Spring 2016 Course Descriptions
Department of English
UConn-Stamford

Helpful hints about courses offered:

- The single-author course for the major (Major Requirement D) is offered each Spring. If you need one of this major requirement for a Spring 2016, Summer 2016 or Fall 2016 graduation, get it now with Engl 3509!
- We offer at least one pre-1800 course each semester (Engl 3113W this term) and at least one ethnic/postcolonial distribution (Engl 2301W, Engl 3210, and Engl 3629 this term).
- We offer a variety of survey and methods courses each semester (Major Requirement B: this term 2101, 2203W, 2301W, 3113W, 3210; Major Requirement C: this term 2405, 2407, 2409).
- English majors can now take 9 credits (3 regular courses) of electives (this is new – you can change your catalog year to 2015 with the registrar). You now have more freedom to enroll in courses you may be interested in, even if they happen to meet a formal requirement you have already satisfied. If you keep your current, pre-2015 catalog year, creative writing courses like 3003W continue to count for Methods C.2.
- We are offering a new course this semester: Engl 3210, Native American Literature, taught by former Engl Department Head Prof. Robert Tilton, who has joined the Stamford campus.
- 1000-level courses do not count toward the English major.
- Non-majors are welcome in advanced courses; check your preparedness with an instructor before registering if you have questions.
- Majors should consult their assigned advisors. For further questions, or for advice to nonmajors, consult Professor Roden, English Curriculum Coordinator, at frederick.roden@uconn.edu
- The English minor is highly recommended and easy to accomplish, requiring a British literature survey (2100 or 2101), American literature survey (2201/W or 2203/W) and 3 upper-level courses. For more information consult an English faculty member.
- Remember that upper-level English courses make great “related field” classes for other majors. Check with your major advisor for appropriateness of choices.
- The English Major can help you get an internship and a job! Find out how by consulting the Career Center and in conversation with other majors. Reach out to English faculty at any time for more information about the major.
English 1616W: Major Works of British and American Literature
Professor Sharon Lattig
Tuesdays and Thursdays 11:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

Catalog copy: “Includes important works from the major genres and historical periods since Beowulf.” Description forthcoming. **This course satisfies the GenEd 1.B content and counts for a W competency.**

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English 2101: British Literature II
Professor Frederick Roden
Mondays 3:35-6:05 p.m.

British Literature II examines a broad variety of genres in three historical periods, from 1800 to roughly 1950: Romanticism, Victorianism, and Modernism. We will pay particular attention to works and movements on the margins of these categorical terms. This era was one of tremendous change with respect to definitions of identity: race, class, gender, sexual orientation, national and ethnic self-understanding, and religion -- just to name a few. We will analyze the literature in the context of the politics of identity and the idea of "subjectivity": the speaking self.

**This course counts for a B.2 requirement of the English major, toward the English minor, and GenEd Category 1.B.**

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English 2203W: American Literature II
Professor Gregory Pierrot
Wednesdays 3:35-6:05 p.m.

This course will cover American Literature from 1880 to today. The upheaval and turmoil of these 150 years were announced, echoed and inspired by literature. Our goal in this course will be to gain a better understanding of the developments and trends in American literature throughout that period, exploring their aesthetic and ideological characteristics. We will discuss what made modern American literature, what ideals and concerns it grappled with, how it engaged with the national and individual questions of its time. We will read a variety of fiction, poetry and drama from Henry James to Toni Morrison, Kate Chopin to Sherman Alexie.

**This course counts for a B.2 requirement of the English major, toward the English minor, and GenEd W competency.**
English 2301W: World Literature
Professor Hannelore Moeckel-Rieke
Saturdays 10:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

*Catalog copy:* “English language literature from Africa, India, Canada, Australia, the Caribbean, and other areas outside of the United States and the British Isles. Writers may include Soyinka, Gordimer, Walcott, Achebe, Markandaya, Atwood, White, Emecheta, Rushdie, Naipaul, Kincaid, and others.” *Description forthcoming.*

**Engl 2301W counts for a B.2 major requirement, a major postcolonial/diversity distribution, the English minor, a GenEd W competency, and GenEdCategory 4(international).**

English 2405: Drama
Professor Pamela Brown
Tuesdays and Thursdays 12:30-1:45 p.m.

Drama is a mystery, and a fascinating one. Why do humans enjoy watching people pretend to be other people? Why do we pay to see a tragedy that makes us tear up or gasp in horror? What makes us laugh, and why is that laughter so distinctively human? What is realism, and why do we enjoy plays that ignore realism entirely, such as musicals? We won’t try to “solve” these mysteries, but we will certainly delve into them. This is a course in drama both ancient and modern, focusing on the Western tradition. You will study a number of types, including ancient Greek comedy and tragedy, the Italian commedia dell’arte, nineteenth-century American melodrama, Brechtian epic theatre, the modern theater of the absurd, and the Broadway musical. Authors may include Sophocles, Aristophanes, Shakespeare, Marlowe, Moliere, Brecht, Beckett, Williams, Kushner, Churchill, and Nottage. Required: several responses to readings; attendance at a professional production of a play; a midterm and a final. You are also required to contribute behind the scenes or as an actor or director in a production planned by the class. Be sure you have time to contribute to the production before enrolling in this class. **This course counts toward the English major category C(Methods), GenEd 1.B, and the English minor.**

English 2407: Short Story
Professor Serkan Gorkemli
Fridays 11:15 a.m.-1:45 p.m.

In this course, we will study the theory and history of the short story as a literary form and read its fine examples by significant American and international writers. In our discussions, we will focus on the literary elements of plot, character, setting,
point of view, style, and theme in short stories, and you will write textual analyses. 

This course counts for the English major C (Methods), the English minor, and GenEd 1.B.

English 2409: Modern Novel
Professor Morgne Cramer
Tuesdays and Thursdays 3:30-4:45 p.m.

This course will focus on novels published since 1900. Focus is on close readings of the texts and on biographical and historical contexts.

The course is divided into 2 units, focused on 6 novels, their authors, and their time period:

UNIT 1
Samuel Butler (1835-1902) The Way of All Flesh (1903)
Virginia Woolf (1882-1941) Jacob's Room (1922)
Sinclair Lewis (1885-1951) Main Street (1920)

UNIT 2
Nawal El Saadawi (1931—present) Zeina (2011)

This course counts for the English major C (Methods), the English minor, and GenEd 1.B.

English 3003W: Advanced Expository Writing—Business Writing
Professor Fran Shaw
Tuesdays 6:00-8:30 p.m.

Writing clear, error-free, and effective letters, memos, proposals, reports, press releases, and other business documents. 

A limited number of writing courses can count toward the English major (C.2) and minor. This course also satisfies a GenEd W requirement.

English 3113W: Renaissance Literature
Professor Pamela Brown
Tuesdays and Thursdays 2:00-3:15 p.m.

When Henry VIII decided to break with Rome, England became a society in upheaval
-- religious, political, and social. All this turmoil spurred innovations in poetry, drama, epic, romance, religious satire, travel literature, and other genres. In this course on the literature of the Henrician Reformation through the Elizabethan and Jacobean periods, you'll learn about the new kinds of poetry, drama and epic that flowed from the Continent to England, where they were adapted and altered with profound effects on literary and court culture. The rise of the professional theater reshaped the identities of citizens and courtiers, while writers of romance epics and travelers' tales evoked fantastic worlds far beyond the boundaries of the small island. Love poetry in the form of passionate, witty sonnets and songs were among the greatest cultural achievements of the period. Authors include More, Wyatt, Marlowe, Nashe, Donne, Spenser, Shakespeare, Jonson, Elizabeth I, and Mary Wroth. Required: three essays, totaling at least 15 pages of revised writing; biweekly responses, occasional quizzes, and a final exam.

_counts for the major B.1 and pre-1800 distribution requirements; counts for the minor and GenEd W competency._

english 3210: native american literature
professor robert tilton
tuesdays and thursdays 9:30-10:45 a.m.

in this course we will examine writings by authors from a number of different native american communities. we will begin by discussing a variety of traditional materials and early 20th century writings, but the majority of our readings will come from the late 20th and early 21st centuries, the period after the “native american literary renaissance.” among the writers whose work we will study are n. scott momaday, leslie marmon silko, louise erdrich, james welch, joy harjo, sherman alexie, and melissa tantaquidgeon zobel. there will be in-class writing assignments, a research project, one critical paper, a mid-term, and a final examination.

_engl 3210 counts for the english major category b.3, meets the diversity requirement for the english major and the gen ed requirement in content area 4(usa). it also counts for the english minor._

english 3509: virginia woolf
professor morgne cramer
thursdays 5:30-8:00 p.m.

virginia woolf is an icon for modernism and often acclaimed the most brilliant stylist of her generation. this course focuses on the life and work of virginia woolf (1882-1941) in historical and biographical context. our focus on woolf’s historical context will account for the influence of early twentieth century suffragette and other feminist movements on her life and work; our focus on biographical context will include reading selections by her closest friends, theBloomsbury group. the Bloomsbury Group was composed of artists, intellectuals, and political theorists.
who transformed early twentieth century aesthetics, life styles, and social norms. Woolf described the Bloomsbury Group as a "society of equals, enjoying each other's foibles, criticizing each other's characters, and questioning everything with complete freedom." We will aim for close readings of few works so that students will learn to read with understanding and precision one of the most renowned experimentalists in the English language.

*This course counts for the English major D, the English minor, and the WGSS minor.*

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English 3629: Introduction to Holocaust Literature
Professor Frederick Roden
Tuesdays 5:30-8:10 p.m.

It has been 70 years since the end of World War Two, and literature concerning the Holocaust continues to be published. That historical event remains an ongoing phenomenon through its resultant cultural production. The Holocaust lives today even as the events and people connected to it become part of the past. The literature calls to awareness in our present moment while its history still unfolds.

This course concerns the notion of "survival" and "survivors," broadly conceived. Even as we contemplate the atrocity of genocide, hope and endurance will serve as our recurring themes. We will interrogate the meanings of “altruism,” “rescue,” “resistance” and "humanitarianism" – and "survival" -- at individual and collective levels. What do studies of "survival" teach us about community and human relationship?

What does it mean to create art from the ashes? In studying literature of the Holocaust we will explore how trauma shapes identity and consider the commitment to write: to document the unspeakable. We will read a variety of genres, including diary, memoir, poetry, and fiction. All of these share an absolute imperative – at times even a compulsion – to tell their story. How do we (in E. M. Forster’s words) "only connect"? How do we survive? As reader-listeners, we witness the human spirit's drive to remember and be remembered.

*This course satisfies the English major B3 requirement and distribution 2 (diversity), and counts to the English minor. For GenEd, it satisfies Category 1.B and Content 4 (international) requirements.*

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English 3701: Creative Writing II
Professor Fran Shaw
Mondays 6:00-8:40 p.m.
Writing creative non-fiction including humor, memoir, reviews, interviews, and freelance articles. Please email the instructor for your permission number to register (fran.shaw@uconn.edu).

A limited number of writing courses can count toward the English major C.2 and minor.