



The University of Akron
Buchtel College of Arts & Sciences

**Program Descriptions
and Requirements**

*Last revised:
November 3, 2020*

**I. Tentative Schedules:
Spring 2021
(subject to change)**

**II. Course Descriptions:
Spring 2021
(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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Spring 2021	14-15
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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 2021

One Course in World/Multicultural Lit:

3300: 389 Sem: Literary Ohio
3300: 350 Black American Literature
3300: 362 World Literatures
3300: 489 Harlem Renaissance

One Course in British Lit. After 1800:

3300: 489 British Women Writers

One Course in American Lit. After 1865:

3300: 389 Sem: Literary Ohio
3300: 389 Comics in America
3300: 389 Sem: Detective Fiction
3300: 350 Black American Literature
3300: 489 Harlem Renaissance

One Literature Course in Fiction:

3300: 389 Comics in America
3300: 389 Sem: Detective Fiction
3300: 489 British Women Writers
3300: 489 Harlem Renaissance

One Course in Poetry:

3300: 489 British Women Writers
3300: 489 Harlem Renaissance

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 any literature distribution areas required by your English major plan (see your DPR for details). 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 Creative Writing (33007M): 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. Wei "Grace" Zhang wz23@uakron.edu

Completion of five linguistically oriented courses is required as follows: the foundation course, two core courses and at least two 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)

3300:371 Introduction to Linguistics OR	3
3300:466 Linguistics and Language Arts	3

Core (Minimum of two of the following)

3300:470 History of the English Language	3
3300:477 Sociolinguistics	3
3300:478 Grammatical Structures of English	3
3600:481 Philosophy of Language	3
7700:230 Language Science and Acquisition OR	3
7700:430 Aspects of Normal Language Development	3

Electives (Minimum of two of the following)

3300:400 Anglo Saxon	3
3300:473 Theoretical Foundations and Principles of ESL	3
3230:150 Human Cultures	3
3230:251 Human Diversity	3
3460:430 Theory of Programming Languages	3
3460:440 Compiler Design	3
3460:460 Artificial Intelligence and Heuristics Programming	3
3580:403 Advanced Grammar	3
3600:170 Introduction to Logic	3
3600:374 Symbolic Logic	3
3600:418 20th Century Analytic Philosophy	3
3600:471 Metaphysics	3
3700:402 Politics and the Media	3
3700:403 Media, Crime and Public Opinion	3
7600:325 Intercultural Communication	3
7700:101 American Sign Language	3
7700:210 Introduction to Clinical Phonetics	3

**UNDERGRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN
PROFESSIONAL COMMUNICATION
770008C**

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
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
330003C**

Dr. Wei "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 (English as a Foreign Language) in educational settings other than public schools in Ohio and other states 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 15 credit hours of course work, including four core courses and one elective course.

Core Courses (Min. Credits: 12)

- 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
- 3300:477 Sociolinguistics
OR
3300:470 History of the English Language 3

Electives (Min. Credits: 3)**

- 3300:470 History of the English Language 3
- 3300:477 Sociolinguistics 3
- 3300:487 Field Experience: Teaching Second Language Learners 3
- 3580:403 Advanced Grammar 3
- 5500:456 Scaffolding Language and Content to Second Language Learners 3
- 5500:485 Teaching Language Literacy to Second Language Learners 3
- 5500:487 Techniques of Teaching English as a Second Language 3
- 7600:325 Intercultural Communication 3

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

**Choice to be decided in consultation with the program director.

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 credits, up to six may be from Advisor-approved courses not solely restricted to graduate.

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. Please email all materials directly to the Graduate Coordinator.

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)

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.

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>

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 Lang. 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 2021 (4211)

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF CLASSES

COURSE	TITLE	DAYS	HOURS START	HOURS END	INSTR.	DELIVERY MODE
** NEOMFA Students Only						
275-501	Specialized Writing: Business	Online	Online	Online	Amodio	Online
377-001	Advanced Poetry Writing	TTh	2:00PM	3:15PM	Biddinger	Dual Delivery
689-801	Grad. Writing Seminar: Poetry***	M	5:20 PM	7:50 PM	Biddinger	Online Live
281-001	Fiction Appreciation	MWF	9:40AM	10:30AM	Bolton	Dual Delivery
281-002	Fiction Appreciation	MWF	11:50AM	12:40PM	Bolton	Dual Delivery
350-001	Black American Literature	MWF	12:55PM	1:45PM	Bolton	Dual Delivery
489/589-501	Harlem Renaissance	Online	Online	Online	Bolton	Online
489/589-001	Sem: British Women Writers	TTh	12:15PM	1:30PM	Braun	Online Live
489/589-002	Unclass - Design Your Career	TTh	10:45AM	12:00PM	Braun	Online Live
690-501	Critical Approaches to Literature	Online	Online	Online	Braun	Online
281-003	Fiction Appreciation	TTh	10:45AM	12:00PM	Chura	Online Live
281-004	Fiction Appreciation	TTh	12:15PM	1:30PM	Chura	Online Live
341-001	American Literature I	MWF	12:55PM	1:45PM	Chura	Online Live
492-002	Senior Seminar	MWF	11:50AM	12:40PM	Chura	Online Live
283-502	Film Appreciation	Online	Online	Online	Drew	Online
283-503	Film Appreciation	Online	Online	Online	Drew	Online
378-501	Advanced Fiction Writing	Online	Online	Online	Drew	Online
362-501	World Literatures	Online	Online	Online	Dukes	Online
275-502	Specialized Writing: Business	Online	Online	Online	Embree	Online
381-001	Adv. Creative Nonfiction Writing	TTh	10:45AM	12:00PM	Giffels	Online Live
389-002	Sem: Literary Ohio	TTh	12:15PM	1:30PM	Giffels	Online Live
689-802	Craft & Theory of Creative Nonfiction***	Th	5:20 PM	7:50 PM	Giffels	Online Live

COURSE	TITLE	DAYS	HOURS START	HOURS END	INSTR.	DELIVERY MODE
301-002	English Literature I	TTh	12:15PM	1:30PM	Hebert	Hybrid Groups
283-001	Film Appreciation	MWF	8:35AM	9:25AM	Heldenfels	Online Live
283-002	Film Appreciation	MWF	9:40AM	10:30AM	Heldenfels	Online Live
300-501	Critical Reading & Writing	Online	Online	Online	Miller	Online
457/557-501	Writers on Writing	Online	Online	Online	Miller	Online
252-002	Shakespeare and His World	TTh	1:15PM	2:30PM	Rhoades	Online Live
315-001	Shakespeare: Early Plays	TTh	10:45AM	12:00PM	Rhoades	Online Live
279-001	Intro to Script Writing	TTh	12:15PM	1:30PM	Svehla	Online Live
283-501	Film Appreciation	Online	Online	Online	Svehla	Online
389-501	Sem: Comics in America	Online	Online	Online	Svehla	Online
281-501	Fiction Appreciation	Online	Online	Online	Theлин	Online
389-502	Sem: Detective Fiction	Online	Online	Online	Theлин	Online
689-501	Responding to Student Writing	Online	Online	Online	Theлин	Online
371-501	Intro to Linguistics	Online	Online	Online	Zhang	Online
371-502	Intro to Linguistics	Online	Online	Online	Zhang	Online
473/573-801	Theoretical Foundations and Principles of ESL	T	5:20 PM	7:50 PM	Zhang	Online Live
478/578-001	Grammatical Structures	Th	5:20pm	7:50pm	Zhang	Online Live
573-617	Theoretical Foundations and Principles of ESL	T	5:20 PM	7:50 PM	Zhang	Online Live

Course Descriptions

SPRING 2021

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 Introduction to Script Writing 3 credit hours

Introduction to Script Writing focuses on writing for and in a visual medium. We will study the basics of story concept, visual writing, plot structure, character arcs, conflict arcs, dialogue, and script formatting. The goal of the course is to help students think, read, and write like screenwriters: visual, emotive, and practical. *Satisfies the Minor in Creative Writing Requirement.*

281 Fiction Appreciation 3 credit hrs.

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's 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: The 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.*

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.*

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.*

377 **Advanced Poetry Writing** **3 credit hours**
Extensive practice in writing poetry, with a strong focus on revision and experimentation with new techniques. Consideration of contemporary poems in addition to student works, and discussions on publishing and public reading. Students will create a chapbook of their poetry in this class. *Satisfies the Minor in Creative Writing requirement.*

378 **Advanced Fiction Writing** **3 credit hours**
This course offers advanced study and practice in the craft of narrative prose fiction through a workshop format and selected readings. Students may focus their semester's work on three short stories; a novella and short story; or a novel. Deadlines for new pages and completed manuscript drafts will be set individually; all students will participate in workshops, both as peer readers, offering substantive development notes to others, and as authors, submitting their work for peer review and discussion. Final portfolios will include revised, polished work produced for the course, and a reflective essay on the writing process, next steps for submissions for publication, and a new-projects agenda. *Satisfies the Minor in Creative Writing Requirement.*

381 **Advanced Creative Non-Fiction Writing** **3 credit hours**
This course focuses almost exclusively on drafting, developing, revising, and polishing original works of creative nonfiction. Student writing will be discussed in a workshop setting, designed as a community of writers working together as editors and peers. There will be occasional reading of published work to analyze aspects of the craft. *Satisfies the Minor in Creative Writing requirement.*

389 **ST: Literature and Language: Literary Ohio** **3 credit hours**
In this course, we will explore the rich, varied, occasionally quirky tradition of Ohio literature. Our reading list will focus mainly on writers who were born in Ohio or spent a significant part of their lives here, with particular emphasis on literature that uses the Buckeye State as a setting or theme. The texts will include fiction, nonfiction, poetry, graphic narrative, and film.

389 ST: Literature and Language: 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 superhero 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.

389 ST: Literature and Language: Detective Fiction 3 credit hours

We will trace the origins of fictional detectives in literature but concentrate on the transformation of the genre from one steeped in patriarchal sensibilities to one with gender balance and cultural awareness. Students will experience detective fiction writers from both Britain and the United States.

457/557 Writers on Writing 3 credit hours

Prerequisite: 3300:111 and 3300:112 and Junior standing. A close look at what established writers have to say about the process of writing. Students write response essays and take exams on readings.

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.

478 /578 Grammatical Structure of Modern English 3 credit hours

This course surveys sentence types in English and the component elements of the English sentence. The sentence will be viewed on its own but also as part of larger rhetorical units. In particular, it explores the grammatical structure and properties of modern English in the context of academic language development and beyond. Students are expected to apply the linguistic knowledge and analytic tools learned in this class to analyze content texts and to create teaching strategies for academic language instruction at various levels.

489/589 British Women Writers 3 credit hours

This course explores diverse texts by British women writers who challenge patriarchal modes of authorship over the past two centuries. Through our study of influential female poets and novelists, we will consider topics including female education and literacy; cultural constructions of beauty; madness and monstrosity; waves of feminism; the Angel in the House; and the place of the woman writer today. At the end of the course, you will introduce one new text by a British woman writer that speaks to a dominant theme or idea from the course.

489/580 Sem: Unclass: Design Your Career 3 credit hours

Working with tools from Stanford's Hasso Plattner Institute of Design, this unclass helps students develop a growth mindset and creative confidence to tackle problems and design multiple career paths. As co-designers of this course, you will gather knowledge and feedback from mentors, peers, and local professionals to articulate what gives you purpose and drives you to succeed.

489/589 Sem: Harlem Renaissance 3 credit hours

This special topic course takes for examination a period in the U.S. defined as the Harlem Renaissance. With attention to the socio-political rumblings of the time, we will interrogate the ways in which literary texts selected for study reveal shifting consciousness among people of African descent as it pertains to race, class, and issues of belonging both within and outside of the "black" community, and both within and outside of the nation. Along with these questions are ones we will consider relative to the "Renaissance" aspect of the title. What kinds of challenges, for instance, did certain Negro artists of the

burgeoning, cultural scene of the North face, particularly as it relates to audience, freedom of expression, and securing sponsorship? Finally, what might be said about any distinguishing features that identify a piece as belonging to the Harlem Renaissance period? Is it “periodization,” alone, or something else?

492 Senior Seminar: Literature of the Vietnam War 3 credit hours
A Study of fiction, nonfiction, poetry, film, oral history and drama on topics relating to the cultural legacy of the Vietnam War. The syllabus includes works by Peter Davis, Graham Greene, Philip Caputo, Bobbie Ann Mason, Viet Thanh Nguyen, Diana Dell, Denise Levertov, Wallace Terry and Tim O’Brien. We will also integrate the most comprehensive anthology of music inspired by the Vietnam War, the recently released *Next Stop is Vietnam*. Since this is a senior seminar, we will share ideas about the advantages of a liberal arts education and the merits of the English degree.

689 Seminar : Respond to Student Writing 3 credit hours
An exploration into the theory and research behind contemporary practices of giving students revision comments on their paper. Expect much practical application through sample student papers.

689 Grad Writing Seminar: Poetry (MFA) 3 credit hours
Course Title: *Poems and their Cousins*. This poetry workshop welcomes poems, almost-poems, and maybe-poems, as well as brief lyrical works that defy or transcend genre. We will focus almost exclusively on student writing, with a significant amount of time dedicated to workshopping, but will also have regular discussions about our relationship with genre and how we might redefine it. No books are required, but craft essays and poems (and other poemish things) will be shared throughout the semester for additional reading. Limited to students admitted to the NEOMFA program.

689-802 Sem: Crat & Theory Creative Non-Fiction (MFA) 3 credit hours
A year after the Covid-19 pandemic began, literature is telling its story, just as it always does in troubled times. In this MFA seminar we will examine works of creative nonfiction written and published in the aftermath of crisis, including the Hiroshima bombing, Hurricane Katrina, 9/11, personal loss, and the pandemic itself. Students will write and present critical essays and **produce** their own works of creative nonfiction on the topic of life in the time of Covid. Please note: Enrollment limits observed. Limited to students enrolled in NEOMFA.

690-501 Critical Approaches to Literature 3 credit hours
Critical Approaches to Literature is an online graduate course focusing on critical analysis, literary theory, and research methods. We will analyze poetry, fiction, and drama using a variety of critical lenses to demonstrate the depth and complexity of literary analysis. By the end of the course, you will have a broad knowledge of theories, genres, and historical periods and an ability to articulate and apply your own approaches to diverse critical analysis and literary texts.

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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