



The University of Akron

Buchtel College of Arts & Sciences

English Department Bulletin

**Program Descriptions
and Requirements**

*Last revised:
October 15, 2019*

I. Tentative Schedules:

Spring 2020
(subject to change)

II. Course Descriptions:

Spring 2020
(subject to change)

www.uakron.edu/english

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

This issue of The University of Akron English Department *Course Bulletin* reflects the efforts on the part of the Department faculty to enrich the Department curriculum. In addition to courses in Shakespeare, English Literature, American literature, and international literature, a wide range of writing and linguistics courses are offered for undergraduate and graduate students. Prospective students will find upcoming courses described by the professors who will teach them. These descriptions provide the student with a clearer outline of course content and requirements than can be found in either The University of Akron's *General Bulletin* or the class schedule bulletin which is issued by the University. Courses are arranged in this *Course Bulletin* in numerical order. Courses which satisfy the Shakespeare, linguistics, and world/multicultural literature requirements, as well as the minor requirements are identified in the course descriptions.

The English faculty hopes this bulletin will be helpful to counselors and students in planning the best possible selection of major courses and electives.

The Department of English requires that students complete freshman composition before enrolling in other English courses. The following courses DO NOT count toward the English major or minor degree requirements: 3300:111; 3300:112; 3300:250; 3300:252; and 3300:281.

The University of Akron
English Department

Course Bulletin

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Courses that satisfy degree requirements for the B.A.

Note: If a course does not automatically drop in to satisfy the requirement in the DPR system, email undergraduate advisor Dr. Biddinger at marybid@uakron.edu for assistance, including the name of the course, your student number, and the requirement that it should be fulfilling. Some courses need to be manually applied in the DPR in order to fulfill requirements.

Spring 2020

One Course in World/Multicultural Lit:

3300: 350 Black American Literature

3300: 362 World Literatures

3300: 367 The Rhetoric of God

3300: 389 Ethnic Women in Literature

One Course in British Lit. After 1800:

3300: 425 Studies in Romanticism

3300: 489 Fantasy

One Course in American Lit. After 1865:

3300: 350 Black American Literature

3300: 389 Comics in America

3300: 389 Ethnic Women in Literature

3300: 489 Fantasy

One Literature Course in Fiction:

3300: 389 Comics in America

3300: 389 Ethnic Women in Literature

3300:425 Studies in Romanticism

3300: 489 Fantasy

One Course in Poetry:

3300: 425 Studies in Romanticism

3300: 489 New Poetry

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE B.A. DEGREE MAJOR IN ENGLISH (330000BA)

The Department of English urges all English majors to meet with the English Department Advisor at least once a year to discuss their progress toward the degree.

GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS.

Complete General Education requirements.

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES BACCALAUREATE DEGREE REQUIREMENTS.

1. You must complete at least three credits of mathematics or statistics (excluding 3450:100 Intermediate Algebra) earned in the Department of Theoretical & Applied Mathematics or the Department of Statistics.
2. You must complete a minimum of 120 credits.
3. You must complete a minimum of 40 semester credits of 300-400 level courses, exclusive of General Education courses and workshops.
4. You must complete the second year of a foreign language.
5. You must complete the requirements for the English major. These are (a) You must earn a minimum 2.20 GPA in all University of Akron coursework (b) 36 credits in English, including (c) each of the following courses, in which you must earn a C- or higher.

3300:300 Critical Reading and Writing

3300:301 English Literature 1

3300:315 Shakespeare: Early Plays OR 3300:316 Shakespeare: Mature Plays

3300:341 American Literature 1

3300:371 Introduction to Linguistics OR 3300:400 Anglo-Saxon

OR 3300:470 History of the English Language

3300:492 Senior Seminar (not any senior seminar; only 3300:492, our capstone course)

(d) And you must complete at least three additional courses at the 400-level. (Workshops cannot be used for this requirement.

(e) And you must complete enough additional electives to have at least 36 credits in English.

***NOTE:** Courses 3300:111, 3300:112, 3300:250, 3300:252, and 3300:281 DO NOT count toward the English major or minor degree requirements.

(f) And you must satisfy the following distribution requirements. Your coursework in English must include:

One course in world or multicultural literature outside the canon of British and American writers, • one course in British literature after 1800, • one course in American literature after 1865, • one literature course in poetry, • one literature course in fiction.

Note that one course can fulfill multiple distribution requirements.

(g) Finally, you must earn a minimum 2.20 gpa in all coursework in English at the University of Akron, including transfer work.

MINORS IN ENGLISH

Minor in English (330000M) Any 18 hours of courses in the English Department, with at least 6 of those hours at the 300/400 level.

Minor in Professional Writing (330006M)

- A) 3300:390 Professional Writing 1*
- B) 3300:391 Professional Writing 2*
- C) ONE specialized writing course from the following
 - a) 3300:376 Legal Writing or b) 3300:479 Management Reports
- D) ONE linguistics or language course in the English Department
- E) TWO courses from any of the writing, language, or literature offerings of the English Dept.
**3300:390 and 3300:391 do not have to be taken in sequence*

Minor in Creative Writing (330007M): Total credits: 18

- Two introductory creative writing courses (Min. Credits: 6.0) from:
 - ~ 3300:276 Introduction to Creative Nonfiction Writing
 - ~ 3300:277 Introduction to Poetry Writing
 - ~ 3300:278 Introduction to Fiction Writing
 - ~ 3300:279 Introduction to Script Writing
- At least one advanced creative writing course (Min. Credits: 3.0) from:
 - ~3300:377 Advanced Poetry Writing
 - ~3300:378 Advanced Fiction Writing
 - ~3300:379 Advanced Script Writing
 - ~3300:381 Advanced Creative Nonfiction Writing
- 3300:457 Writers on Writing
- Two additional courses in any form of creative writing or literature from Department offerings, 300 or 400 level.

Minor in Popular Literature and Film. (33009M)

12 hours of courses in popular literature or film at the 300/400 level in the English Department. 6 hours of courses in any literature or film topics at any level in the English Department.

*NOTE: The following courses taken to fulfill specific requirements in the **English major CANNOT** also be used to fulfill the 18 hours requirement in this minor: 3300:300 Critical Reading & Writing; 3300:301 English Literature 1; 3300:315 Shakespeare: Early; 3300:316 Shakespeare: Mature; 3300:341 American Literature 1; one course in world or multicultural literature.*

Minor in African-American Literature and Language. (330011M)

Any 18 hours of African-American literature and language courses.

Students must achieve an overall GPA of at least 2.0 to earn the minor.

Courses 3300:111, 3300:112, 3300:250, 3300:252, and 3300:281 DO NOT count toward any minor degree requirements.

If a student desires a minor from the same department/school as their major, there is a college requirement for a minimum of nine (9) non-overlapping credits between the minor and the major, as well as between the minor and other minor programs in the department/school.

Procedures for Minors: See the department advisor for information and guidance. Take the required courses. Then, when applying for graduation, fill out an application for minor(s) form and turn it in with your graduation application. Your college record will document the minor(s) you have earned. Forms are available in the department.

UNDERGRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN LINGUISTIC STUDIES

330008C

Dr. Grace Zhang
wz23@uakron.edu

Completion of six linguistically oriented courses is required as follows: the foundation course, two core courses and at least three elective courses. Three or more of the courses must be at the 300/400 level. (Subject to approval by the program director, other theoretically oriented linguistics courses may substitute for core courses.)

To obtain the certificate, the student must have at least two semesters of a second language. A student entering the program should discuss plans with the director.

Foundation (Required) Credits

3300:371 Introduction to Linguistics	3
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Core (Minimum of two of the following)

3300:472 Syntax	3
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3600:481 Philosophy of Language	3
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7700:230 Language Science and Acquisition	3
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or

7700:430 Aspects of Normal Language Development	3
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Electives

3300:400 Anglo Saxon	3
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3300:470 History of the English Language	3
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3300:471 U.S. Dialects: Black and White	3
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3300:473 ST: Teaching ESL: Theory and Method*	3
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3300:489 ST: Sociolinguistics	3
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3460:460 Artificial Intelligence and Heuristics Programming	3
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3580:405,6 Spanish Linguistics	8
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3600:170 Introduction to Logic	3
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3600:374 Symbolic Logic	3
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3600:418 20th Century Analytic Philosophy	3
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3600:471 Metaphysics	3
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5200:335 Teaching of Language Arts	5
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7600:325 Intercultural Communication	2
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7700:210 Introduction to Clinical Phonetics	4
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7700:101 American Sign Language I	3
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* Course name changed to *Theoretical Foundations & Principles of ESL*

UNDERGRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN PROFESSIONAL COMMUNICATION

770008C

Dr. Amanda Booher
abooh@uakron.edu

The program will help meet our technological society's growing need for educated people who can develop sophisticated strategies for effective communication of business and technical information. People in the business community increasingly depend on communication to solve complex management, sales and information processing problems. The communication demands of business and industry are significant, and in many ways, different from those dealt with in traditional courses and majors. This certificate will recognize their preparation for handling the communication needs of business and industry, and must be earned concurrently with an undergraduate (associate or bachelor's) degree. A student who already possesses an undergraduate degree may directly pursue this certificate.

Program Credits

3300:390 Professional Writing I*	3
3300:391 Professional Writing II*	3
7600:309 Public Relations Publications	3
7600:345 Business and Professional Speaking	3

Because all four courses have prerequisites, students should consult course descriptions.

3300:390 and 3300:391 do not have to be taken in sequence

UNDERGRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN TEACHING ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

Dr. Grace Zhang
wz23@uakron.edu

This program is intended for both native and non-native speakers of English who seek training in the teaching of English as a second language (ESL) and wish to obtain an initial qualification to teach ESL/EFL in educational settings other than public schools in Ohio or in countries outside the United States.

The program is designed to introduce the student to central issues in the theory and practice of teaching English to non-native speakers through courses in modern and applied linguistics, in second language pedagogy, and in related disciplines.

Students who do not have English as a native language must demonstrate adequate proficiency in English with a valid TOEFL score of 550 (paper based)/213 (computer based)/79 (Internet based/iBT) or higher, or a valid IELTS score of 6.0 or higher. The awarding of this certificate is not contingent upon completion of a degree program. Undergraduate certificate programs require a 2.00 grade-point average.

- Students admitted with an undergraduate status are required to take 3300:111 English Composition I and 3300:112 English Composition II prior to applying for the certificate.
- All students who wish to pursue the TESL certificate should meet with the program director to discuss the program and availability of courses.
- To apply for the certificate, fill out the "ADD Certificate" form with the certificate advisor. After all requirements are completed, fill out the "Undergraduate Certificate Program Application" with the certificate advisor.

Undergraduate Program: 330003C

This certificate requires the completion of a minimum of 18 credit hours of course work, including five core courses and one elective course.

Core Courses (Min. Credits: 15)

- 3300:371 Introduction to Linguistics 3
OR
3300:466 Linguistics and Language Arts 3
- 3300:473 Theoretical Foundations and Principles of ESL* 3
- 3300:478 Grammatical Structures of English 3
- 5500:487 Techniques of Teaching English as a Second Language 3
- 3300:477 Sociolinguistics 3
OR
3300:486 Learner English 3

Electives (Min. Credits: 3)**

- 3300:470 History of English Language 3
- 3300:472 Syntax 3
- 3300:477 Sociolinguistics 3
- 3300:487 Field Experience: Teaching Second Language Learners 3
- 5500:485 Teaching Language Literacy to Second Language Learners 3
- 7600:325 Intercultural Communication 3
- 7700:230 Language Science & Acquisition 3
- 7700:430 Aspects of Normal Language Development 3

GRADUATE PROGRAMS IN ENGLISH

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

The English Department requires for acceptance into the M.A. program a B.A. in English, a minor in English, or other suitable course preparation.

To qualify for full admission, a student must meet the Graduate School requirement of a minimum overall GPA of 2.75 for four years or 3.0 over the last two years.

The application must be completed online at the following website: <https://app.applyyourself.com/?id=uakron-g>. Applicants must request that official transcripts of undergraduate and, if applicable, graduate work be sent to the Graduate School. A nonrefundable application fee is also required. Applications should be received at least six weeks prior to registration, which may occur in the fall, spring, or summer terms. To qualify for provisional admission, the Graduate School requires a minimum overall GPA of 2.5 over four years or 2.75 over the last two years. A student whose GPA falls below 2.75 or who lacks the B.A. in English may be granted deferred admission and given post-baccalaureate status, which is a probationary category.

Applicants to the NEOMFA in Creative Writing must be accepted by the Graduate School at The University of Akron or one of the other three participating universities. They must also submit three letters of recommendation, transcripts, and a writing portfolio. The portfolio will be reviewed by an admissions committee of members from all four universities. Applicants using The University of Akron as a “gateway” school for the MFA must additionally satisfy the requirements for the M.A. program listed above.

For those students admitted to the NEOMFA program, up to nine credits from previously uncompleted graduate degrees may be accepted for transfer credit. Of the nine elective

FINANCIAL AID

Graduate Assistantships

Graduate assistantships in the Department of English are awarded on a competitive basis to M.F.A. students. Applications for fall appointments will be accepted until February 1. Students may renew twice, for a total of three years of support.

Along with the [application form](#) and letter of application, applicants for assistantships must submit a clean copy of a writing sample in the form of a typed essay completed in a college course (5-10 pages), two [letters of recommendation](#), and scores from the general section of the Graduate Record Examination. All assistantship application materials must be submitted on paper. Please mail (not email) all materials directly to the Graduate Coordinator in care of the English Department.

The letter of application should address:

- 1) why you are interested in the position
- 2) what prepares you for the position both as far as your work history and academic preparation, and
- 3) how your experiences and interests would contribute to the program’s academic atmosphere.

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE M.A. IN ENGLISH (330000MAT)

Admission Requirements

Requirements for the Master of Arts Degree in English

The MA in English provides students with a strong practical and theoretical grounding as they prepare to move forward into careers or into graduate and professional schools. Students will learn 1) advanced methods for deeper study of literatures written in English, 2) the fundamentals of Composition as a discipline, and 3) practical writing skills through courses in professional and rhetorical writing. Courses will place texts within wider cultural and multicultural debates. Through assigned writings, students will articulate informed viewpoints on real-world issues and practice various forms of professional and critical writing, learning to interpret texts in contexts ranging from academic debate to the contemporary classroom to a variety of professional settings.

A minimum of 30 credits is required.

Core classes for all MA Students consist of the following 18 credits at the 600 level:

- 3300:611: Argumentation and Research Writing
- 3300:673: Theories of Composition
- 3300:665: Literary Criticism OR 690: Critical Approaches to Literature
- One additional 600-level literature course
- 3300:689: Grant Writing OR 3300:689: Professional Writing Theory and Practice
- Capstone (3 credit hours):

3300:699: Thesis

OR

3300:698 Individual Reading in English/Portfolio

In this option, students complete a Portfolio based on the revision and presentation of 3-6 course artifacts, at least one of which is an academic paper.

Students must take 12 additional credit hours in English, selecting from classes listed in the Course Bulletin that are offered at either the 500 or 600-level.

Admission Requirements

In addition to the graduate application and official transcripts, applicants must submit a statement of purpose to The Department of English by mail or email at englishsa2@uakron.edu.

Application Deadline

Applications to the master's degree program in English are accepted on a rolling basis.

Assistantship/Scholarship Information

All assistantships (and any fellowships) are awarded through the academic department. Students interested in obtaining an assistantship must apply. New students may indicate on their online application for admission that they would like to be considered for an assistantship. Students admitted as non-degree seeking or to a certificate program may not hold an assistantship.

Financial Aid Information

Paying for college is a vital part of the education process! It is important to be informed of the many sources of aid available. Student loans are available to degree-seeking graduate students. Information on student loans can be found through the [Office of Student Financial Aid](#). The Office of Student Financial Aid is located in Simmons Hall.

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MASTER OF FINE ARTS IN CREATIVE WRITING (NEOMFA) (330007MFA)

The University of Akron, Cleveland State University, Kent State University, and Youngstown State University offer jointly the MFA in Creative Writing. This degree provides students with opportunities to develop their skills in writing fiction, poetry, drama, and creative nonfiction. The MFA is the terminal degree. Through extensive practice in workshops and craft and theory courses, students will develop their creative writing abilities while also studying literature and completing a relevant internship.

Admission Requirements

Students must be accepted by the Graduate School at The University of Akron or one of the other three participating universities. Applicants must also submit three letters of recommendation, transcripts, and a writing portfolio. The portfolio will be reviewed by an admissions committee of members from all four universities. Applications must be submitted by January 15.

The deadline for all assistantships in the Department of English is March 1.

Degree Requirements

Students must complete the following courses among the participating universities:

Writing Workshops	15 credits
Craft and Theory Courses	9 credits
Literature Courses	6 credits
Internship	3 credits
Thesis	6 credits
Electives	9 credits

A total of 48 credit hours is required for the MFA in Creative Writing.

Up to nine credits from previously uncompleted graduate degrees may be accepted for transfer credit in the NEOMFA program.

Questions should be directed to:

Professor David Giffels

Olin 349

dg36@uakron.edu

More information is available at www.uakron.edu/neomfa.

GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN LITERATURE

330010GC

Dr. Hillary Nunn, *Coordinator*
nunn@uakron.edu

Requirements

To be eligible for the graduate certificate in literature, a person must be admitted to the University as a graduate student (with either full or provisional status). An eligible person interested in the program should contact the Certificate Coordinator.

Of the five required courses (15 credits), two must be core courses, Chaucer and Shakespearean Drama, four of the five courses must be at the 600-level; and one must be in American literature.

Core Courses

3300:506 Chaucer*	3
3300:615 Shakespearean Drama	3

***unless the student has passed a comparable course with a grade of B or better.**

All students who wish to pursue a certificate program must apply for admission to the certificate program through the Graduate School regardless of whether or not they are current graduate students. More information can be found at the Graduate School Website: <http://www/uakron.edu/gradsch/apply-online/certifiprog.dot>

(330002GC)

*Students should have successfully completed 3300:371 or 3300:566 prior to taking

GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN COMPOSITION
(330002GC)

Dr. Lance Svehla, *Coordinator*

lms3@uakron.edu

Requirements

To be eligible for the certificate in composition, a person must be admitted to the University as a graduate student (with either full or provisional status). An eligible person interested in the program should contact the certificate coordinator.

Required Courses

3300:673 Theories of Composition	3
3300:674 Research Methodologies in Composition	3
OR	
3300:676 Theory and Teaching of Basic Composition	3

Electives* (9 credits from the following list chosen with the certificate director)

3300:600 Teaching Coll Comp Practicum	3
3300:625 Autobiographical Writing	3
3300:650 New Rhetorics	3
3300:651 The Pragmatists	3
3300:660 Cultural Studies	3
3300:670 Modern Linguistics	3
3300:679 Scholarly Writing	3
3300:574 African-American English	3
3300:577 Sociolinguistics	3
3300:578 Grammatical Structures of English	3

*Other courses may be considered in consultation with the director.

All students who wish to pursue a certificate program must apply for admission to the certificate program through Graduate School regardless of whether or not they are current graduate students. More information can be found at the Graduate School Website: <http://www.uakron.edu/gradsch/apply-online/certifiprog.dot>. Once the coursework for the certificate has been completed, students should apply for graduation in MyAkron.

GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN TEACHING ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

330003GC

Dr. Grace Zhang, *Coordinator*

wz23@uakron.edu

This program is intended for both native and non-native speakers of English who seek training in the teaching of English as a second language (ESL) and wish to obtain an initial qualification to teach ESL/EFL (English as a foreign language) in educational settings other than public schools in Ohio or in countries outside the United States. For Ohio qualification in teaching ESL in the Ohio public school system, see the TESOL Endorsement requirements in the College of Education section of the graduate bulletin.

The program is designed to introduce the student to the central issues in the theory and practice of teaching English to non-native speakers through courses in modern and applied linguistics, in second language pedagogy and in related disciplines.

Students who do not have English as a native language must demonstrate adequate proficiency in English with a valid TOEFL score of at least 550 (paper-based), 213 (computer-based), or 79 (internet-based) or a valid IELTS score of 6.5 or higher.

The awarding of this certificate is not contingent upon completion of a degree program. A minimum grade point average of 3.0 is required. Graduate students must apply for the certificate program through the Graduate School.

All students who wish to pursue the TESL certificate should meet with the certificate coordinator director to discuss the program and availability of courses.

The certificate requires the completion of a minimum of 18 credit hours of course work, including five core courses and one elective course.

Core Requirements (Min. Credits: 15)

● 3300:566 Linguistics and Language Arts	3
● 3300:573 Theoretical Foundations and Principles of ESL*	3
● 3300:578 Grammatical Structures of English	3
● 5500:543 Techniques of Teaching English as a Second Language	3
● 3300:577 Sociolinguistics OR 3300:586 Learner English	3

Electives ** (Min. Credits: 3):

3300:570 History of English Language	3
3300:572 Syntax	3
3300:577 Sociolinguistics	3
3300:587 Field Experience: Teaching Second Language Learners	3
5500:541 Teaching Language Literacy to Second Language Learners	3
7700:530 Aspects of Normal Language Development	3

*Students should have successfully completed 3300:371 or 3300:566 prior to taking

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

SPRING 2020 (4201)

January 13, 2020—May 3, 2020

Tentative Schedule of Classes

Course No.	Title	Day	Time		Instructor
3300:252-002	Shakespeare & His World (DL)	TTh	1:15 - 2:30		Rhoades
3300:275-002	Specialized Business Writing	MW	11:45 - 1:00		Stoyhoff
3300:275-003	Specialized Business Writing	TTh	10:15 - 11:30		Embree
3300:275-004	Specialized Business Writing	TTh	11:45 - 1:00		Booher
3300:279-001	Intro to Script Writing	TTh	10:15 - 11:30		Svehla
3300:281-001	Fiction Appreciation	TTh	10:15 - 11:30		TBA
3300:281-002	Fiction Appreciation	TTh	11:45 - 1:00		Thelin
3300:281-003	Fiction Appreciation	MW	2:45 - 4:00		Miller
3300:281-004	Fiction Appreciation	MW	10:15 - 11:30		Chura
3300:283-001	Film Appreciation	MW	10:15 - 11:30		Heldenfels
3300:283-002	Film Appreciation	MW	1:15 - 2:30		Drew
3300:283-003	Film Appreciation	TTh	11:45 - 1:00		TBD
3300:300-801	Critical Reading & Writing	TTh	10:15 - 11:30		Bolton
3300:301-002	English Literature I	MW	10:15 - 11:30		Ambrisco
3300:315-001	Shakespeare: Early Plays	MW	1:15 - 2:30		Ceccio
3300:341-001	American Literature I	TTh	11:45 - 1:00		Chura
3300:350-001	Black American Literature	TTh	2:45 - 4:00		Chura
3300:362-001	World Literatures	MW	11:45 - 1:00		Ambrisco
3300:367-001	Rhetoric of God	TTh	2:45 - 4:00		Svehla
3300:371-001	Introduction to Linguistics	MW	11:45 - 1:00		Sarvis
3300:378-001	Advanced Fiction Writing	MW	1:15 - 2:30		Wasserman
3300:380-001	Film Criticism	MW	10:15 - 11:30		Wasserman

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

SPRING 2020 (420I)

January 13, 2020—May 3, 2020

Tentative Schedule of Classes

Course No.	Title	Day	Time		Instructor
3300:381-001	Adv. Creative Nonfiction Writing	TTh	1:15 - 2:30		Giffels
3300:389-001	Ethnic Women in Literature	TTh	1:15 - 2:30		Bolton
3300:389-002	Comics in America	TTh	1:15 - 2:30		Svehla
3300:403/503-001	Arthurian Legend	TTh	1:15 - 2:30		Ambrisco
3300:425-001	Studies in Romanticism	MW	1:15 - 2:30		Braun
3300:447/557-001	Writers on Writing	TTh	11:45 - 1:00		Giffels
3300:473/573-801	Theoretical Foundations and Principles of ESL	T	5:20 - 7:50		TBA
3300:489/589-001	Fantasy	MW	2:45 - 4:00		Wasserman
3300:489/589-002	New Poetry	MW	11:45 - 1:00		Biddinger
3300:489/589-802	Y.A. Fiction Writing	MW	11:45 - 1:00		Drew
3300:492-801	Senior Seminar	MW	2:45 - 4:00		Nunn
3300:615-501	Shakespearean Drama	Online	Online	Online	Nunn
3300:674-501	Research Methods	Online	Online	Online	Thelin
3300:677-001	Science Writing	TTh	1:15- - 2:30		Booher
3300:689-801	Digital Humanites	M	5:20 - 7:50		Nunn
3300:689-802	Craft & Theory of Poetry***	Th	5:20 - 7:50		Biddinger
3300:689-803	Craft & Theory of Creative Nonfiction***	W	5:20 - 7:50		Giffels
3300:689-804	Disability Studies	T	5:20 - 7:50		Booher
3300:689-805	Scholarly Editing & Publishing	M	5:20 - 7:50		Miller

***Class is restricted to NEOMFA students

Course Descriptions

252 Shakespeare & His World

3 credit hours

An introduction to the works of Shakespeare. Each section studies a representative selection of Shakespeare's plays and/or poems. *Satisfies the General Education Tier II: Disciplinary Area Courses "Humanities" Requirement. CANNOT be used to fulfill the English department requirements.*

275 Specialized Writing: Business

3 credit hours

Business Writing provides instruction and extensive practice in writing effective memos, letters, and short reports for typical business situations. A special feature is the preparation of a résumé. And practice in job application letters. Successful approaches for conducting job interviews are also included. *Recommended for students planning to work in business and industry.*

279 Intro to Script Writing

3 credit hours

A course in developing the visual imagination. Craft scenes, create characters, write dialogue, Construct plot-arcs and learn screenplay formatting. Class will be a small, informal group responding to each other's scripts. *Satisfies the Minor in Creative Writing requirement.*

281 Fiction Appreciation

3 credit hours

Close reading of modern masters of short story and novel. *Satisfies the General Education Tier II: Disciplinary Area Courses "Humanities" Requirement. CANNOT be used to fulfill the English Department requirements.*

283 Film Appreciation -

3 credit hours

An introduction to viewing and exploring movies as a serious form of literary narrative. An emphasis on artistry and techniques put into the context of motion picture history and some of the most important movements. Attention will be paid to a wide variety of film periods and movie genres ranging from the golden age of the Hollywood studio system to modern times. *Satisfies the Minor in Popular Literature & Film requirement. Satisfies the General Education Tier II: Disciplinary Area Courses "Arts" Requirement.*

300 Critical Reading & Writing

3 credit hours

An introduction to English studies, focusing on critical methods for reading and writing about literature, with attention to research skills and uses of computer technology. *Satisfies the English major requirement.*

301 English Literature I

3 credit hours

Studies in English Literature from Old English to 1800, with emphasis upon specific representative works and upon the cultural and intellectual backgrounds which produced them. Literature to be read will include both major and minor poetry, drama and prose. *Satisfies the English major requirement.*

315 Shakespeare: Early Plays

3 credit hours

Introduction to early drama of Shakespeare with close reading of tragedies, history and comedies. Includes explanatory lectures of both the plays and their backgrounds. *Satisfies the English Major Requirement.*

341 American Literature I

3 credit hours

Historical survey of major and minor American writers to 1865. *Satisfies the English major requirement.*

Course Descriptions

350 Black American Literature

3 credit hours

Survey of African-American literature beginning with the vernacular tradition—spirituals, folktales—and continuing with a chronological assessment of 18th, 19th, and 20th century prose, poetry, and drama written by Americans of African ancestry. *Satisfies the English major world/multicultural literature requirement, American Literature after 1865 requirement, the requirement for Education majors.*

362 World Literatures

3 credit hours

This course explores literatures of the non-western world through representative works. *Satisfies the English major world/multicultural literature requirement and the world literature requirement for Education majors.*

367 Rhetoric of God

3 credit hours

This course examines the rhetorical attempts of poets, mystics, philosophers, saints, and sinners to represent the unrepresentable in language. We will scrutinize passages from American Transcendentalism, the Bible, Buddhism, the Gnostic gospels, Greek rhetoric, the Koran, Meta-physical poetry, the Upanishads, Taoism, and the Torah to ponder whether the Divine can be captured in language. We will also consider works that question language's ability to point to, carry, or reference the transcendent. Central to our examination will be a consideration of the nature of language and the purpose of rhetoric. No background in rhetorical theory is required or needed. *Satisfies the world/multicultural literature requirement.*

371 Introduction to Linguistics

3 credit hours

Scientific introduction to the study of written and spoken linguistic behavior in English. History of English, varieties of English, and acquisition of English are also introduced. *Satisfies the English major requirement and is required for the Certificate in Linguistic Studies.*

378 Advanced Fiction Writing

3 credit hours

This course is an advanced workshop in fiction writing, and as such gives almost exclusive attention to the original creative work of students. Our class sessions will be almost entirely discussion-based with minor lecturing on occasion by the instructor on aspects of the craft students should become aware of, such as opening narrative space, controlling content, and balancing the delicate relationship between an author, her/his characters and a story's narrator. We will be using our own creative manuscripts to hone and refine our craft. Short exercises will contribute to individual story development. Submissions will consist of current, original work composed this specific semester. Please do not submit older material. *This course satisfies the minor in creative writing requirement.*

380 Film Criticism

3 credit hours

An exploration of the art of how films are critiqued and the important place of the critic in the culture of movies. Students will acquire and hone similar techniques utilized by professional film critics and

will implement them in a variety of different ways. Special focus on exercising intellectual honesty throughout the entire critical process. *Satisfies the Minor in Popular Literature and Film requirement*

381 Advanced Creative Nonfiction Writing

3 credit hours

This course workshops original creative nonfiction produced by students, and explores the genre through close-reading, analysis, and evaluation of published essays in both academic and popular media. *Satisfies the Minor in Creative Writing requirement.*

Course Descriptions

389 Ethnic Women in Literature

3 credit hours

Begins by exploring the literature of and by women of color, supported by information about personal and social lives in different cultures. Analyzes cultural patterns of communication that advocate socio-political change in order to create a more humane, equitable world. Reading includes six novels. A writing intensive course. Satisfies the English major world/multicultural literature requirement.

389 Comics in America

3 credit hours

In this course we will study the craft, importance, and evolution of the American graphic novel. From the early super hero comics of William Eisner (*The Spirit*) to the alternative/realistic comics of Art Spiegelman (*Maus*) to the modern comics of such writers as Neil Gaiman (*Sandman*), Alan Moore (*Watchmen*), Frank Miller (*The Dark Knight Returns*), and Warren Ellis (*Transmetropolitan*), we will consider how comics both reflect and shape American culture.

403/503 Arthurian Legend

3 credit hours

This course traces the evolution of the Arthurian legends from the 6th to the 15th centuries. We'll consider the historical context in which legends of Arthur first appeared before we trace the legend's development in Welsh, English, French, and German literature. We'll also discuss the continuing appeal of this idealized king and his chivalric round table for later cultures. All texts will be in modern English translation. Satisfies the minor in popular literature and film requirement.

425 Studies in Romanticism

3 credit hours

This survey focuses on features, events, and moods of the Romantic period in British literature. We will examine how late eighteenth- and early nineteenth-century writers influenced contemporary perspectives on poetry, the imagination, and the natural world. Topics will include the Gothic novel, the ballad revival, revolution and rebellion, early feminism, and the sublime. By the end of this course, you will be able to identify major themes, historical shifts, and overlaps between literary movements and to engage critically with texts in class, online, and in formal essays. Satisfies English major requirements for a course in British Literature after 1800, a course in poetry, and a course in fiction.

457/557 Writers on Writing

3 credit hours

Writers on Writing is a course about the writing life, and in this section we will discuss inspiration, process, craft, and revision, and the ways writers develop both individual pieces and an entire body of work. We will read the various texts of this class as practitioners seeking insight on the work of others, as well as our own. In addition to considering the philosophical aspects of being a writer, we will address issues of literary citizenship, and practical topics regarding publishing creative work and remaining productive beyond a degree program. *Satisfies the minor in Creative Writing requirement.*

473/573 Theoretical Foundations and Principles of ESL

3 credit hours

This course surveys the theories in second language acquisition and teaching methodologies in second language teaching. Principles of the teaching of English as a second language based on research in linguistics, psycholinguistics, and second language pedagogy are explored in lectures, structured readings, discussions, and projects.

489/589 Fantasy

3 credit hours

This exciting seminar will take students on a serious and enthusiastic journey from the birth of the modern Fantasy genre, through its unfortunate many years of dismissal by literary elitists and snobs, then all the way to the modern Fantasy story becoming a respected artistic form. We will not just explore the classics that encompass the foundation of Fantasy but also timeless gems, overlooked texts deserving respect, graphic novels, and recent selections that have solidified Fantasy being embraced as part of mainstream literature instead of remaining an outlier. The course will not just include written material. Fantasy has a long and rich history and

connection to cinema and television. Therefore, visual texts will be a strong component of the class. We will look at how fantastical stories and imagined worlds can at times possibly express more about humanity and our own complex world than a straightforward domestic narrative. Most importantly, students will rethink exactly what they might consider to actually be Fantasy stories.

489/589 New Poetry

3 credit hours

In this course we will study stylistic and thematic trends in the work of a diverse assortment of contemporary American poets. We will discuss collections of poems by innovative writers, while also exploring new poetry in other publications. Class participation and attendance are essential. Assignments include critical essays and creative mimetic exercises. *Satisfies the English major requirement for American Literature after 1865 and the poetry requirement. Satisfies the M.A. in Literature requirement for American Literature 1865-present.*

489/589 Young Adult Fiction Writing

3 credit hours

This course is organized as an intensive writers' workshop. Students will conceptualize and begin work on an original, single creative writing project: the YA novel. Readings will cover genres, market expectations, characteristics of the "break-out" novel, queries and other publication realities. Discussion and workshops will focus on craft.

492 Senior Seminar

3 credit hours

This Senior Seminar focuses on literary depictions of revenge and forgiveness, as well as the cultural meaning and effects of these acts. Through our study of dramas, novels, short stories, and poems, we'll consider presentations of revenge – its perpetrators, victims, and witnesses – in different cultural settings; in addition, we will consider what factors inspire individuals and cultures to set aside vengeful impulses in favor of other forms of justice or even reconciliation. Since this is a senior seminar, we will round out the semester by sharing ideas about liberal arts education and the merits of the English degree.

615 Shakespearean Drama

3 credit hours

This seminar will deal with Shakespeare as a professional dramatist in the Early Modern English theatre. Although various approaches may be used, the primary focus will be on text, performance, and theatrical conditions, both contemporary and modern. Satisfies M.A. in Literature requirement for British literature up to 1660 and the Shakespeare requirement if needed.

674 Research Methods

3 credit hours

This course will give you the opportunity to examine and explore various research methodologies in the field of composition studies, including ethnographic research, sociolinguistics and discourse analysis, teacher research, and case studies. This hands-on course that requires you to learn by *doing*, which means you'll be designing research projects, collecting and analyzing data, drawing implications and writing up your findings. *Requirement for the M.A. in composition.*

677 Science Writing

3 Credit Hours

The course will teach students the theory and practice of writing scientific discourse, including grants, proposals, journal articles, public science writing, and other relevant genres. Students will also work on English grammar, punctuation, usage, diction, and other conventions of writing.

689 Digital Humanities**3 credit hours**

This course offers an introduction to the field of Digital Humanities. The class involves using digital tools to experience literary, cultural, and historical texts. We will investigate how digital technologies shape our experiences of texts and research, as well as how understanding these technologies can lead to new creative and analytical projects. We will consider how digital thinking is shaping new scholarship and writing, as well as how it influences the production and preservation of text. The class will involve digital projects, but no previous experience is required.

689 Craft & Theory of Poetry*****3 credit hours**

In this course we will read collections by poets who raise awareness and advocate for social change through their work, while writing our own poems of protest and solidarity. We will discuss poems by Hanif Abdurraquib, Fatimah Asghar, Oliver Baez Bendorf, Erika Meitner, Jillian Weise, and Javier Zamora, among others. Class members will write creative and critical responses to the texts; attendance and participation will be important. Limited to students in the NEOMFA program.

689 Craft & Theory of Creative Nonfiction* 3 credit hours**

This MFA seminar will focus on writing about family in personal essays and memoirs. For personal essayists and memoirists, family members frequently provide the richest, most immediate material. But turning our loved (or not-so-loved) ones into “material” can open a minefield of conflict, anxiety, legality, disagreement and regret. Do you ask permission in advance? Do you trust a relatives’ memory more than your own? Do you reveal dark secrets? Do you show them what you’ve written? We’ll explore these questions and more through close reading of contemporary family memoirs, essays and interviews by writers who’ve been through it, and our own creative nonfiction writing about family. **Please note: limits observed. Limited to NEOMFA students**

689 Disability Studies**3 credit hours**

The language used to describe our bodies and differences has profound impacts on our lives, from representation in media, to issues of medical treatment and legal rights, to those of ethics and competition; from how we treat each other, to how we understand who we are. Though this course, we will examine the theoretical, rhetorical, literary, and experiential constructions of disability, and, interrelatedly, of how we define our abilities and humanity/ies. We will explore disability through discourses and practices, arguments and definitions, the metaphorical and the material, the theoretical and the practical.

689 Scholarly Editing & Publishing**3 credit hours**

This course explains the lifecycle of books from the idea stage to pub day. We’ll go through and study the main skillsets required for success in publishing. The focus will be on academic publishing, but along the way we will also look at the closely related fields of literary publishing, magazine publishing, and commercial publishing. We’ll learn about acquisitions, series, imprints, peer review, editorial boards, copyediting, book design, proofreading, marketing, and inventory management. We’ll talk about working with freelancers and how to find work as a freelancer. We’ll examine the history of each of these stages in book production. We’ll look at the production schedule of The University of Akron Press and learn how multiple book projects are coordinated and managed. As a literature course, Scholarly Editing and Publishing also teaches textual criticism in this publishing context. Working with the Library of Congress’s newspaper archive, *Chronicling America*, students will author literary editions for possible publication in the journal *Nineteenth-Century Ohio Literature*. <https://ideaexchange.uakron.edu/nineteenthcenturyohioliterature/>.

Notes

Student Groups

The Literary Guild & The Upstart Crows

The Literary Guild is a group of graduate and undergraduate students from many majors who are interested in literature and share a common love for the written word. The Literary Guild sponsors a reading group and a writing group, dubbed The Upstart Crows, which hosts “open mic” poetry nights, travels to see plays performed in Akron and Cleveland, and engages in a variety of other intellectual and social activities throughout the year. New members from all majors are always welcome.

Contact Dr. Hillary Nunn (nunn@uakron.edu) for more information.

Stay up to date on Lit Guild events! Go to our Facebook page:
[Lit Guild and Upstart Crows UA](#)

Society of Akron Graduate English Scholars

SAGES is a student organization open to all English graduate students that focuses on helping English graduate students of all tracks (Composition, Fine Arts, and Literature) develop professionally during their time at The University of Akron by providing members with tools to help them publish, present, and prepare for the future. SAGES also strives to promote unity among English graduate students by creating events, providing resources, and visiting places that benefit scholars of all three tracks.

Contact Dr. Hillary Nunn (nunn@uakron.edu) for more information.

DEPARTMENT CONTACTS

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English Department Program Codes

330000BA	English Major
330000M	Minor in English
330006M	Minor in Professional Writing
330007M	Minor in Creative Writing
330009M	Minor in Popular Literature & Film
330011M	Minor in African American Lit & Lang
330000MAT	MA in English
330007MFA	Creative Writing - NEOMFA
330003C	Undergraduate Certificate in TESL
330008C	Undergraduate Certificate in Linguistic Studies
770008C	Undergraduate Certificate in Professional Writing
330002GC	Graduate Certificate in Composition
330003GC	Graduate Certificate in TESL
330010GC	Graduate Certificate in Literature

For updated information and English Department events, visit us at
<http://www.uakron.edu/english>

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