ENGLISH

EN 121 Principles of Writing (4)
A writing course designed to enable the student through practice and revision to demonstrate an acceptable standard of written expression. Focus upon description, exposition, and argumentation. Critical reading and thinking are also stressed. College librarians present class sessions focusing on the effective use of library and online resources, concentrating on developing research skills as well as locating and evaluating information sources. Course requirements include completion of a research paper.

EN 205 Intermediate Expository Writing (4)
The study and practice of expository writing in a variety of modes with attention paid to the analysis of texts and to developing an appropriate and engaging voice while writing in various rhetorical situations. Emphasis on nonfiction writing. Course topic varies.

EN 207 Introduction to Creative Writing (4)
A workshop for students interested in exploring the various forms of creative writing including fiction, creative nonfiction, and/or poetry. Students and instructor work closely together to evaluate the individual and class writing projects in an informal setting. Offered fall semesters.

EN 208 Argumentative Writing (4)
The study and practice of writing persuasively and logically.
Co-requisite: EN 121 or equivalent.

EN 212 Journalistic Writing (4)
A study of newspapers and the techniques of news gathering and news writing; writing and criticism of news stories.

EN 304 Fiction Workshop (4)
A course in fiction writing for advanced students. Prerequisite: EN 207 or consent of the instructor.

EN 305 Poetry Workshop (4)
A course in poetry writing for advanced students. Prerequisite: EN 207 or consent of the instructor.

EN 307 Advanced Writing (4)
An advanced course in writing for students who wish to pursue their writing interests in one or more types of writing. Enrollment limited. Prerequisite: completion of EN 304, 305, 308, or 309. May be repeated for a maximum of 8 hours.

EN 308 Nonfiction Workshop (4)
The practice of writing longer, more sophisticated works of non-fiction prose in a workshop setting. Prerequisite: EN 205, 208 or 209.

EN 309 Creative Nonfiction Workshop (4)
A workshop focused on the study and production of the four major genres of contemporary creative nonfiction: the profile, the general-interest article, popular criticism, and the personal or programmatic informal essay. Prerequisite: EN 205, 207, 208, 212 or consent of the instructor.

EN 316 Topics in Rhetorical Theory (4)
An examination of language use, especially of writing, from the point of view of rhetorical theory, linguistics, and writing studies. Topics vary by semester. Prerequisite: EN 205, 207, 208, 212, or CO 301.

EN 388 Literary Explorations (4)
Topic, area or authors chosen by the instructor. This course provides the opportunity for the instructor and students to work intensively in a special area of interest. May be repeated with consent of instructor.
COURSES IN LITERATURE

EN 123 British Literature: Medieval to 1800 (4)
A survey of major literary works of British writers from the Beowulf-poet to Samuel Johnson.

EN 124 British Literature: 1800 to the Present (4)
A survey of modern British literature, treating the work of writers from nineteenth-century poet William Blake to contemporary playwright Tom Stoppard.

EN 131 American Literature: Colonial to the Twentieth Century (4)
A treatment of the literature of America through the end of the nineteenth century, with consideration of genres from Native American mythology to early modern fiction.

EN 132 American Literature: the Twentieth Century (4)
Examination of modern and contemporary American literature in the principal genres poetry, drama, and fiction.

EN 141 God and Heroes (4)
A survey of significant authors and literary movements from ancient times through the Renaissance.

EN 142 Heroes and Anti-Heroes (4)
A survey of significant authors and literary movements since the Renaissance.

EN 153 Major British Writers (4)
A chronological or thematic study of representative works by selected British writers from the middle ages to the present.

EN 171 Global Literatures (4)
Consideration of varying themes as they appear in texts from diverse cultures around the world. Genres of fiction, autobiography, graphic novel, and film included.

EN 172 Multicultural Literature of the Americas (4)
Focus on literatures and cultures of the Americas with special consideration of the formation of cultural and individual identity in a variety of texts. Topics include the Culture of War, immigration and assimilation, cross-cultural contact, Sundown towns in the Midwest, among others. Genres of fiction, memoir, graphic novel, and film included.

EN 173 Literatures of the Middle East and North Africa (4)
This course is an introductory survey of contemporary literatures of the Middle East and North Africa (MENA). We will read works of fiction, non-fiction, and verse; we will view films, video, and art; and we will listen to music keeping in mind the cultural and historical contexts influencing the production of these texts. We will consider questions of national identity; the dialectic between gender, politics, and religion; and anti-colonial movements and the West, among others.

EN 176 Introduction to African American Studies (4)
This course is an introductory survey of African American Studies. Readings will include works of fiction, non-fiction, drama, and verse, from Phyllis Wheatley (b 1735) to D-Knowledge (b 1970); various forms of oral expression and music, from speeches of Sojourner Truth and Malcolm X, from spirituals to hip-hop; and artists from Jacob Lawrence to Kara Walker, and cultural critics/intellectuals W.E.B. Du Bois, Henry Louis Gates, Jr., bell hooks, and Cornell West. Discussions will include overlapping theoretical, artistic, and historical issues: questions of assimilation, the Middle Passage, Slave Narratives, the Abolition Movement, the Harlem Renaissance, the Civil Rights movement, Black Nationalism, Womanism, the “Sundown Towns” of Illinois, writing as witness, and political resistance, among others.
EN 225 Concepts of Comedy (4)
An exploration of various forms of ‘literature of laughter’ – from humor to satire, from comedy to the Absurd – focusing on the uses and effects of comic genres and techniques to express what it is to be human.

EN 234 Illinois Authors (4)
This course focuses on Illinois writers and Regional literature—how is literature tied to place and shaped by its geography, landscape and environment? How can poetry, fiction, and drama capture what makes a region and its inhabitants unique? We will read and discuss “downstate” literature depicting Illinois as Midwestern “fly-over” country (such as Masters, Bradbury, Powers, various 19th century writers) as well as Chicago-based literature that portrays the pressures of population and industry on the human environment (such as Sinclair, Hansberry, Brooks, Dybek, Cisneros).

EN 236 Narrative in Fiction and Film (4)
A study of story-telling methods and purposes in literature (primarily short fiction) and in film. Special attention will be given to film adaptation of literary texts and the comparison of fiction writers’ and filmmakers’ approaches to narrative.

EN 238 Classical Literature (4)
A survey of selected masterworks from ancient Greece and Rome. Emphasis on major figures, including Homer, Aeschylus, Sophocles, Euripides, Virgil, and Ovid.

EN 245 From Middle-Earth to Outer Space (4)
A reading of the major works of fantasy and science fiction of J.R.R. Tolkien, C.S. Lewis, and Charles Williams, the principle members of the Inklings, an influential group of scholar-novelists in Oxford during the 1930s and 1940s. Includes The Lord of the Rings.

EN 250 Introduction to Literature: Special Topics (4)
A course with a topical approach to literary study. The particular topic for a given offering of this course will be indicated in the semester’s course schedule.

EN 262 Power Plays (4)
An examination of a selection of plays which use historical material to consider issues relating to power: its use and abuse, when and how to resist it. The plays, written between the end of the 16th and the beginning of the 21st centuries, provide an opportunity to consider how attitudes toward power have changed over time. This is primarily a literature course, so students will be expected to understand the plays as works of literature. This is the major reason for terms/characters tests. Students will also consider the philosophical, ethical, and political implications of the plays in class discussion and brief response papers.

EN 310 Medieval Literature (4)
Major works written on the Continent during the Middle Ages, with the focus on Dante.

EN 311 The Age of Chaucer (4)

EN 321 Shakespeare I (4)
Histories and tragedies.

EN 322 Shakespeare II (4)
Comedies and tragedies (different selections).

EN 326 Studies in the Renaissance (4)
A study of the major works of British and Continental literature written during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, exclusive of the dramatic works of Shakespeare.
EN 331  The English Novel (4)
A study of the early development of the novel in England from the mid-eighteenth century through the end of the nineteenth century.

EN 339  Studies in Global Literature (4)
Consideration of a genre, period, or theme in transnational literatures, such as European, Japanese, or Russian (in translation). The specific topic will be announced in the course listing and schedule of classes for the semester.

EN 342  Restoration and Eighteenth Century English Literature (4)
Representative literary works of the period from 1660 to 1800, with emphasis on major figures including Dryden, Swift, Pope, Johnson, and Goldsmith.

EN 351  The Romantic Movement (4)
Significant poetry and prose works of England from the 1790s to the 1830s, with principal focus on the major works of Blake, Wordsworth, Coleridge, Byron, Shelley, and Keats.

EN 352  Victorian Literature (4)
A study of the ways in which the literature of England from 1832 to 1900 reflects the social, political, and intellectual concerns of the age. Principal writers of this period include Carlyle, Tennyson, Browning, Arnold, Dickens, and Hardy.

EN 353  Modern British Literature (4)
Developments in British literature from the late nineteenth century to the present. Readings will cover major works of fiction, poetry and drama.

EN 354  Major American Writers (4)
Evolution of American literature from Poe onward to Transcendentalism, Realism, and Naturalism. Focus on such figures as Emerson, Thoreau, Hawthorne, Twain, James, and Dreiser.

EN 355  American Women Writers (4)
Focus on the accomplishments, conditions and contributions of American women writers from the seventeenth century to the present. Readings will cover works of fiction, poetry and drama by writers such as Bradstreet, Dickinson, Sedgwick, Stowe, Wharton, Cather, Stein, Hurston and Morrison.

EN 356  Native American Literature (4)
An exploration of Native American literatures, primarily of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. Issues of “writing as witness,” identity and assimilation, oral and written storytelling, Red Power and Indigenist movements studied. Includes contemporary writers such as James Welch, Leslie Marmon Silko, LeAnne Howe, and Sherman Alexie. Several films and attendance at local pow wow.

EN 357  Modern American Literature (4)
Developments in American literature from the early twentieth century to the ’60s. Readings will cover major works of fiction, poetry and drama.

EN 358  Women Writers: Global Voices/World Visions (4)
A critical investigation of representative works by major women writers that reflect the social, philosophical, literary, and aesthetic standards of women’s literature worldwide from the late 19th century to the present. Readings will cover fiction, non-fiction, poetry, and drama by writers such as Anna Akhmatova, Buchi Emecheta, Simone de Beauvoir, Nadine Gordimer, Arundhati Roy, Christa Wolf, and Virginia Woolf, among others.

EN 359  Japanese and American Modernism (4)
Examination of literary Modernism as it manifest in America and in Japan. Specifically, we will examine how literature in both countries embodied and expressed the many cultural changes both societies underwent in the years between
World Wars. Key themes include alienation, mass culture, urbanization, cosmopolitanism, race, gender, class, and the politics of experimental form and style.

**EN 368 Contemporary American Literature (4)**
A study of American literature – fiction, poetry, and drama – from the ’60s to the present.

**EN 373 African-American Literature (4)**
Focus on African-American literature from the period of slavery to the present. Consideration of writers such as Frederick Douglass, Harriet Jacobs, W.E.B. DuBois, Zora Neale Hurston, Ralph Ellison, Toni Morrison, and Octavia Butler. Consideration of such artistic forms of music (Blues, Spiritual, Jazz, Hip Hop), genres as the vernacular, the slave narrative, video representation, and speculative fiction.

**EN 388 Literary Explorations (4)**
Topic, area, or authors chosen by the instructor. This course provides the opportunity for the instructor and students to work intensively in a special area of interest. May be repeated with consent of instructor.

**SPECIAL PURPOSE COURSES**

**EN 410 English Honors Thesis (1 - 4)**
Open to English majors entering the second semester of their Junior year. Students with a minimum 3.5 GPA in their English courses and a minimum 3.0 GPA overall can apply to enroll in English 410 by writing a proposal specifying the original project to be undertaken and indicating, via signature, the agreement of a supervising faculty member. This proposal should be submitted to the department chair no later than the end of the junior year. A second faculty reader will be selected in consultation with the primary supervisor and the department chair.

This project is to be pursued over two semesters (2 credits per semester) and will be beyond the 40-credit minimum required for the major. Students will conduct a sustained project culminating in an article-length essay or new creative work of approximately 20-30 pages that engages with relevant literary scholarship while aiming for an original contribution to the topic. Students will also give a public presentation of their work at the end of the Spring semester.

**EN 430 Senior Seminar (4)**
A seminar bringing together all senior majors and department faculty in literary study designed to synthesize learning within the discipline, requiring comprehensive proficiency in literary techniques and critical concepts treated throughout the major, and culminating in a major project. Offered fall semesters. Pre-requisites: senior standing.

**EN 461, 462 Independent Study in English (1 - 4)**
Independent Study in Language and Literature: A tutorial course providing intensive study of authors or areas of mutual interest to the instructor and students. Instructor permission required. Limited enrollment. May be repeated.

**EN 463, 464 Internship in English (1 - 4)**
A work-study internship in public relations, journalism, technical or professional writing, or publishing. Permission of instructor and department chair required. May be repeated for a maximum of 6 hours.

**EN 465, 466 Independent Research in English (1 - 4)**