students.  Because the grading of individual assignments is less strict than a essay-based course, consistent participation in discussions and peer workshops account for a larger portion of the final grade than your typical literature class.

Finally, students in 3348 will read many selections of published literature and should be able to discuss diverse and multicultural texts—whether published works or student drafts—from a “writerly” perspective.

**Contact:** [cm85@txstate.edu](mailto:cm85@txstate.edu)

**English 3349.251: Creative Writing: Poetry (WI)  
TR 3:30pm-4:50pm, FH 257**

**Instructor**: Professor Kathleen Peirce

**Course Description**:Instructor’s Description of Course: This course provides a workshop format for discussion of student writing, as well as weekly discussions of prosody and shared close reading from an anthology of American poetry. There will be frequent writing exercises, and a group writing project. This class is for students interested in being challenged as they increase their ability to read, write, and discuss poetry. **Prerequisite: English 3315**

**Objectives:** To increase skills in poetry writing, to increase understanding of prosody and varied critical approaches, to engage in shared close reading of published contemporary poems.

**Books:** Poulin (ed.) Contemporary American Poetry

**Format:** Discussion, in-class writing, lecture

**Evaluation**: oral and written critiques of student poetry, several short response papers, three portfolios of creative work

**E-Mail**: [kp03@txstate.edu](mailto:kp03@txstate.edu)

**English 3352.251 Middle English Literature**

**MW 3:30pm-4:50pm, FH 226**

**Instructor:** Dr. Susan S. Morrison

**Course Description:** In this course, we will explore a number of texts of varying genres, including saints’ lives, romance, allegory, and visionary literature. Two themes will recur throughout the semester: pilgrimage and gender. Pilgrimage was a highly important activity in the Middle Ages. How this practice was undertaken physically and mentally is reflected in much medieval literature, most famously in Chaucer’s Canterbury Tales and The Book of Margery Kempe, neither of which is a focus for this class. We will see how pilgrimage pops up, either literally or symbolically, in later work generated in England.

Not all literature produced in England after the Norman Conquest was written in Middle English. Indeed, Anglo-Norman and Latin works predominated for some time after 1066. Among the works we will examine include the Anglo-Norman saint’s life of St. Catherine, written by Clemence of Barking, one of the first women writing after the Norman Conquest so far as we know. We will read the life of Christina of Markyate, abused by her parents and living in a tiny closet for four years to escape their cruelty. We’ll read literature written FOR women by men, including selections from the Rule for Anchoresses. One of the earliest works we’ll examine is Saint Patrick’s Purgatory by Marie de France, better known, perhaps, for her Lais or short romances. We’ll read the runaway “bestseller,” John de Mandeville’s Book of Marvels and Travels and excerpts from William Langland’s Piers Plowman. We look forward into the early 17th century, by seeing how Shakespeare’s play, All’s Well That Ends Well, picks up on the theme of pilgrimage in this poignant pilgrimage play written after the Reformation. Our last text is the American short story, The Ugliest Pilgrim, by Doris Betts which has been made into the award-winning musical, Violet.

Students will be reading great works of literature that will take a lot of time but are immensely rewarding. **Be prepared to read, think and work a lot.**

**Objectives:** To read material produced in England after the Norman Conquest, with a special focus on the fourteenth century and early fifteenth century. To learn how to read in terms of historical context and theoretical sophistication.

**Required Texts**: The Life of Christina of Markyate. Trans. C. H. Talbot with Samuel Fanous and Henrietta Leyser. Oxford World's Classics, 2010. ISBN-10: 0199556059; ISBN-13: 978-0199556052.

Medieval English Prose for Women: Selections from the Katherine Group and Ancrene Wisse (Clarendon Paperbacks). Bella Millett (Editor), Jocelyn Wogan-Browne (Editor). Oxford UP. 1992. ISBN-10: 0198119976; ISBN-13: 978-0198119975

John Mandeville. The Book of Marvels and Travels. Translator Anthony Bale. Oxford: Oxford UP (Oxford World’s Classics), 2012. ISBN-10: 0199600600 ISBN-13: 978-0199600601

William Shakespeare. All’s Well That Ends Well. Folger Shakespeare Library. Simon & Schuster. 2006. ISBN-10: 0743484975. ISBN-13: 978-0743484978

**ON TRACS:**

Marie de France Saint Patrick’s Purgatory.

Clemence of Barking, Life of Saint Catherine; Anonymous, Life of Saint Lawrence

Piers Plowman (excerpts)

The Ugliest Pilgrim

**Format:** Discussion, mini-lectures, students’ oral reports.

**Grading policy:**

Final paper: 25%

* Mid-Term: 25%
* Leading class discussion with short paper: 20%
* John Mandeville or Piers Plowman: two-page paper: 15%
* Class participation/preparation: 15%

**Contact:** Office: M12, Phone: 512-245-7669, Email: morrison@txstate.edu

**English 3353.251: British Poetry and Prose of the Sixteenth Century (WI)  
TR 9:30am-10:50am, FH 254**

**Instructor:** Elizabeth Skerpan-Wheeler

**Course Description:** We will study a variety of literary responses, by both men and women, to major cultural and social issues of the time, especially the Protestant Reformation. Writers will probably include, but will not be limited to, Sir Thomas More, Anne Astell, John Foxe, Sir Philip Sidney, and Edmund Spenser. We shall focus in particular on More's political work Utopia and Spenser’s great English epic, *The Faerie Queene,* Spenser’s Protestant reinterpretation of the chivalric romance (quests, knights, ladies, evil beings, and strange creatures)*.* No particular knowledge of Christian doctrine is assumed or expected. The instructor’s approach to the religious issues and beliefs of the period is academic and secular.

**Books:** *Renaissance Literature*, ed. John C. Hunter; a separate anthology of the poetry of Spenser; *Utopia*.

**Evaluation:**

* short essay: 20%
* midterm 20%
* one long research project: 40% (three parts: JSTOR training, research plan, long project)
* Final examination: 20%

**Contact:** [es10@txstate.edu](mailto:es10@txstate.edu)

**English 3368.251: The British Novel (WI)**

**MW 2pm-3:20pm, FH 255**

**Instructor**: James Reeves

**Course Description:** This course charts the development of the British novel from the eighteenth century to the present. In the process, we will ask the following questions: How are novels distinct from other literary genres? What cultural, political, and ethical work have novels historically accomplished? And, relatedly, what does our understanding of form and history tell us about our own political, cultural investments?

**Books:** Tentative texts: Daniel Defoe, Robinson Crusoe (1719); Eliza Haywood, Fantomina (1725); Henry Fielding, Joseph Andrews (1742); Jane Austen, Persuasion (1817); Jean Rhys, Wide Sargasso Sea (1966); Kazuo Ishiguro, Never Let Me Go (2005)

**Evaluation:** Class participation, two formal papers, mid-term and final exams

**Contact:** jreeves@txstate.edu

**English 3385.251: Children’s Literature (WI)**

**MW 12:30pm-1:50pm, FH 227**

**Instructor:** Marilynn S. Olson

**Course Description**: A survey of the genres of contemporary children’s literature, with reference to the qualities in text and illustration that contribute to a pleasurable experience. Materials on folklore and art will be provided. Discussion and lecture. One historical selection may be included.

**Books:** A mixture of picture books, novels, and probably My Neighbor Totoro as film.

**Evaluation:** journals, quizzes, style assignments, written exams, research paper.

**Contact:** [mo03@txstate.edu](mailto:mo03@txstate.edu)

**English 3385.252: Children’s Literature (WI)**

**MWF 9am-9:50am, FH 254**

**Instructor:** Dr. Graeme Wend-Walker

**Course Description:** This course presents an overview of the field of Children’s Literature – both the literature itself and the discourse around it. What does “Children’s Literature” mean, exactly? What makes Peter Rabbit worthy of our attention? Why do certain works endure in the public imagination? These and other questions will be addressed as we discuss a range of classic and contemporary texts. Along the way, we will consider issues of genre, audience, culture, and critical perspective. By the end, students will be able to describe key concerns in the field and be able to discuss Children’s Literature through a range of critical frameworks. American, British, Mexican-American, Vietnamese, and Australian texts will be considered.

**Books:** Likely books include: Maurice Sendak, Where the Wild Things Are; Margaret Wise Brown, Mister Dog; Jon Scieszka, The Frog Prince, Continued; Duncan Tonatiuh, Pancho Rabbit and the Coyote; Frances Hodgson Burnett, A Little Princess; Lois Lowry, Number the Stars; and a selection of children’s poetry (will be provided). A range of other texts will also be discussed in class. List subject to change.

**Evaluation**: Exam (with take-home long-answer component); essay; final exam; quizzes and occasional homework exercises; attendance and participation.

**Contact:** graeme@txstate.edu

**English 3386.252: Adolescent Literature (WI)  
TR 2pm-3:20pm, FH 227**

**Instructor:** Marilynn S. Olson

**Course Description:** A survey of contemporary genres in young adult literature, with attention to literary excellence, developmental themes, and societal concerns. Discussion and lecture.

**Books:** Will tentatively include Shusterman’s Scythe, Boots on the Ground, and at least three more diverse and interesting selections.

**Evaluation:** journals, quizzes, style assignments, written exams, research paper.

**Contact:** [mo03@txstate.edu](mailto:mo03@txstate.edu)

**English 3386.253: Adolescent Literature (WI)  
MW 3:30pm-4:50pm, FH 255**

**Instructor:** Dr.Katie Kapurch

**Course Description:** The course begins by considering socially constructed views of adolescence. We take a broad view of “literature,” including novels, films, television, and music in our cultural-historical investigation of youth culture and representations that have been influential since the 20th Century. We will critically engage with a diverse set of primary texts and read secondary scholarly analyses that address theoretical issues related to class, race, gender, sexuality, and age.

**Books:** tbd

**Evaluation:** Essays, group projects, etc.

**Contact:** [kk19@txstate.edu](mailto:kk19@txstate.edu)

**English 3388.251: Women and Literature (WI)  
MW 12:30pm-1:50pm, FH 254**

**Instructor:** Dr. Victoria Smith

**Course Description:** This course will examine a variety of twentieth and twenty first century women novelists from around the western word. While these novels consider a broad range of issues—female friendship and love, class, trauma, motherhood, race, sexuality, queerness, ethnicity, religion, slavery, and violence (not even an exhaustive list)—we will be particularly interested in how experimental form and innovative language contribute to the overall effect/meanings of these novels. Finally, we will contextualize these works culturally and within contemporary critical responses to them.

**Tentative Texts:** About 7 texts likely to be chosen from the following: Margaret Atwood, The Handmaid’s Tale; Virginia Woolf, To the Lighthouse; Alison Bechdel, Are you my Mother or Funhome; Valerie Luiselli, Faces in the Crowd; Gayl Jones, Corregidora; Helena Maria Viramontes, Their Dogs Came with Them; Jennifer Egan, A Visit from the Goon Squad; Virginie Despentes, Vernon Subute; Pat Barker, Regeneration

**Evaluation:** oral presentation, various short in-class written assignments, 3 papers

**Contact:** Dr. Smith in FH M11. Email: vs13@txstate.edu

**English 3389.251: The Discipline of English (WI)  
T 6:30pm-9:20pm, FH 229**

**Instructor:** Keith Needham

**Course Description:** The nature of English studies as a formal field, its components and their relationships. Open only to candidates with 90+ semester credit hours. This course is designated as multicultural.

**Contact:** [kn19@txstate.edu](mailto:kn19@txstate.edu)

**English 4310.251: Modern English Syntax  
TR 12:30pm-1:50pm, FH 226**

**Instructor:** Jaime Armin Mejía

**Course Description:** There’ll be a few lectures, but class time will mainly be spent on sentence exercises. More importantly, students will learn the syntax of English at the sentence level by learning how words are ordered in sentences in English. To become intimately familiar with English at the sentence level, students will learn the syntactical structures constructing their sentences. This task will not be easy, as students have to learn a considerable amount of knowledge in this class, knowledge that is quite extensive and complex. The understanding students can potentially have by working to learn what this class offers should make them considerably better writers.

**Evaluation**: There will be four Exams (1st=15%; 2nd=20%; 3rd=20%; 4th=25%). Each exam, except the last, will be comprised of 10 sentences which each student will parse. Any incorrectly parsed word, phrase, or clause will have points deducted. It’s possible that instead of taking the last two exams, students will conduct a different project, by parsing a sample of a previously written paper of academic prose for another class, and conducting an analysis of this sample, with the percentage of the last two exams (45%) instead going to how well this last project is conducted. Also, 20% of the final grade will be based on attendance and participation, which I will record daily. The majority of the work for this course is based work for the midterm exams which account for 80% of the overall grade.

**Contact:** [jm31@txstate.edu](mailto:jm31@txstate.edu)

**English 4334: American Romanticism (WI).**

**MWF 10-10:50, FH 225**

**Instructor:** Steve Wilson

**Course Description**: Synergy. It is a concept well-known among literary scholars. There are many instances throughout literary history of genius springing up among a small group of friends who fuel one another's creativity: The Bloomsbury Group, the Beat Generation, the English Romantic Poets. One such American group whose synergy led to one of the great periods in the literature of the U.S.were the Transcendentalists of Concord, Massachusetts, in the mid to late nineteenth century. Known also as "the American Renaissance," this movement composed what would become arguably the first truly American voice in literature. English 4334 will explore the roots and nature of that voice.

**Texts:** Emerson, The Portable Emerson; Thoreau, The Portable Thoreau; Hawthorne, The Celestial Railroad and The Blithedale Romance; Fuller, Woman in the Nineteenth Century; Alcott, Transcendental Wild Oats; Melville, Bartleby and Benito Cereno; selections from Fredrick Douglass.

**Evaluation:** I will ask each student to compose one seven-page research paper on a topic approved by me in advance. There will also be two in-class exams -- one at mid-term and one at final exam time. These examinations will consist of essay questions and perhaps a few short-answer responses.

**E-Mail:** Sw13@txstate.edu

**English 4348.251: Senior Seminar in Fiction Writing (WI)  
TR 11am-12:20pm, FH 257  
English 4348.252 Senior Seminar in Fiction Writing (WI)**

**TR 2pm-3:20pm, FH 257**

**Instructor:** Jon Marc Smith

**Course Description:** Workshop in writing fiction and evaluating manuscripts. Students produce portfolio of creative work. **Prerequisite: ENG 3348**

**Books:** TBA

**Evaluation:** TBA

**Contact:** [js71@txstate.edu](mailto:js71@txstate.edu)

**English 4349.251: Senior Seminar in Poetry**

**TR 3:30pm-4:50pm**

**Instructor:** Cyrus Cassells

**Class Description**: This course is an **advanced**senior workshop designed to deepen students’ involvement with their own poetry, as well as enhance their critical reading of contemporary American poets, with a special emphasis on whole volumes of poetry. I strive to create an affable, constructive workshop environment that provides solid support for individual poetic efforts. The course also provides greater exposure to the field through energetic discussion of the work of several award-winning poets.

**Books:** *Autobiography of Red*by Anne Carson; *Vivas to Those Who Have Failed*by Martín Espada; *The Wild Iris*by Louise Glück; *Rose*by Li-Young Lee; *The Big Smoke*by Adrian Matejka, *Strike Sparks: New & Selected Poems*by Sharon Olds; *semiautomatic*by Evie Shockley; *Night Sky with Exit Wounds*by Ocean Vuong

**Format**: primarily a writing workshop with critical discussion of assigned texts.

**Evaluation**: participation (discussion and contribution) 15%; three-page critical essays on the assigned poets, 35%; class presentation on a chosen poet, 10%; creative writing portfolio of five or poems worked on during the semester, 40%.

**Instructor’s E-mail:** cc37 @txstate.edu

**English 4351.251: Chaucer and His Time (WI)**

**MW 2pm-3:20pm, FH 226**

**Instructor**: Dr. Susan S. Morrison

**Description of Course:** In this course we will be reading selections from Geoffrey Chaucer's writings, with main emphasis on The Canterbury Tales. We will be reading in the language he wrote in (Middle English). We will learn something about the Middle Ages in general, and how the study of a great medieval poet can sharpen our thinking about our own lives. Reading this material will take a lot of time; additionally, students will be writing periodic papers. Be prepared to read, think, work, and participate a lot. This class will allow for debate, engagement, and interdisciplinary approaches to the work under consideration. Lively and stimulating discussions guaranteed!

**Objectives:** To learn to read and read aloud Middle English. To master some of the great works by Geoffrey Chaucer. To utilize theoretical approaches when reading complex material. To read medieval works in a linguistic, historical, and political context.

**Texts**:

You must read Chaucer’s Canterbury Tales in MIDDLE ENGLISH!!! We will all use Geoffrey Chaucer. The Canterbury Tales. Ed. Jill Mann. Penguin Classics, 2005. ISBN-10: 014042234X; ISBN-13: 978-0140422344

**Format:** primarily discussion, with mini-lectures on background material by instructor and students' papers reported orally; reading aloud in Middle English.

**Evaluation:**

Memorization of first 18 lines of General Prologue. Must be done by March 4th. 5%

Mid-term: 20%

Translation quizzes: 15% [3 @ 5% each]

Research Paper with oral component 25% [must be handed in by April 17th]

Parliament of Fowls assignment: 5%

Final Exam: 20%

Class participation/preparation: 10%

**Contact:** Office: FH M12, Phone: 512-245-7669, Email: morrison@txstate.edu

**English 4351.252: Chaucer and His Time (WI)**

**TR 2pm-3:20pm, FH 225**

**Instructor**: Leah Schwebel

**Description of Course:** This class will introduce you to a wide range of Chaucer's Canterbury Tales, from the fabliaux told by the Miller and Reeve to the pious Parson’s sermon. As we explore Chaucer’s tales, you will also begin to develop your critical acumen by reading a sampling of representative scholarship on his masterwork.

**Texts**: The Canterbury Tales, ed. Jill Mann (New York: Penguin, 2005).

**Evaluation:** Course components include a midterm, three reading responses, and a final research paper.

**Contact:** las235@txstate.edu

**English 4355.251: Late Shakespeare (WI)  
TR 12:30pm-1:50pm, FH 254**

**English 4355.252: Late Shakespeare (WI)  
TR 2pm-3:20pm, FH 254**

**Instructor:** Elizabeth Skerpan-Wheeler

**Course Description:** A survey of selected works of Shakespeare from *Hamlet* onwards, including “problem” comedies, tragedies, and romances. The class will identify key historical and cultural events that shaped the creation and reception of Shakespeare’s plays; interpret Shakespeare’s literary language; apply knowledge of the theatrical world (both Shakespeare’s and our own) to their reading of the plays; analyze how the plays achieve their effects; and appreciate the reasons for the importance of the works of Shakespeare to English and world literature.

**Books:** *The Norton Shakespeare*, vol. 2: The Later Plays, ed. Stephen Greenblatt et al.

**Format**: Discussion, group work, some lecture.

**Evaluation:**

* Two short essays: 2 x 10% =20%
* Midterm: 20%
* One long research project: 40% (three parts: JSTOR training, research plan, long project)
* Final examination: 20%

**Contact:** [es10@txstate.edu](mailto:es10@txstate.edu); see Professor Skerpan-Wheeler in FH 243. Voice mail: 512-245-3727.

**English 4385.001: Advanced Children’s and Adolescent Literature (WI)** **Magical Realism in Children’s and Adolescent Literature**

**TR 11am-12:20pm, FH 224**

**Instructor:** Teya Rosenberg

**Course Description:** Fantasy literature was long considered a form for children; magical realism, a mix of realism and fantasy, was long considered a political form for adults. What do we find if we use the definitions and ideas about magical realism to look at texts for children and young adults? This course introduces definitions of and ideas about magical realism, considering the ways in which it occurs in literature for children and adolescents. We will examine a wide range of texts: young adult novels, chapter books, graphic novels, picturebooks, and films, as well as some literature for adults to give context for our discussions.

**Books:** Stories by Gabriel García Márquez, Karen Russell and other authors for adults; E. Nesbit, The Enchanted Castle; P.L Travers, Mary Poppins and Disney, Mary Poppins; Zusak, The Book Thief; Heide and Gorey, The Shrinking of Tree Horn; Yang, American Born Chinese; Hamilton, Sweet Whispers, Brother Rush; Chris Van Allsburg, The Stranger; McKissack and Pinkney, Mirandy and Brother Wind; Dahl, Matilda. [This list is tentative, subject to availability. Contact Dr. Rosenberg for more details].

**Evaluation:** Reading questions and quizzes; participation; one short paper; presentation; research paper; final exam.

**Contact:** tr11@txstate.edu; office hours, Fall 2018: Tuesdays 1-5 or by appointment, FH 358.