

English Department Course Descriptions Summer 2008

ENGL 100 Expository Writing 1

Section A: MTWUF 9:10-10:10; Section B: MTWUF 10:20-11:20--Staff

ENGL 200 Expository Writing 2

Section A: MTWUF 8:00-9:00; Section B: MTWUF 9:10-10:10; Section C: MTWUF 10:20-11:20; Section D: MTWUF 11:30-12:30--Staff

ENGL 320 Short Story

Section A: MTWUF 10:20-12:20--S. Rodgers

Course meets 9 June - 3 July. This course is designed as an introduction to reading and responding to fiction, specifically the short story. We will begin with some early masters of the form like Guy de Maupassant, James Joyce, and Anton Chekhov, in order to gain a historical perspective on the development of the short story. Most of the semester, however, will be spent on American authors, especially stories written in the last fifty years. Class format will include lecture, discussion, group work, and some in-class writing. Requirements include class attendance, quizzes, short writing assignments, and two tests.

ENGL 350 Shakespeare

Section A: MTWUF 10:20-12:20--M. Donnelly

Course meets 9 June - 3 July. An introduction to Shakespeare's plays and how to read, interpret, and understand them as drama and literature. We will read some representative examples of Shakespeare's comedies, histories, tragedies, and romances, attending primarily to the ways in which Shakespeare's language and design create and convey meaning and evoke audience response, but glancing at contemporary critical approaches insofar as the class finds these interesting. Participation in class discussions emphasized. One hour exam, in-class exercises, a comprehensive final examination. Text: G. Blakemore Evans, et al., *The Riverside Shakespeare* (Boston, 1997).

ENGL 355 Literature for Children

Section A: MW 5:30-8:20--M. Glaser [**Permission obtained from English Department, ECS 108, beginning 10 March 2008**]

Course meets 28 May - 16 July. This section of Literature for Children is designed to enable students to develop critical thinking skills through analysis of children's literature. Students will work to improve close reading skills and analytical writing abilities while expanding their knowledge of different genres. The course requires that students examine a variety of texts in order to increase their understanding of diverse cultures and appreciation for varied points of view. Genres include: picture books, poetry, fairy tales, novels, and some critical theory. Authors may include: L. Frank Baum, Kate DiCamillo, Louise Erdrich, Jack Gantos, Louis Sachar, Maurice Sendak, Dr. Seuss, James Marshall, Pam Muñoz Ryan, Lois Lowry, Shel Silverstein, Jack Prelutsky, Rachel Isadora, and Ian Falconer. Requirements: participation, reading quizzes, one paper, and two exams (a midterm and a final).

Enrollment is by permission only (for info, see <<http://www.ksu.edu/English/courses/>>). Priority is given to junior and senior Elementary Education majors who have passed a college-level literature course prior to taking this course; spaces gladly given to non-Education majors if available. English 355 is a General Education Course.

ENGL 400 Expository Writing for Prospective Teachers

Section A: MWTUF 5:30-6:45--R. Mosher

Course meets 27 May - 3 July. Expository Writing for Teachers will ask you to both study and practice the writing process. The aim of this class is to help prepare you to teach writing through studying and discussing composition and rhetoric theory, and practicing the techniques we talk and read about. We will complete five major writing assignments.

ENGL 415 Written Communication for Engineers

Section A: MTWUF 9:10-10:10--R. Friedmann

Section B: MTWUF 10:20-11:20--M. Reekie

Section C: MTWUF 3:00-4:00--C. Debes

Section D: MTWUF 4:10-5:10--S. Anderson

All sections of English 415 meet 9 June - 1 August. Restricted to juniors and seniors in the College of Engineering. This pre-professional writing course provides intensive study of and practice in the techniques and forms characteristic of professional practice. See instructor for further course details.

ENGL 420 Topics in Film: “Horror, Terror, and Violence in Literature and Film”

Section A: MTWUF 9:20-12:20--D. Hedrick

Course meets 7 July - 1 August. What makes us afraid? What is a monster? What is terrorism? Why do we get a thrill from horror, and how are responses different in literature and film? We will explore these and other questions from selected examples in the history of horror in film and literature, from “classics” such as Shelley’s *Frankenstein* or *The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari*, to modern and contemporary writers and filmmakers (Poe, Lovecraft, Oates, Ballard, Hitchcock, Kubrick). There will be collateral reading of theory and criticism, limited consideration of film technique, and exploration of cultural contexts and contemporary relevance. The course will include regular short exercises, two hour exams, and a final project and final exam. Most films will be shown during class, but there may be a few occasional extended or separately scheduled classes in order to accommodate particular showings. Note: Some of the required materials of the course will be disturbing, and perhaps especially offensive to some. While they are presented for understanding rather than approval, enrollment in the course is with the understanding of completing all the readings and viewings.

ENGL 545 Literature for Adolescents

Section A: MW 7:05-9:55--A. Phillips

Course meets 19 May to 9 July. English 545 introduces students to literature that features adolescents as protagonists and depicts conditions and situations familiar to adolescents. Students will study key authors and texts in the field of adolescent literature, acquiring knowledge of both middle school- and high school-appropriate literature and developing expertise in wielding literary theory in a concrete, useful fashion. We'll study some classic works, such as Salinger's *The Catcher in the Rye*, Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird* and Cormier's *The Chocolate War*; we'll screen films such as *Rebel Without a Cause* and *Dirty Dancing*. We'll also survey quality works of literature by such authors as Katherine Paterson, Chris Crutcher, S. Morgenstern, and Walter Dean Myers that draw thought-provoking connections between adolescence and culture. Requirements: participation, one paper, one midterm exam, and a final. This class is required for secondary education majors, but others are certainly welcome to enroll. English 545 is a General Education course.

ENGL 710 Children’s and Young Adult Science Fiction and Fantasy

Section A: TU 1:50-4:20--C. Franko

Course meets 10 June - 31 July. We will study examples of the heroic quest, the retold fairy tale, the future history (utopian and dystopian) and the “borderland” fantasy and will consider how the narratives thematize intertextuality, history, and education as well as offering versions of the Bildungsroman. Required texts will include a coursepack with critical materials and short stories as well as about eight novels, probably including the following: J. R. R. Tolkien, *The Hobbit*; Robin McKinley, *Beauty*; Jane Yolen *Briar Rose*; Emma Bull, *Finder*; Robert Heinlein, *Have Space Suit, Will Travel*; Nancy Farmer, *House of the Scorpion*; Octavia E. Butler *Parable of the Sower*; Garth Nix, *Shade’s Children*.

Requirements will include reading quizzes, a presentation or other small group project, a long critical essay (15-20 pages), and a final.

ENGL 720 Whitman and Dickinson

Section A: MW 7:05-9:55--D. Hall

Course meets 19 May to 9 July. We will spend several summer evenings immersing ourselves in the poetry of Walt Whitman and Emily Dickinson. To provide contexts of history and culture for these poets, we will begin with a brief introduction to early and mid-19th century poetry (the Fireside poets, e.g.) to illustrate how radical the poetry of Walt and Emily was for the time. We’ll also read enough of Emerson to understand a bit about transcendentalism. We will read biography, letters, and much of the poetry of both Walt and Emily. We will also make ourselves familiar with some of the main critical work on both poets. In-class work will focus on close readings of individual poems with some sort of grand synthesis attempted for each poet. One take-home midterm on Whitman will be due half way through this short summer term. A final (part take-home and part in-class) will be due on the last day of class. A term paper on a subject related to either or both poets will be required though the due date for that paper is negotiable (i.e., the due date may be arranged so that the term paper is turned in later in the summer). The main goal of the course is not to read all of what Walt and Emily wrote (that would be impossible in such a short course). Rather our goal will be to read and discuss enough of their poetry so that students can continue to read, on their own, the poetry of Walt and Emily with understanding and insight.