

# ENGLISH

[english.northwestern.edu](http://english.northwestern.edu)

The Department of English values multiple kinds of critical inquiry and creativity. While some courses emphasize the formal qualities of literary works, others address such questions as what counts as “literary” or how to characterize the relationships among literature, culture, and politics. Classes might discuss psychoanalysis, race and gender, or the history of the book. While courses have different approaches, methods, and emphases and examine a variety of texts, all courses stress close reading and qualitative analysis. Reflecting both range and specificity, the curriculum enables students to pursue their areas of interest within a broader understanding of literary history and the range of literary study. In its creative writing courses, the department offers training in poetry, fiction, and creative nonfiction. Virtually all courses also include practice in writing clear, concise, and persuasive expository prose.

Rigorous training in thinking and writing is valuable for any career, including law, IT, communications, marketing, consulting, finance, and business as well as writing, publishing, and the teaching of English at all levels. Courses in Anglophone literature help students to hone their skills as critical citizens of global communities.

The department takes pride in its diversity of perspectives. In addition to teaching classes in the department, English faculty contribute substantially to the course offerings in theater, drama, and comparative literature, as well as American, African American, Asian American, Latinx, MENA (Middle East & North African), and gender and sexuality studies. Professors have taught courses in conjunction with the Northwestern Prison Education Project, the Newberry Library, and other Chicago institutions.

## Majors and Minors in English

The department offers majors and minors in Literature and Creative Writing. A complete description of programs may be obtained from the department website. Detailed course descriptions are posted on the department website each spring for the subsequent academic year.

English majors may ask any member of the department to serve as an academic adviser. A quarterly meeting with the adviser to discuss course selection and progress is strongly recommended.

## The Teaching of English

Weinberg College students pursuing a major in English who also wish to be certified for secondary teaching must be admitted to the Teacher Education Program (<https://catalogs.northwestern.edu/undergraduate/education-social-policy/secondary-teaching/>) in the School of Education and Social Policy and complete all requirements as outlined in the SESP chapter of this catalog. Students are urged to contact the Office of Student Affairs in SESP as early as possible in their academic careers.

## Related Programs

Literature courses appear in the curricula of other Weinberg College departments and programs, including Black Studies, American Studies, Asian American Studies, Comparative Literary Studies, Drama, MENA, and Gender and Sexuality Studies, as well as language departments such as Spanish & Portuguese and French & Italian. See the Cook Family Writing Program (<https://catalogs.northwestern.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/writing-program/>) for a list of composition (expository writing) courses.

[sciences/writing-program/](https://catalogs.northwestern.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/writing-program/)) for a list of composition (expository writing) courses.

## Programs of Study

- English Major (<https://catalogs.northwestern.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/english/english-literature-major/>)
- Creative Writing Major (<https://catalogs.northwestern.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/english/creative-writing-major/>)
- English Minor (<https://catalogs.northwestern.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/english/english-minor/>)
- Creative Writing Minor (<https://catalogs.northwestern.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/english/creative-writing-sequence-based-minor/>)

## Learning Objectives for the Majors and Minors

### Major in English

- Demonstrate orally and in writing an advanced understanding of literary history and literary form.
- Perform advanced qualitative analysis, including sophisticated close readings of literary texts and critical analysis of secondary and theoretical sources.
- Develop sophisticated arguments supported by detailed and convincing textual evidence.
- Write advanced analytical papers, unfolding nuanced claims in well-structured, persuasive prose.
- Demonstrate cultural competence in analyzing literary works produced across a wide range of identity categories and cultural locations as well as proficiency in scholarly methodologies that address questions of racial, gendered, national, and other forms of difference.
- Define viable research topics, identify and evaluate sources, and craft an extended argumentative essay of 12-15 pages.

### Minor in English

- Demonstrate orally and in writing a proficient understanding of literary history and literary form.
- Demonstrate proficiency in qualitative analysis, including close readings of literary texts.
- Develop persuasive arguments supported by convincing textual evidence.
- Write proficient analytical papers, unfolding claims in clear, well-structured prose.

### Major in Creative Writing

- Define and develop crucial elements of writing, including voice, tone, and perspective, drawing on the imagination as well as personal experience.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the creative process as a forum for critical thinking and problem-solving as well as intuitive thinking.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the literary, cultural, and historical contexts of creative work, including the influence of past and present literary forms, structures, styles, and traditions on artistic choices.
- Perform advanced qualitative analysis, including sophisticated close readings of literary texts and analysis of critical and theoretical sources
- Develop sophisticated arguments supported by detailed and convincing textual evidence.

- Write advanced analytical papers, unfolding nuanced claims in well-structured, persuasive prose.

#### **Poetry Track:**

- Create original works using the basics of figurative language and craft in the three genres of poetry, fiction, and creative nonfiction, culminating in advanced work in poetry writing.
- Develop an original collection of poems and a single long poem of at least 120 lines.
- Demonstrate an advanced ability to shape a poem through lineation, stanza structure, rhythm, and sound, and to engage with a variety of poetic forms.

#### **Fiction Track:**

- Create original works using the basics of figurative language and craft in the three genres of poetry, fiction, and creative nonfiction, culminating in advanced work in fiction writing.
- Master the fundamentals of both short-form and long-form fiction writing.
- Develop an original novel, novella, or collection of short stories.
- Demonstrate an advanced ability to invent and organize plot, develop character, modulate tone, make use of evocative imagery, and shape and control form in both modular and linear narratives.

#### **Creative Nonfiction Track:**

- Create original works using the basics of figurative language and craft in the three genres of poetry, fiction, and creative nonfiction, culminating in advanced work in creative nonfiction.
- Develop an original corpus of nonfiction work, consisting of short- or long-form personal essays, memoir, and/or literary journalism.
- Establish a distinctive voice and clear sense of purpose, render vivid scenes, provide analysis and insight supported by scholarly and field-based research methods.

#### **Cross-genre Track:**

- Create original works using the basics of figurative language and craft in the three genres of poetry, fiction, and creative nonfiction, culminating in advanced work in one or more genres, or drawing on multiple generic traditions.
- Develop an original corpus of fiction, poetry, nonfiction, or hybrid work, consisting of short- or long-form pieces.

### **Minor in Creative Writing**

- Define and develop crucial elements of writing, including voice, tone, and perspective, drawing on the imagination as well as personal experience.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the creative process as a forum for critical thinking and problem-solving as well as intuitive thinking.
- Demonstrate a proficient understanding of the literary, cultural, and historical contexts of creative work, including the influence of past and present literary forms, structures, styles, and traditions on artistic choices.
- Demonstrate proficiency in qualitative analysis, including close readings of literary texts and critical analysis of secondary and theoretical sources.
- Develop persuasive arguments supported by convincing textual evidence.
- Write proficient analytical papers, unfolding claims in well-structured, persuasive prose.

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- Create original works using the basics of figurative language and craft in the three genres of poetry, fiction, and creative nonfiction, culminating in advanced work in creative nonfiction.
- Develop an original corpus of nonfiction work, consisting of short- or long-form personal essays, memoir, and/or literary journalism.
- Establish a distinctive voice and clear sense of purpose, render vivid scenes, provide analysis and insight supported by scholarly and field-based research methods.

#### **Cross-genre Track:**

- Create original works using the basics of figurative language and craft in the three genres of poetry, fiction, and creative nonfiction, culminating in advanced work in one or more genres, or drawing on multiple generic traditions.
- Develop an original corpus of fiction, poetry, nonfiction, or hybrid work, consisting of short- or long-form pieces.

## **English Courses**

**ENGLISH 100-SW Summer Academic Workshop in Writing (1 Unit)** An introduction to college writing. Students learn how to use a process of planning, drafting, revising, and editing to write papers that are clear, concise, interesting, and persuasive.

**ENGLISH 101-7 College Seminar (1 Unit)** Small, writing and discussion-oriented course exploring a specific topic or theme, and introducing skills necessary to thriving at Northwestern. Not eligible to be applied towards a WCAS major or minor except where specifically indicated.

**ENGLISH 101-8 First-Year Writing Seminar (1 Unit)** Small, writing and discussion-oriented course exploring a specific topic or theme, and focused on the fundamentals of effective, college-level written communication. Not eligible to be applied towards a WCAS major or minor except where specifically indicated.

**ENGLISH 105-0 Expository Writing (1 Unit)** Emphasizes all phases of the composition process, research methods, and critical thinking. Careful review of student papers and reports. May be repeated for credit with different topic.

**ENGLISH 105-7 College Seminar (1 Unit)** Small, writing and discussion-oriented course exploring a specific topic or theme, and introducing skills

necessary to thriving at Northwestern. Not eligible to be applied towards a WCAS major or minor except where specifically indicated.

**ENGLISH 105-8 First-Year Writing Seminar (1 Unit)** Small, writing and discussion-oriented course exploring a specific topic or theme, and focused on the fundamentals of effective, college-level written communication. Not eligible to be applied towards a WCAS major or minor except where specifically indicated.

**ENGLISH 106-1 Writing in Special Contexts (0.5 Unit)** Introduction to expository writing similar to ENGLISH 105-0 but paired with a course in another discipline.

**ENGLISH 106-2 Writing in Special Contexts (0.5 Unit)** Introduction to expository writing similar to ENGLISH 105-0 but paired with a course in another discipline.

**ENGLISH 200-0 Literary Histories (1 Unit)** Content varies, but all versions of this course engage with at least 200 years of literature from a particular tradition, genre, or theme, with an emphasis on literary history and narratives of continuity and change over time. Suitable for majors and non-majors. No prior knowledge of the field is expected. May be repeated for credit with a different topic. *Literature Fine Arts Distro Area Literature and Arts Foundational Discipline*

**ENGLISH 202-0 Introduction to Creative Writing (1 Unit)** Forms and techniques of poetry, fiction, and creative nonfiction.

**ENGLISH 205-0 Intermediate Composition (1 Unit)** Expository writing at an intermediate level. Emphasis on techniques for writing clearly, precisely, and persuasively. May be repeated for credit with different topic.

**ENGLISH 206-0 Reading & Writing Poetry (1 Unit)** Forms and techniques of verse. May not be taken earlier than winter quarter of the first year. Seniors may enroll only with department consent.

**ENGLISH 207-0 Reading and Writing Fiction (1 Unit)** Forms and techniques of fiction.

**ENGLISH 208-0 Reading & Writing Creative Non-Fiction (1 Unit)** Forms and techniques of creative nonfiction.

**ENGLISH 209-0 Topics in Genre Writing (1 Unit)** Forms and techniques of genre writing (e.g., screenwriting, young adult fiction, adaptation, memoir). May be repeated for credit with different topic.

**ENGLISH 210-1 British Literary Traditions (1 Unit)** Chronological survey of British literature in its cultural contexts from Beowulf to the 18th century. Suitable for majors and nonmajors. No prior knowledge of the field is expected. *Literature Fine Arts Distro Area Literature and Arts Foundational Discipline*

**ENGLISH 210-2 British Literary Traditions (1 Unit)** Chronological survey of British literature in its cultural contexts from the late 18th century to the present day. Suitable for majors and nonmajors. No prior knowledge of the field is expected. *Literature Fine Arts Distro Area Literature and Arts Foundational Discipline*

**ENGLISH 211-0 Introduction to Poetry (1 Unit)** Introduction to poetic analysis across a wide range of authors and periods, with emphasis on poetry's formal elements, genre conventions, and the historical, material, and cultural conditions that shape them. Suitable for majors and nonmajors. No prior knowledge of the field is expected. *Literature Fine Arts Distro Area Literature and Arts Foundational Discipline*

**ENGLISH 212-0 Introduction to Drama (1 Unit)** Introduction to the fundamental elements of drama as perceived in performance, exploring how dramatic works communicate from text to stage to audience. Suitable for majors and non-majors. No prior knowledge of the field is

expected. *Literature Fine Arts Distro Area Literature and Arts Foundational Discipline*

**ENGLISH 213-0 Introduction to Fiction (1 Unit)** Introduction to the analysis of prose fiction from the 18th century to the present day, with special attention to narrative strategies and their historical and cultural contexts. Suitable for majors and nonmajors. No prior knowledge of the field is expected. *Literature Fine Arts Distro Area Literature and Arts Foundational Discipline*

**ENGLISH 214-0 Introduction to Film and Its Literatures (1 Unit)** Introduction to the theory and practice of formal film analysis. Students will gain a critical overview of multiple forms of film-related writing, including historical scholarship, film theory, popular reviews, legal documents, manifestos, and movie-inspired fiction. Suitable for majors and nonmajors. No prior knowledge of the field is expected. *Literature Fine Arts Distro Area Literature and Arts Foundational Discipline*

**ENGLISH 215-0 Topics in Literature, Film, and Media (1 Unit)** In contrast to ENGLISH 214-0, which introduces students to a wider mix of literary, cinematic, and media traditions, this course explores specific topics, forms, periods, or genres in greater depth. Suitable for majors and non-majors. No prior knowledge of the field is expected. *Literature Fine Arts Distro Area Literature and Arts Foundational Discipline*

**ENGLISH 220-0 The Bible as Literature (1 Unit)** Selected books of the Hebrew bible and New Testament studied from a literary perspective. Students will consider issues of plot, character, genre, narrative strategy, and theories of interpretation. Suitable for majors and nonmajors. No prior knowledge of the field is expected. Students may not receive credit if they took the same class as the former COMP\_LIT 210-0. *Ethical and Evaluative Thinking Foundational Disci Ethics Values Distro Area Interdisciplinary Distro* - See Rules (<https://catalogs.northwestern.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/#schoolrequirements>) *Literature Fine Arts Distro Area Literature and Arts Foundational Discipline*

**ENGLISH 234-0 Introduction to Shakespeare (1 Unit)** Introduction to representative Shakespearean plays, including comedies, tragedies, and romances. Suitable for majors and nonmajors. No prior knowledge of the field is expected. *Literature Fine Arts Distro Area Literature and Arts Foundational Discipline*

**ENGLISH 265-0 Introduction to Postcolonial Literature (1 Unit)** Introduces the field of postcolonial literary studies, including a critical overview of key terms and major debates. Students will read selected postcolonial literary works, paying particular attention to their formal properties, alongside theoretical and historical texts on colonialism and its aftermath. Suitable for majors and nonmajors. No prior knowledge of the field is expected. *Global Perspectives on Power, Justice, and Equity Literature Fine Arts Distro Area Literature and Arts Foundational Discipline*

**ENGLISH 266-0 Introduction to African American Literature (1 Unit)** Literature of Black people in the United States from slavery to freedom. Works of major writers and significant but unsung bards of the past. ENGLISH 266-0 and BLK\_ST 210-0 are taught together; may receive credit for only 1 of these courses. Suitable for majors and non-majors. No prior knowledge of the field is expected. *Literature Fine Arts Distro Area Literature and Arts Foundational Discipline U.S. Perspectives on Power, Justice, and Equity*

**ENGLISH 267-0 Topics in African American Literature (1 Unit)** Content varies. In contrast to ENGLISH 266-0, which offers a broad survey of the field, this course explores particular topics in African American literature in greater depth. Suitable for majors and non-majors. No prior knowledge of the field is expected. May be repeated for credit with a different topic.

*Literature Fine Arts Distro Area Literature and Arts Foundational Discipline*  
*U.S. Perspectives on Power, Justice, and Equity*

**ENGLISH 270-1 American Literary Traditions (1 Unit)** Representative writers and works of American literature in cultural context. Works discussed range from culture contact to the Civil War. Suitable for majors and non-majors. No prior knowledge of the field is expected. *Literature Fine Arts Distro Area Literature and Arts Foundational Discipline*

**ENGLISH 270-2 American Literary Traditions (1 Unit)** Representative 19th- and 20th-century works of American literature in cultural context. Suitable for majors and non-majors. No prior knowledge of the field is expected. *Literature Fine Arts Distro Area Literature and Arts Foundational Discipline*

**ENGLISH 273-0 Introduction to 20th-Century American Literature (1 Unit)** Representative works of American literature since World War I. Suitable for majors and non-majors. No prior knowledge of the field is expected. *Literature Fine Arts Distro Area Literature and Arts Foundational Discipline*

**ENGLISH 274-0 Introduction to Native American and Indigenous Literatures (1 Unit)** Survey of Native American and Indigenous literatures from pre-contact periods to the present. Suitable for majors and non-majors. No prior knowledge of the field is expected. *Literature Fine Arts Distro Area Literature and Arts Foundational Discipline U.S. Perspectives on Power, Justice, and Equity*

**ENGLISH 275-0 Introduction to Asian American Literature (1 Unit)** Survey of Asian American literature from the early 20th century to the present, covering a range of genres and ethnicities. Suitable for majors and non-majors. No prior knowledge of the field is expected. Taught with ASIAN\_AM 275-0; may receive credit for only 1 of these courses. *Literature Fine Arts Distro Area Literature and Arts Foundational Discipline U.S. Perspectives on Power, Justice, and Equity*

**ENGLISH 276-0 Topics in Asian American Literature (1 Unit)** Content varies. In contrast to ENGLISH 275-0, which offers a broad survey of the field, this course explores particular topics in Asian American literature in greater depth. Suitable for majors and non-majors. No prior knowledge of the field is expected. Taught with ASIAN\_AM 276-0. May be repeated for credit with a different topic. *Literature Fine Arts Distro Area Literature and Arts Foundational Discipline U.S. Perspectives on Power, Justice, and Equity*

**ENGLISH 277-0 Introduction to Latinx Literature (1 Unit)** Surveys major writers and movements from the Spanish colonial era to the present, covering a range of genres and ethnicities. Suitable for majors and non-majors. No prior knowledge of the field is expected. Taught with LATINO 277-0 and SPANISH 277-0; may receive credit for only 1 of these courses. *Literature Fine Arts Distro Area Literature and Arts Foundational Discipline U.S. Perspectives on Power, Justice, and Equity*

**ENGLISH 280-0 Topics in Multiethnic Literature (1 Unit)** Although content varies depending on the specific course topic, all versions of this course examine the ways in which American ethnic identity has been constructed and discussed through literature. Suitable for majors and non-majors. No prior knowledge of the field is expected. May be repeated for credit with a different topic. *Literature Fine Arts Distro Area Literature and Arts Foundational Discipline U.S. Perspectives on Power, Justice, and Equity*

**ENGLISH 281-0 Topics in Postcolonial & Comparative Literatures (1 Unit)** Content varies. In contrast to ENGLISH 280-0, which offers a broad survey of the field, this course explores particular topics in postcolonial and comparative literatures in greater depth. Suitable for majors and non-majors. No prior knowledge of the field is expected. May be repeated for credit with a different topic. *Global Perspectives on Power, Justice,*

*and Equity Literature Fine Arts Distro Area Literature and Arts Foundational Discipline*

**ENGLISH 282-0 Writing and Speaking in Business (1 Unit)** Emphasizes writing and speaking to inform and persuade audiences in business contexts to achieve business goals. Attention to clear, compelling, and well-organized written and oral communication.

**ENGLISH 283-0 Introduction to Literature and the Environment (1 Unit)** Studies in literature and other media oriented by ecological thinking. An introduction to the ways in which language, literature, and aesthetic production shape ideas about nature, varying widely across historical and cultural contexts. Suitable for majors and nonmajors. No prior knowledge of the field is expected. ENGLISH 283-0 taught with ENVR\_POL 283-0; may not receive credit for both. *Literature Fine Arts Distro Area Literature and Arts Foundational Discipline*

**ENGLISH 284-0 Topics in Literature and the Environment (1 Unit)** Content varies. In contrast to ENGLISH 283-0, which offers a broad survey of the field, this course explores particular topics in greater depth. Suitable for majors and non-majors. No prior knowledge of the field is expected. May be repeated for credit with a different topic. ENGLISH 284-0 and ENVR\_POL 284-0 are taught together. *Literature Fine Arts Distro Area Literature and Arts Foundational Discipline*

**ENGLISH 285-0 Topics in Literature and Culture (1 Unit)** Although content varies depending on the course topic, all versions of this course explore literary texts in their cultural contexts. Suitable for majors and non-majors. No prior knowledge of the field is expected. May be repeated for credit with a different topic. *Literature Fine Arts Distro Area Literature and Arts Foundational Discipline*

**ENGLISH 287-0 Topics in Global Literatures (1 Unit)** Although content varies depending on the course topic, all versions of this course explore literary texts written outside of Britain and the United States. Suitable for majors and non-majors. No prior knowledge of the field is expected. May be repeated for credit with a different topic. *Global Perspectives on Power, Justice, and Equity Literature Fine Arts Distro Area Literature and Arts Foundational Discipline*

**ENGLISH 288-0 Topics in Literature and Ethics (1 Unit)** Although content varies depending on the course topic, all versions of this course explore literary texts that emerge from, and speak back to, ethical and/or religious traditions. Suitable for majors and non-majors. No prior knowledge of the field is expected. May be repeated for credit with a different topic. *Ethical and Evaluative Thinking Foundational Discipline Values Distro Area Literature Fine Arts Distro Area Literature and Arts Foundational Discipline*

**ENGLISH 300-0 Seminar in Reading and Interpretation (1 Unit)** Close reading of literary works in the light of various critical methodologies in literary study, with an emphasis on developing skills in qualitative analysis and oral and written expression. Required for English literature majors and minors and Creative Writing majors; recommended for Creative Writing minors. Offers good preparation for higher-level literary study. May be taken only once. *Advanced Expression Literature Fine Arts Distro Area Literature and Arts Foundational Discipline*

**ENGLISH 302-0 History of the English Language (1 Unit)** Examines the history of English from its origins to the present day, with particular attention to the relationship between language and social power, including efforts to elevate the status of certain forms of English and the dynamics of self-consciously "low" registers of language such as slang and obscenity. Recommended for students with prior coursework in English, History, or Linguistics. *Historical Studies Distro Area Historical Studies Foundational Discipline Interdisciplinary Distro - See Rules (<https://catalogs.northwestern.edu/>)*



undergraduate/arts-sciences/#schoolrequirementstext) *Literature Fine Arts Distro Area Literature and Arts Foundational Discipline*

**ENGLISH 304-0 Practical Rhetoric (1 Unit)** The theory of writing and skills that underlie good writing; primarily for teachers in secondary schools and universities.

**ENGLISH 305-0 Advanced Composition (1 Unit)** This course is for undergraduate students in their second year or above who want to develop their abilities to write in different styles and for different audiences. *Advanced Expression*

**ENGLISH 306-0 Advanced Poetry Writing (1 Unit)** Content varies. May be repeated for credit with different topic. Prerequisite: ENGLISH 206-0, ENGLISH 207-0, ENGLISH 208-0, or Department consent.

**ENGLISH 307-0 Advanced Fiction Writing (1 Unit)** Content varies. May be repeated for credit with different topic. Prerequisite: ENGLISH 206-0, ENGLISH 207-0, ENGLISH 208-0, or Department consent.

**ENGLISH 308-0 Advanced Creative Nonfiction Writing (1 Unit)** Content varies. May be repeated for credit with different topic. Prerequisite: ENGLISH 206-0, ENGLISH 207-0, ENGLISH 208-0, or department consent.

**ENGLISH 309-0 Advanced Creative Cross-Genre Writing (1 Unit)** Content varies. May be repeated twice for credit with a different topic. Prerequisite: ENGLISH 206-0, ENGLISH 207-0, ENGLISH 208-0, or department consent.

#### **ENGLISH 310-0 Studies in Literary Genres (1 Unit)**

Although content varies depending on the course topic, all versions of this course examine the history, deployment, and function of literary genres in a range of texts and periods. Recommended for students with prior coursework in English or a related discipline. May be repeated for credit with a different topic.

*Advanced Expression Literature Fine Arts Distro Area Literature and Arts Foundational Discipline*

#### **ENGLISH 311-0 Studies in Poetry (1 Unit)**

Although content varies depending on the course topic, all versions of this course explore a wide range of authors and periods, with emphasis on poetry's formal elements, genre conventions, and the historical, material, and cultural conditions that shape them. Recommended for students with prior coursework in English or a related discipline. May be repeated for credit with a different topic.

*Advanced Expression Literature Fine Arts Distro Area Literature and Arts Foundational Discipline*

#### **ENGLISH 312-0 Studies in Drama (1 Unit)**

Although content varies depending on the course topic, all versions of this course explore elements of drama as perceived in performance, examining how dramatic works communicate from text to stage to audience. Recommended for students with prior coursework in English, Theatre, Performance Studies, or a related discipline. May be repeated for credit with a different topic.

*Advanced Expression Literature Fine Arts Distro Area Literature and Arts Foundational Discipline*

#### **ENGLISH 313-0 Studies in Fiction (1 Unit)**

Although content varies depending on the course topic, all versions of this course examine how authors have developed and contested fictional forms across a range of texts and periods, with special attention to narrative strategies and their historical and cultural contexts. Recommended for students with prior coursework in English or a related discipline. May be repeated for credit with a different topic.

*Advanced Expression Literature Fine Arts Distro Area Literature and Arts Foundational Discipline*

#### **ENGLISH 322-0 Medieval Drama (1 Unit)**

Examines the 15th-century English mystery cycles, miracle plays, and morality plays in their cultural contexts. Recommended for students with prior coursework in English, Theater, Performance Studies, or a related discipline. May be repeated for credit with a different topic.

*Advanced Expression Literature Fine Arts Distro Area Literature and Arts Foundational Discipline*

#### **ENGLISH 323-1 Medieval Poetry (1 Unit)**

Although content varies depending on the course topic, all versions of this course examine medieval narrative and lyric poetry in their cultural contexts. Recommended for students with prior coursework in English or a related discipline. May be repeated for credit with a different topic.

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#### **ENGLISH 324-0 Studies in Medieval Literature (1 Unit)**

Although content varies depending on the course topic, all versions of this course examine literature composed during the Middle Ages (c. 500 – c. 1500) across a range of potential themes, forms, and genres. Recommended for students with prior coursework in English or a related discipline. May be repeated for credit with a different topic.

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#### **ENGLISH 331-0 Renaissance Poetry (1 Unit)**

Although content varies depending on the course topic, all versions of this course examine narrative and/or lyric poetry from the early modern period (c. 1500 – 1660) in its cultural context. Recommended for students with prior coursework in English or a related discipline. May be repeated for credit with a different topic.

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#### **ENGLISH 332-0 Renaissance Drama (1 Unit)**

Although content varies depending on the course topic, all versions of this course examine dramatic works from the early modern period (c. 1500 – 1660) in their cultural contexts. Authors studied may include Shakespeare, Marlowe, Jonson, Webster. Recommended for students with prior coursework in English, Theater, Performance Studies, or a related discipline. May be repeated for credit with a different topic.

*Advanced Expression Literature Fine Arts Distro Area Literature and Arts Foundational Discipline*

#### **ENGLISH 338-0 Studies in Renaissance Literature (1 Unit)**

Although content varies depending on the course topic, all versions of this course examine works from the early modern period (c. 1500 – 1660), exploring both literary forms and cultural contexts. Recommended for students with prior coursework in English or a related discipline. May be repeated for credit with a different topic.

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#### **ENGLISH 339-0 Studies in Shakespeare (1 Unit)**

Although content varies depending on the course topic, all versions of this course examine the works of Shakespeare in their cultural contexts. Recommended for students with prior coursework in English, Theater, Performance Studies, or a related discipline. May be repeated for credit with a different topic.

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#### **ENGLISH 340-0 Studies in 18th-Century Literature (1 Unit)**

Although content varies depending on the course topic, all versions of this course explore works composed in the 18th century in their intellectual and cultural contexts. Potential genres include poetry, fiction, and nonfiction. Recommended for students with prior coursework in

English or a related discipline. May be repeated for credit with a different topic.

*Advanced Expression Literature Fine Arts Distro Area Literature and Arts Foundational Discipline*

#### **ENGLISH 344-0 18th-Century Fiction (1 Unit)**

Although content varies depending on the course topic, all versions of this course examine 18th century prose fiction, with attention to the development of the novel as literary form. Authors may include Austen, Burney, Defoe, Equiano, Fielding, Radcliffe, Richardson, Sterne. Recommended for students with prior coursework in English or a related discipline. May be repeated for credit with a different topic.

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#### **ENGLISH 351-0 Romantic Poetry (1 Unit)**

Although content varies depending on the course topic, all versions of this course examine poetry composed during the Romantic era (c. 1790-1850) in its cultural context. Authors may include Blake, Wordsworth, Coleridge, Byron, Shelley, Keats. Recommended for students with prior coursework in English or a related discipline. May be repeated for credit with a different topic.

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#### **ENGLISH 353-0 Studies in Romantic Literature (1 Unit)**

Although content varies depending on the course topic, all versions of this course examine literature composed during the Romantic period (c. 1790-1850) in its cultural context. Recommended for students with prior coursework in English or a related discipline. May be repeated for credit with a different topic.

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#### **ENGLISH 357-0 19th-Century British Fiction (1 Unit)**

Although content varies depending on the course topic, all versions of this course examine 19th century prose fiction in its cultural context, with attention to the development of the novel as a literary form. Authors may include Shelley, the Brontë sisters, Collins, Dickens, Eliot, Gaskell, Hardy, James, Thackeray, Trollope, Wilde. Recommended for students with prior coursework in English or a related discipline. May be repeated for credit with a different topic.

*Advanced Expression Literature Fine Arts Distro Area Literature and Arts Foundational Discipline*

#### **ENGLISH 359-0 Studies in 19th-Century Literature (1 Unit)**

Although content varies depending on the course topic, all versions of this course examine literature written in English between 1800 and 1900. Students will consider how genre, narrative form, style, and cultural context shaped this era of literature. Recommended for students with prior coursework in English or a related discipline. May be repeated for credit with a different topic.

*Advanced Expression Literature Fine Arts Distro Area Literature and Arts Foundational Discipline*

#### **ENGLISH 361-0 20th and 21st Century Poetry (1 Unit)**

Although content varies depending on the course topic, all versions of this course explore 20th and 21st century lyric and narrative poetry. Will explore how modern and contemporary poetry creates meaning and elicits response, examining both forms and contexts. Recommended for students with prior coursework in English or a related discipline. May be repeated for credit with different topic.

*Advanced Expression Literature Fine Arts Distro Area Literature and Arts Foundational Discipline*

#### **ENGLISH 363-0 20th and 21st Century Fiction (1 Unit)**

Although content varies depending on the course topic, all versions of this course examine 20th and 21st century prose fiction in its cultural contexts. Students will consider how authors used genre and narrative form to explore identity and grapple with aspects of modernity and postmodernity. Recommended for students with prior coursework in English or a related discipline. May be repeated for credit with different topic.

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#### **ENGLISH 365-0 Studies in Postcolonial Literature (1 Unit)**

Although content varies depending on the course topic, all versions of this course examine postcolonial literary works produced outside of Britain and the United States. Students will read selected works, examine their formal properties, and consider theoretical and historical texts on colonialism and its aftermath. Recommended for students with prior coursework in English or a related discipline. May be repeated for credit with a different topic.

*Advanced Expression Global Perspectives on Power, Justice, and Equity Literature Fine Arts Distro Area Literature and Arts Foundational Discipline*

#### **ENGLISH 366-0 Studies in African American Literature (1 Unit)**

Although content varies depending on the course topic, all versions of this course examine African American literature in its cultural contexts. Students will read selected primary texts alongside theoretical works. Recommended for students with prior coursework in English, Black Studies, or a related discipline. May be repeated for credit with a different topic.

*Literature Fine Arts Distro Area Literature and Arts Foundational Discipline U.S. Perspectives on Power, Justice, and Equity*

#### **ENGLISH 368-0 Studies in 20th- and 21st-Century Literature (1 Unit)**

Although content varies depending on the course topic, all versions of this course examine literature of the 20th and 21st centuries in its cultural contexts. Students will consider how writers use genre, form, and style to explore identity and grapple with aspects of modernity and postmodernity. Recommended for students with prior coursework in English or a related discipline. May be repeated for credit with a different topic.

*Advanced Expression Literature Fine Arts Distro Area Literature and Arts Foundational Discipline*

#### **ENGLISH 369-0 Studies in African Literature (1 Unit)**

Although content varies depending on the course topic, all versions of this course explore literature written by African authors, with an emphasis on 20th and 21st century Anglophone texts. Students will read selected primary texts alongside essential theoretical works. Recommended for students with prior coursework in English, African Studies, or a related discipline. May be repeated for credit with a different topic.

*Advanced Expression Global Perspectives on Power, Justice, and Equity Literature Fine Arts Distro Area Literature and Arts Foundational Discipline*

#### **ENGLISH 371-0 American Novel (1 Unit)**

Although content varies depending on the course topic, all versions of this course situate American novels within their cultural contexts. Recommended for students with prior coursework in English or a related discipline. May be repeated for credit with a different topic.

*Advanced Expression Literature Fine Arts Distro Area Literature and Arts Foundational Discipline*

#### **ENGLISH 372-0 American Poetry (1 Unit)**

Although content varies depending on the course topic, all versions of this course examine American poetry in its cultural contexts. Students will consider poetry's formal elements, genre conventions, and the historical, material, and cultural conditions that shape them.

Recommended for students with prior coursework in English or a related discipline. May be repeated for credit with a different topic.

*Advanced Expression Literature Fine Arts Distro Area Literature and Arts Foundational Discipline*

#### **ENGLISH 374-0 Studies in Native American and Indigenous Literatures (1 Unit)**

Although content varies depending on the course topic, all versions of this course explore Native American and Indigenous literatures in their cultural contexts. Texts may be drawn from any era from the pre-contact period to the present. Recommended for students with prior coursework in English, Native American and Indigenous Studies, or a related discipline. May be repeated for credit with a different topic.

*Advanced Expression Literature Fine Arts Distro Area Literature and Arts Foundational Discipline U.S. Perspectives on Power, Justice, and Equity*

**ENGLISH 375-0 Studies in Asian American Literature (1 Unit)** Although content varies depending on the course topic, all versions of this course explore Asian American literature in its cultural contexts. Selected texts range from the early 20th century to the present and engage with a range of genres and ethnicities. Recommended for students with prior coursework in English, Asian American Studies, or a related discipline. May be repeated for credit with a different topic. *Advanced Expression Literature Fine Arts Distro Area Literature and Arts Foundational Discipline U.S. Perspectives on Power, Justice, and Equity*

**ENGLISH 377-0 Topics in Latinx Literature (1 Unit)** Although content varies depending on the course topic, all versions of this course examine Latinx literature in its cultural contexts. Selected texts range from the Spanish colonial era to the present and engage with a range of genres and ethnicities. Recommended for students with prior coursework in English, Latinx Studies, or a related discipline. May be repeated for credit with a different topic. ENGLISH 377-0 taught with LATINO 377-0. *Advanced Expression Literature Fine Arts Distro Area Literature and Arts Foundational Discipline U.S. Perspectives on Power, Justice, and Equity*

#### **ENGLISH 378-0 Studies in American Literature (1 Unit)**

Although content varies depending on the course topic, all versions of this course explore American literature from the contact period to the present day. Recommended for students with prior coursework in English or a related discipline. May be repeated for credit with a different topic.

*Advanced Expression Literature Fine Arts Distro Area Literature and Arts Foundational Discipline*

#### **ENGLISH 380-0 Studies in Multiethnic American Literature (1 Unit)**

Although content varies depending on the specific course topic, all versions of this course examine the ways in which American ethnic identity has been constructed and discussed in literary works. Recommended for students with prior coursework in English, Asian American Studies, Black Studies, Latinx Studies, or a related discipline. May be repeated for credit with different topic.

*Advanced Expression Literature Fine Arts Distro Area Literature and Arts Foundational Discipline U.S. Perspectives on Power, Justice, and Equity*

**ENGLISH 381-0 Literature & Medicine (1 Unit)** Although content varies depending on the course topic, all versions of this course explore medicine through a variety of literary media. Potential subjects of study include illness, ageing, medical treatment, wellness culture, and doctor-patient relationships. Recommended for students with prior coursework in English, pre-health fields, or related disciplines. May be repeated for credit with a different topic. *Advanced Expression Literature Fine Arts Distro Area Literature and Arts Foundational Discipline*

**ENGLISH 382-0 Literature and Law (1 Unit)** Although content varies depending on the course topic, all versions of this course explore the representation of law in literature and culture, and how law uses

language. Students may perform literary analyses of legal discourse alongside literary texts. Recommended for students with prior coursework in English, Legal Studies, or a related discipline. May be repeated for credit with different topic. *Literature Fine Arts Distro Area Literature and Arts Foundational Discipline*

#### **ENGLISH 383-0 Special Topics in Theory (1 Unit)**

Although content varies depending on the course topic, all versions of this course examine literature and culture through the lens of key topics and debates in literary theory. Recommended for students with prior coursework in English or a related discipline. May be repeated for credit with a different topic.

*Advanced Expression Literature Fine Arts Distro Area Literature and Arts Foundational Discipline*

#### **ENGLISH 384-0 Studies in Literature and the Environment (1 Unit)**

Although content varies depending on the course topic, all versions of this course examine the ways in which language, literature, and aesthetic production shape ideas about nature, varying widely across historical and cross-cultural contexts. Potential subjects of study include the literature of climate crisis, environmental racism and justice, human and nonhuman relations, catastrophe studies, ecopoetics, and the energy humanities. Recommended for students with prior coursework in English, Environmental Policy and Culture, or related disciplines. May be repeated for credit with different topic.

*Literature Fine Arts Distro Area Literature and Arts Foundational Discipline*

#### **ENGLISH 385-0 Studies in Literature and Culture (3 Units)**

Although content varies depending on the course topic, all versions of this course explore the intersection between literature and culture. Recommended for students with prior coursework in English or a related discipline. May be repeated for credit with a different topic.

*Advanced Expression Literature Fine Arts Distro Area Literature and Arts Foundational Discipline*

#### **ENGLISH 386-0 Studies in Literature and Film (1 Unit)**

Although content varies depending on the course topic, all versions of this course explore literature and film as complementary modes of narrative communication. Recommended for students with prior coursework in English, Radio/Television/Film, or related disciplines. May be repeated for credit with a different topic.

*Advanced Expression Literature Fine Arts Distro Area Literature and Arts Foundational Discipline*

**ENGLISH 388-0 Studies in Literature and Ethics (1 Unit)** Although content varies depending on the course topic, all versions of this course explore literary texts that emerge from, and speak back to, ethical and/or religious traditions. Recommended for students with prior coursework in English, Religious Studies, Philosophy, or related disciplines. May be repeated for credit with a different topic. *Advanced Expression Ethical and Evaluative Thinking Foundational Disci Ethics Values Distro Area Interdisciplinary Distro* - See Rules (<https://catalogs.northwestern.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/#schoolrequirementstext>) *Literature Fine Arts Distro Area Literature and Arts Foundational Discipline*

#### **ENGLISH 389-0 Studies in Gender, Sexuality and Embodiment (1 Unit)**

Although content varies depending on the course topic, all versions of this course explore gender, sexuality, and embodiment. Students will examine literature and literary theories with a particular emphasis on the tangibility of the body. Possible topics include women's writing, LGBTQ + literature, and disability studies. Recommended for students with prior coursework in English, Gender and Sexuality Studies, or a related discipline. May be repeated for credit with a different topic.

*Literature Fine Arts Distro Area Literature and Arts Foundational Discipline*

**ENGLISH 392-0 The Situation of Writing (1 Unit)** The sociology of writers, writing, publication, dissemination of literature, and reading. Prerequisite: admission to writing major.

**ENGLISH 393-1 Theory and Practice of Poetry (1 Unit)** Tenets of poetry in English, including prosody, form, metaphor, voice, experimentation; involves intensive writing practice and culminates in the production of a long poem. Prerequisite: admission to creative writing sequence.

**ENGLISH 393-2 Theory and Practice of Poetry (1 Unit)** Tenets of poetry in English, including prosody, form, metaphor, voice, experimentation; involves intensive writing practice and culminates in the production of a long poem. Prerequisite: admission to creative writing sequence.

**ENGLISH 393-3 Theory and Practice of Poetry (1 Unit)** Tenets of poetry in English, including prosody, form, metaphor, voice, experimentation; involves intensive writing practice and culminates in the production of a long poem. Prerequisite: admission to creative writing sequence.

**ENGLISH 394-1 Theory & Practice of Fiction (1 Unit)** Tenets of fictional realism and its substitutes; practice in different applications of plot, narrative technique, point of view; culminates in the writing of a novella. Prerequisite: admission to creative writing sequence.

**ENGLISH 394-2 Theory & Practice of Fiction (1 Unit)** Tenets of fictional realism and its substitutes; practice in different applications of plot, narrative technique, point of view; culminates in the writing of a novella. Prerequisite: admission to creative writing sequence.

**ENGLISH 394-3 Theory & Practice of Fiction (1 Unit)** Tenets of fictional realism and its substitutes; practice in different applications of plot, narrative technique, point of view; culminates in the writing of a novella. Prerequisite: admission to creative writing sequence.

**ENGLISH 395-1 Theory and Practice of Creative Nonfiction (1 Unit)** Tenets of creative nonfiction; practice in different styles, form, and modes; culminates in the writing of a long creative nonfiction project. Prerequisite: admission to creative writing sequence.

**ENGLISH 395-2 Theory and Practice of Creative Nonfiction (1 Unit)** Tenets of creative nonfiction; practice in different styles, form, and modes; culminates in the writing of a long creative nonfiction project. Prerequisite: admission to creative writing sequence.

**ENGLISH 395-3 Theory and Practice of Creative Nonfiction (1 Unit)** Tenets of creative nonfiction; practice in different styles, form, and modes; culminates in the writing of a long creative nonfiction project. Prerequisite: admission to creative writing sequence.

**ENGLISH 397-0 Research Seminar for Literature Majors (1 Unit)** Although content varies depending on the course topic, all versions of this course teach the advanced research skills needed to write an extended essay on a literary topic. Students will learn how to develop an original argument and situate it within appropriate theoretical and literary critical frameworks. Required for English literature majors and recommended for English literature minors. Students are generally ready to take English 397 after successfully completing 4-6 300-level literature courses. Students intending to pursue honors in English literature must take this course no later than spring quarter of the junior year. May be repeated for credit with a different topic with departmental permission. *Advanced Expression Literature Fine Arts Distro Area Literature and Arts Foundational Discipline*

**ENGLISH 398-1 Honors Sequence (1 Unit)** The first course in a two-course sequence for seniors preparing an honors essay in the literature major. Students pursue individual research topics under the direction of the departmental honors coordinator and a faculty advisor. Admission by

application only. Students will receive a K grade pending completion of the honors thesis.

**ENGLISH 398-2 Honors Sequence (1 Unit)** The second course in a two-course sequence for seniors preparing an honors essay in the literature major. Students pursue individual research topics under the direction of the departmental honors coordinator and a faculty advisor. Admission by application only. Students will receive a K grade pending completion of the honors thesis.

**ENGLISH 399-0 Independent Study (1 Unit)** Individual projects with faculty guidance. Open to majors with junior or senior standing and to senior minors. May be elected two times, but only 1 unit at a time. Prerequisite: consent of department.