ENGL7701 English Language Training for Graduate Level Students: Focus on Writing (Spring:0.0)
Department permission is required.
Designed for those whose first language is not English, this course offers students practice writing in a range of academic modes including reflection, summary, analysis, and critique. Early in the semester, students will explore the composition process from brainstorming to drafting to revision to editing. Grammar is taught in the context of student writing. Several classes will be devoted to e-mail, reference letter, and proposal writing. Non-credit, offered free of charge by GSAS to its students during the spring. Department permission required. Students who enroll in the course are expected to attend all classes and complete short writing assignments weekly.

Lynne Anderson

ENGL7727 Modern Major Irish Drama (Spring:3.0)
This course will offer an in-depth study of the work of the three most important contemporary Irish playwrights: Brian Friel, Tom Murphy, and Conor McPherson. There will be discussion of the Irish and international context of their work and of the plays as works to be performed as well as as literary texts.

Philip O'Leary

ENGL7736 New Historicism (Spring:3.0)
This course engages both the theory and the practice of New Historicism, from its origins in anthropology and Continental philosophy to recent work in cultural studies, emphasizing Althusser and Jameson, Michel Foucault, Stephen Greenblatt and Louis Montrose, and the ways other critical schools have reacted to or against New Historicism. Finally, we will consider how New Historicism has influenced the rise of Cultural Studies as a critical practice. Students will develop their own New Historical projects, and the work of the course will include oral reports and a research paper.

James Wallace

ENGL7746 The City in American Literature and Culture (Spring:3.0)
We will consider how American literature and culture has responded to the formal and conceptual challenges posed by cities. Taking an American Studies approach to our subject, our inquiry will include not only novels (e.g. Sister Carrie, Native Speaker) and other literary forms but also film (e.g., Chinatown, Blade Runner), music, landscape, and more. We'll also read scholars like Betsy Klimasmithe, Thomas Heise, and Catherine Jurca, who offer interdisciplinary models for relating the interpretation of texts to the social, economic, and political facts of city life.

Carlo Rotella
FREN7750 Reading Jacques Derrida (Spring:3.0)
Cross Listed with: ENGL7753, PHIL7753
Open to undergraduates with permission of instructor
This course will examine some of the fundamental ways that the work of Jacques Derrida has contributed to altering the context in which the humanities can be understood and studied within the modern university. It will take examples from Derrida’s repeated interventions in such disciplines as literature, philosophy, theology, and history. By situating Derrida’s work at the margins where accepted demarcations between the disciplines begin to blur, the course will suggest new possibilities for conducting interdisciplinary work in the future.
Kevin Newmark

ENGL7782 Issues and Methods in American Studies (Spring:3.0)
This course offers an introduction to the field of American Studies, which focuses on the interdisciplinary study of American culture. We will read a range of recent scholarship, exploring diverse approaches, methods, and issues of interest. In the process, we will assemble a tool kit of critical skills for making interpretive arguments about works of culture in their historical moments. The cultural forms we analyze may include popular fiction, film, music, religion, and others.
Christina Klein

ENGL8800 Irish Gothic (Spring:3.0)
Ghosts and vampires, lunatics and criminals, human corruption and supernatural punishment: these things have fascinated generations of Irish writers and readers. This seminar will investigate why Ireland produced such a rich tradition of Gothic literature, beginning in the early nineteenth century and continuing right up to the present. We will also explore various critical and theoretical approaches to the genre: political, historical, psychological, sexual, and religious. Writers to be studied include Maria Edgeworth, Sheridan LeFanu, Charles Maturin, Bram Stoker, Oscar Wilde, Elizabeth Bowen, and Patrick McCabe.
Marjorie Howes

ENGL8819 British Romanticism and Imperial Culture (Spring:3.0)
Topics include antislavery poetry, early slave narratives, anti- and pro-slavery polemics; literary Orientalism and other forms of exoticism; anti-imperialist poetry and polemics; Ireland and Scotland as sites for colonial appropriation (including literary appropriation) and emergent nationalist cultures. Attention will be given to literary constructions of the Americas in this era and to the beginnings of Creole literary traditions. Texts may include poems by Chatterton, Rushton, More, Yearsley, Blake, Barbauld, Williams, Wordsworth, Coleridge, Shelley, and Byron; novels by Austen (Mansfield Park), Morgan (Wild Irish Girl), Scott (Waverley), Edgeworth (Castle Rackrent); and slave narratives by Equiano and Prince.
Alan Richardson
ENGL8825 Composition Theory and the Teaching of Writing (Spring:3.0)
Department Permission required
This course is designed to prepare graduate students to teach first-year college writing courses; to introduce students to central issues, problems and theories in composition studies; and to examine ways in which contemporary critical theories (including feminism, psychoanalysis, cultural studies, and critical pedagogy) have influenced the teaching and study of composition. Requirements will include a theoretically-informed analysis of a student essay; a piece of creative nonfiction and an accompanying description of the process used to produce it; an annotated syllabus for a first-year college course; and a week of student teaching in a First Year Writing classroom.
Paula Mathieu

ENGL8844 Bodies and Souls: Visions, Mystics, and Medieval Devotion (Spring:3.0)
Writings about mystical experience make up the most intense, most emotional, and most controversial genre of medieval literature. Mystics lived inner lives that distinguished them sharply from their fellow humans and outer lives that often threatened the religious and secular institutions of their day. In this course we will read five English mystics: Richard Rolle (d. 1349); Walter Hilton (d. 1396); the anonymous author of The Cloud of Unknowing; Julian of Norwich (d. 1414); and Margery Kempe (d. 1440). All texts will be read in Middle English, but no previous knowledge is required.
Robert Stanton

ENGL8873 Shakespeare (Spring:3.0)
This graduate seminar is designed to do the following: 1) to explore how Shakespeare’s works engaged with early modern debates over gender, sexuality and race as well as with notions of kingship and the construction of history; and 2) to introduce students to both the history and current state of Shakespeare criticism and to the editorial practices that have informed the reception of different Shakespearean works at various historical moments.
Caroline Bicks

ENGL9906 PhD Seminar: Aesthetics of Modernism (Spring:3.0)
Modernism demands a rethinking of aesthetics, relativizing or rendering obsolete aesthetics’ fundamental categories—the classical notion of beauty, for example, or the romantic notion of genius. Through its experiments with spatial and temporal representation, moreover, modernism can be said to interrogate or to undermine another sense of the aesthetic: the aesthetic as the discourse on sensible cognition. How, then, does modernism fit into the history of aesthetics? Are modernism’s own aesthetic categories—novelty, difficulty, impersonality—still a part of this history? In this class, we will put literary and visual modernism in contact with issues in philosophical aesthetics. We will understand modernism’s “aesthetics” broadly: as the theoretical discourse on art occasioned by modernist art objects; as the practice of art and literary criticism specific to the modernist period; and as a reimagining of the forms of sensible experience in modernist works themselves.
Robert Lehman
ENGL9934 Advanced Research Colloquium (Spring:3.0)
This seminar for PhD students in their third or fourth years will be run as a series of workshops structured to provide practical advice about how best to facilitate the successful transition from graduate student life to a professional life in academia. Topics will include the Conference Paper, the Scholarly Article, the Dissertation, Teaching and the Academic Job Market.

Aeron Hunt