

RAMBLER



The Newsletter for English Majors
Volume 12, Number 1, October 4, 1996

ADVISING SCHEDULE

English Department advisers will be holding pre-registration conferences for the Spring, 1997 semester beginning **Thursday, October 24** and extending **through Friday, November 1**.

Please sign up for a conference on the sheets posted on your adviser's door.

If you do not have an adviser, come to the English Office, room 359 Eddy, so that we can assign one to you.

Your adviser will have your SMART form which contains information you will need to register.

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

After you have seen your adviser, it is important to register as soon as you are able. Early registration greatly increases your chances of getting the classes you want!

Both undergraduate and graduate students should have little or no trouble scheduling the English courses that they need/want if they register early.

Your early registration will also help the English Department monitor how quickly sections are filling up. Thanks!



TELEPHONE ACCESS SCHEDULE FOR SPRING REGISTRATION

You will be able to access the system according to the following schedule:

Graduates	-	October 28
Seniors	-	October 29
Juniors	-	November 2
Sophomores	-	November 9
Freshmen	-	November 16
New	-	November 23

HAVING TROUBLE?

English majors who cannot get into a required course (E160, 240, 270, 275, 341, 342, 343) should contact Jean Wyrick (336 Eddy). Please, DO NOT wait until the last minute!

HELPFUL HINT:

The staff in the English Office cannot give undergraduate students their PAC number, adviser number or SMART form. Only advisers can provide these. Please sign up on the list on your adviser's door to be advised between October 24 and November 1.

COMPOSITION PLACEMENT EXAMS for CO150 and CO301 will be given Thursday, October 24 at 4:00PM in Room A102 Clark, and Wednesday, October 30 at 4:00PM in Room A104 Clark.

NOTICE: ENROLLMENT RESTRICTIONS

Restrictions will be placed on registration as follows:

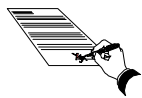
E505

- 1) Graduate Students only until November 4.
- 2) Senior English majors will be admitted beginning November 4.

E463 (Milton) and E470 (John Donne)

- 1) Enrollment will be limited to senior English majors only until November 4.
- 2) Junior and senior English majors only beginning Nov. 4 - Nov. 10.

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS:



E495 - Independent Study

Students who plan to register for **E495** in the Spring should get the required form filled out and signed as soon as possible **this semester!** Submit completed forms to Rhonda in the English Office before the end of fall semester.

E384A - Supervised College Teaching

Students who plan to register for E384A in the Spring should make arrangements with Dr. Swinson (356 Eddy) as soon as possible **this semester!** You will not be allowed to register for this course after Spring semester begins. You must apply through Dr. Swinson in order to register for this course.

Undergraduate Majors:

Stop by and take a look at the two bulletin boards outside Professor Swinson's office (356 Eddy). They contain many graduate school, scholarship, & career announcements.

GRADUATE STUDENTS:

E695 and E699 Graduate Independent Study and Thesis

The registrar will not allow late registration for **E695** and **E699**. *Please **DO NOT PUT OFF your independent study or thesis planning until the beginning of next semester!***

The Greyrock Review

Students may now receive credit (1 credit per semester, up to 3 semesters) for working on The Greyrock Review staff. Students should register for this under **E487B**. Interested students should see Nannette Kennedy in Eddy 332 for information and the registration reference number. This class entails everything you wanted to know about publishing a journal but were afraid to ask AND getting your own work published in outside journals. There will be classes on copy-editing, writing submission guidelines, acceptance letters and rejection notes, desk-top publishing, and much, much more.

DO WE HAVE YOUR LOCAL ADDRESS???

Please let both the University and the English Department know your local address. You can change your address at the information desk in the Student Center, Room 100 Administration Annex, or Room 100 Johnson Hall.



UNDERGRADUATE COURSES SPRING 1997

The following lists new and special topic courses only.

E280 Asian American Literature and Popular Culture

Jun Xing

2:10 - 3:25PM TR

This course offers a close "reading" of Asian American literary and visual texts across time as represented in autobiography, fiction, poetry and popular media formats. The goal of the course is to help students develop analytical skills for assessing how particular stories have been constructed about Asian American experience and how cultural texts shape our perceptions of history and culture and have in turn been shaped in the process.

E465 The Depression Decade: Radical Visions and American Dreams

Jean Wyrick

11:00 - 12:15PM TR

This course will introduce students to important literary, cultural, and political currents of the 1930s through study of selected American literature (Steinbeck, Olsen, Odets, Wright, West, Hurston, Faulkner, others). Primary emphasis will be on analysis of the fiction, but we will also spend time comparing literary ideas and styles to themes and techniques expressed in some of the era's painting, photography, film, and popular music. Much of our discussion will focus on the central conflict of the Depression decade: the contradiction between those movements seeking to preserve the traditional "American Way of Life" and those radical ideas emphasizing innovation and experimentation designed to undermine or replace those traditions. Written requirements will include two essays, two essay exams, and a number of daily response assignments/quizzes.

This course satisfies the Category II distribution requirement for all English majors.

E470 John Donne

Barbara Lakin

10:00 - 10:50AM MWF

Readings will include Donne's major poetry, some of his prose, his biography, historical materials on the period and a Jacobean play. Focus is on Donne--a writer caught in the "power" issues of his time, a coterie (not a public) poet, and a brilliant but deeply troubled man torn between the security of Medieval Catholicism and the uncertainties of Renaissance Protestantism. Evaluation of students' performance includes individual oral reports on historical research, written analyses of the readings from the perspectives described above, and a final examination essay.

This course satisfies the category I distribution requirement for English licensure students only.

E480 Technology and Literacy

Donna LeCourt

2:10 - 3:25PM TR

This course examines the effect of writing technologies on the nature of literacy. Beginning historically with the influence of writing itself and then, the printing press, the course focuses on how new computer technologies--e-mail, synchronous conferencing, hypertext, interactive fiction, the "web," and so on--affect and seek to change this definition of literacy emerging from print. The primary goal is to develop a definition of literacy that takes into account recent technological developments. To do so, we will not only read about the new technologies but read and write with/in them as well.

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Handbook for English Majors

The department has prepared a handbook for our undergraduate majors containing a wide variety of useful information about advising, careers, registration, internships, scholarships, study abroad, etc. This booklet can be obtained from your adviser at the preregistration conference or from the staff in the English office. Please make sure that you get one, read it, and save it for future reference.

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Scholarship Opportunities for Undergraduate Students in English:

A new brochure listing all College of Liberal Arts Scholarships and Awards for undergraduates, including those specific to the English Department, is available from the Office of the Dean of the College of Liberal Arts. Application procedures have been consolidated at the College level, so that one application is sufficient for a student to be considered for all appropriate scholarships awarded in the College. The completed application and recommendation forms must be postmarked on or before February 14, 1997.

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REMEMBER: Spring classes begin Tuesday, January 21, 1997

GRADUATE COURSES SPRING 1997

The following lists new and special topic courses only. For other graduate courses, see the Spring 1997 Class Schedule.

**E505A George Eliot
David Milofsky
4:10 - 5:25PM MW**

The course will focus on major and minor works of George Eliot, perhaps the greatest novelist of the Victorian period. In addition to reading and discussing Eliot's novels, we will consider her place in the literary zeitgeist of 19th Century England, her role as an editor, and her artistic contributions to the novel as an enduring literary form. Students will be responsible for presentations on various aspects of Eliot's art as well as a research paper demonstrating familiarity with Eliot scholarship of the last 25 years. Finally, the course will be in some measure an examination of the novel itself, since its rise to dominance in the literary world coincided with Eliot's emergence as a writer.

This course satisfies the category II distribution requirement for licensure students only.

**E505B Williams and Stevens
Carol Cantrell
9:30 - 10:45AM TR**

William Carlos Williams and Wallace Stevens have emerged as two of the most important poets writing in the first part of this century, as powerful influences on more recent poets and as important voices in the history of modernism. This course will explore the dialogue between these poets in their work--particularly as they explore questions about relationships between the perceiver, the world, and language. Students will write short papers about each of the poets and a longer paper on both poets.

This course satisfies the category II distribution requirement for licensure students only.

**E505C Dante
Tom Mark
3:35 - 4:50PM TR**

"Dante and Shakespeare," writes T. S. Eliot, "divide the modern world between them; there is no third." Like Shakespeare, Dante is a poet whose work is as fascinating to the uninitiated as to the scholar. This course introduces students to the poetic and cultural world of The Divine Comedy, to aspects of its theology, its symbolism, and its political thought. One big term paper, or three short term papers, depending on the students' choice. This course satisfies the Literature in Translation distribution requirement for licensure students only.

E506B Survey of Twentieth-Century American Literature

Chip Rhodes

3:10 - 4:00PM MWF

We will streamline our reading and discussions by focusing on one particular preoccupation of the modern American writer--mass culture's effect on notions of subjectivity, community and human relations. This umbrella will allow us to investigate everything from Edith Wharton's early investigations into what Guy Debord has called the society of the spectacle to William Carlos Williams' imagistic epic of an alienated, "massified" Paterson to the elaborate postmodern "conspiracy" novels of Ishmael Reed, Thomas Pynchon and E.L. Doctorow. We will also look at recent, so-called "multicultural" literatures, treating this body of work as (among other things) a belated insistence on the social heterogeneity that mass culture seeks to erase in the name of a disingenuous democracy. This latter section of the course will include works by John Okada, Lorraine Hansberry, Lorna Dee Cervantes, Sandra Cisneros, David Hwang and Julia Alvarez. The expectation will be that the final paper for the course will eventually be a publishable essay. This course satisfies the category II distribution requirement for all English majors.

E590 V Workshop in TESOL

Douglas Flahive

3:35 - 4:50PM TR

Recent quantitative and qualitative L2 research has demonstrated both the need for and effectiveness of the integration of reading and writing skills for L2 students who are enrolled in EAP programs. In this workshop, we will begin with an overview of traditional methods used in the teaching of reading and writing. Next, we will explore four theoretical perspectives along with their practical applications with the purpose of demonstrating how these perspectives--expressivist, social interactionist, cognitivist, and sociocognitive--can be integrated into an overall reading-to-write curriculum design. The major focus of the workshop will be on the design and implementation of theoretically motivated, level-appropriate, reading-to-write tasks.

E605 Reading/Writing Connection

Kate Kiefer

11:00 - 12:15PM TR

This course will focus largely on cognitive and social constructivist perspectives on reading and writing and then briefly examine the practical implications of these concepts for professional writers and teachers of writing.

E630A Multicultural American Frontier Literature

David Mogen

12:30 - 1:45PM TR

The course will explore the ways that American literature both articulates and interprets frontier mythology from colonial times to the present, examining how this mythic tradition symbolically

expresses an ongoing dialectic about the meanings and values embodied in "the American Dream." Ranging from Hawthorne's short stories and Willa Cather's My Antonia to contemporary texts such as Toni Morrison's Beloved and James Welch's Fools Crow, course readings illustrate how this dialectic develops historically and how it interprets (or sometimes suppresses) multicultural issues. Essentially, we will apply to a wide variety of texts an approach to American writing articulated in two anthologies of critical essays I have edited--The Frontier Experience and the American Dream (1989), and Frontier Gothic (1993)--focusing especially on relationships between American frontier mythology and our multicultural heritage. Inherently interdisciplinary, this critical approach attempts to integrate perspectives from historiography, literary theory, and American Studies. In keeping with the experimental spirit of the course, emphasis will be on active student participation both through class discussion and in-class reports, in sorting out how the traditions we are studying have both defined and confined our understanding of American cultural heritage.

E630B.1 Theories of Autobiography

Gilbert Findlay

11:00 - 11:50AM MWF

The genre of autobiography will be surveyed through an historical sweep from selected readings in Augustine, Rousseau, and Wordsworth; through Americans Franklin and Douglass; to moderns Stein, Dinesen, Nabokov, Camara Laye, Weisel, and Beckett; then, searched for a "modern self" from among McCarthy, Rivera, and/or Itabari Njeri, with reference to Conroy, Toth, Kingston, Rodriguez, the Wolff brothers, and Laura Cunningham. Each student will arrive at a unique critical theory of self-life--(non-fiction) writing, the educational uses of autobiography, and the meaning of life.

E630C.1 Narrative Voice in the Short Story

Steven Schwartz

7:00 - 9:50PM T

Voice has come to mean for writers more than style, more than tone, more than sound. It is perhaps the element that most guides (and at times eludes) authors in their search for a story's direction. As one writer has said, to find one's voice is to follow a whisper. During the class we'll examine the expression and development of voice in the short fiction, using such diverse stories as Melville's Bartleby the Scrivener, Merce Rodoreda's The Salamander, and Amy Bloom's Love Is Not a Pie. We'll be looking at process and craft--a detailed, intensive analysis of the short story form. Emphasis will be on the contemporary short story.

E630D.1 19th Century Women Novelists

SueEllen Campbell

7:00 - 9:50PM M

This class will focus on British women novelists from the end of the 18th century into the

beginning of the 20th, including Austen, Mary Shelley, Charlotte and Emily Bronte, George Eliot, Elizabeth Gaskell, and others less well-known. We'll also read a good bit of recent criticism of these novels and their cultural contexts. LOTS of reading and FREQUENT writing.

E630D.2 Gender and Power in Shakespeare

Barbara Lakin

12:10 - 1:00PM MWF

The course readings will include a selection of Shakespeare's plays and selections from both Feminist and New Historical criticism. The focus will be on rethinking and rereading the selected plays from these two critical perspectives and on evaluating the validity and usefulness of these approaches. Students will engage in discussion, present ideas they have encountered in individual reading assignments, and write a course paper.

E631.1 Land, Language, and Loyalty: Irish Literature and Irish Identity

Gerald Delahunty

10:00 - 10:50AM MWF

Who are the Irish? Who is Irish and who isn't? Who invented Ireland and the Irish? This course follows the framing and reframing of these questions and their many answers through the stages of Irish literature and the mythological, historical, and ideological conditions in which it is created and recreated. We'll read early Irish heroic literature and its surprising resonances in modern Ireland both north and south; we'll read the Norman-Welsh and English views of Ireland and the Irish, and the native responses; we'll read Swift and his Irish precursors, and we'll follow Europe's oldest vernacular literary traditions to today's dramatists, short story writers, novelists and poets.

E631.2 Gender and Writing

Donna LeCourt

9:30 - 10:45AM TR

This course will explore the connections between theories of gendered identity and ways of writing. In order to examine the effects of a gendered identity on the production of text, we will examine how the assumptions gender theory makes about identity production influence the research on writing practices. In particular, we will look at theories of gendered identity from many different schools of thought--essentialism, psychoanalysis, developmental psychology, cognitive psychology, poststructuralism, neo-marxism, and cultural studies--and the resulting writing research which emerges from each theory. The major course project will involve conducting "original" research into the question of gender and writing.

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