GSU DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH
COURSE DESCRIPTIONS Summer 2016

This page provides details about the some of the courses we are offering this semester. For the latest information about a course's status, availability, time, and prerequisites, please consult GoSOLAR (www.gosolar.gsu.edu).

Undergraduate Course Offerings: Lower Division

English 1101: English Composition I
A composition course designed to increase the student's ability to construct written prose of various kinds. Focuses on methods of organization, analysis, research skills, and the production of short argumentative and expository essays; readings consider issues of contemporary social and cultural concern.

English 1102: English Composition II
This course builds on writing proficiencies, reading skills, and critical thinking skills developed in ENGL 1101. It incorporates several research methods in addition to persuasive and argumentative techniques. A passing grade is C. Prerequisite: C or above in ENGL 1101. By the end of this course, students will be able to: Analyze, evaluate, document, and draw inferences from various sources; identify, select, and analyze appropriate research methods, research questions, and evidence for a specific rhetorical situation; use argumentative strategies and genres in order to engage various audiences; integrate others' ideas with their own; use grammatical, stylistic, and mechanical formats and conventions appropriate for a variety of audiences; critique their own and others’ work in written and oral formats; produce well-reasoned, argumentative essays demonstrating rhetorical engagement; and reflect on what contributed to their writing process and evaluate their own work. Projects will integrate a focus on academic writing with multimodal composition strategies designed to prepare students for working with and creating multimedia texts.

English 2110: World Literature.
Historical survey of selected world literatures.

English 2120: British Literature. Maymester.
Historical survey of literature from the British Isles.

English 2130: American Literature.
Historical survey of literature from the United States.

Undergraduate Course Offerings: Upper Division

English 3040: Introduction to Literary Studies. Materials, methods, and terminology used in the discipline of literary studies. Practice in effective critical writing and examination of the various critical theories available for interpretation and analysis.


English 3150A: Introduction to Creative Writing: Poetry. David Bottoms.

English 3150B: Introduction to Creative Writing: Fiction. John Holman.

English 3160: Narrative Techniques. Josh Russell
Enrollment in Narrative Techniques provides you citizenship in a community of working artists. While part of this community, you will encounter the work of other fiction writers, explore various forms and techniques of narrative, share your experiments in narrative form and technique, and offer and receive constructive criticism. There are two ways to become a better fiction writer—writing fiction and reading fiction—and in Engl 3160 you’ll write and read numerous very short stories, also known as short-shorts, flash fiction, or sudden fiction. At the end of the term, we’ll discuss publishing, and put together a class anthology with a cover we’ll print on a letterpress. Completion of Engl 3150B with a grade of C or better is a prerequisite.


In this 3-week course, we will read poetry and fiction by British women from the Victorian Period to the present day. One week of class at GSU and two weeks in London. Authors include Virginia Woolf and Zadie Smith. Contact Dr. McLeod at mmcleod1@gsu.edu for more information. Crosslisted with Engl 8900.

We will examine the ever-changing and ever-static status of women along with the specific cultural concerns of British women. We’ll situate the poems, short stories, and novels we read in their historical and cultural context. Through this process, we'll interrogate notions of gender roles, beliefs about race, and concepts of Britishness. The wide variety of texts and authors will demonstrate how complicated the term "British woman” actually is—from a Victorian Jewish woman writing about working in London to a contemporary British-Bangladeshi woman writing about the immigrant experience in the labyrinthine London metropolis.

To experience London the way WWII writer Elizabeth Bowen might have, we'll go on a walking tour that explains what London’s inhabitants experienced during the Blitz (Germany
bombing campaign of London during WWII). To get a sense of Virginia Woolf’s character Mrs. Dalloway, we’ll discuss that novel in Virginia Woolf’s drawing room surrounding by her sister’s paintings.

English 4110: Chaucer. Scott Lightsey. **Maymester. Fulfills Single Author requirement for majors.**
From knights at play to women at work and from London’s courts to the underworld: an introduction to medieval literature and culture through Chaucer’s shorter works.


English 4202: Special Topics—Study Abroad in Dublin/Belfast. LeeAnne Richardson.

English 4204: Special Topics—Literature of Espionage. Eddie Christie. **Maymester.**
Thrillers involving covert operations and international intrigue, like those based on the novels of John LeCarre (The Constant Gardner and Tinker, Tailor, Soldier Spy, most recently) exert a constant fascination. They are mysterious and exciting. But something deeper lies behind our fascination with them. In our technological age, information sharing has become as easy as the click of a button. Sophisticated satellites and drones offer unprecedented capacity for governments to surveil each other, and their citizens. The balance between national security and the ideological premium democracy places on individual privacy is constantly and fiercely debated, for example, in the controversy over Edward Snowden’s leaks revealing the scope of NSA surveillance programs. Perhaps as never before we have come to see how high are the stakes in deciding the role of secrecy in the management of our society. But secrecy has always been an important social force and the role of trafficking in information has played a pivotal role in the development of the modern nation and the modern sense of self. This course examines the themes of secrecy, statehood, and self-identity in literature about spies. It examines the intersection of the popular thriller with high-literary technique, suggesting that as well as exploring political themes, this literature presents the life of a spy as a metaphor for existential struggles common to us all.

English 4510/6510: Grant and Proposal Writing. Boatong Gu. **Maymester.**