Courses in Creative Writing

ENG 501, 502: GRADUATE CREATIVE WRITING TUTORIAL I, II (4, 4)

Brown, Cockrell, Dillard, Larsen, Moeckel, Poliner

Graduate tutorial seminars in the form and theory of contemporary writing practice, with attention to the writing of the students in the class. The exact contents of any given seminar will be determined by the needs and interests of its members. Limited to graduate students in the creative writing program.

ENG 506: HOW WRITING IS WRITTEN (4)

Hankla

An exploration of the creative process of poetry and fiction writing. The course will include readings of literature and works by writers on their art and craft, writing assignments, and discussion of student work. Not offered in 2014-15.

ENG 507, 508: ADVANCED CREATIVE WRITING (4, 4)

Brown, Larsen, Poliner, Trethewey

A workshop course in the writing of prose and poetry. Selected works by students will be read and discussed. Frequent conferences.

ENG 511, 512: GRADUATE CREATIVE WRITING TUTORIAL III, IV (4, 4)

Brown, Dillard, Hankla, Larsen, Moeckel, Poliner

Graduate tutorial seminars in the form and theory of contemporary writing practice, with attention to the writing of the students in the class. The exact contents of any given seminar will be determined by the needs and interests of its members. Limited to second-year graduate students in the creative writing program.

ENG 519: THE JAZZ AESTHETIC IN LITERATURE (4)

Anderson

This course explores the development of literature (poetry, fiction, autobiography, etc.) that employs a "jazz aesthetic." The philosophical/aesthetic role that jazz improvisation has played in the development of Modernist and Post-Modernist critique will also be examined. Artists discussed include Charles Mingus, Jack Kerouac, Bob Kaufman, Amiri Baraka, Nathaniel Mackey, Miles Davis, Anthony Braxton, Jayne Cortez, and several others. The course entails the development of a creative and critical portfolio of jazz-inspired writing.

ENG 521: SCREENWRITING I (4)

Marshall

An intensive hands-on course in the art of writing for the screen, for beginners and for writers experienced in other genres (fiction, poetry, and creative nonfiction). Screenings, writing exercises, and workshopstyle critiques comprise the course.

ENG 522: SCREENWRITING II (4)

Marshall

An intensive course in screenwriting in which students go through the various stages of developing and writing a feature-length film script, from outline to treatment to presentation and group critiques to finished screenplay, including the analysis of previously produced screenplays and films.

ENG 523: CINEMATIC ADAPTATION (4)

Dillard

Students go through the entire process (from analysis of the story to outline to treatment to screenplay) of adapting a work of fiction for the screen. The course also includes close study of works of fiction that have previously been adapted for the cinema, as well as the resulting screenplays and films. Not offered in 2014-15.

ENG 524: POETRY IN PERFORMANCE (4)

Anderson

This course examines the aesthetics of textual performance as it has been applied to the performative aspect of poetry. Students will develop methods of critiquing and perform a broad range of aesthetic expression that incorporates poetry with other media. Poets to be discussed include Jayne Cortez, Ed Sanders, and several others. This course is a composite seminar/practicum.

ENG 550: ADVANCED SEMINAR IN FICTION TECHNIQUE (4)

Poliner

This seminar is designed to improve the skills of fiction writers and to provide a solid and sophisticated foundation in fiction technique. Emphasis will be on the use of writing exercises to focus on elements of fiction technique, including narration, dialogue, scene, description, word choice, and setting. Students will also analyze published fiction, and critique their own work in progress. Not offered in 2014-15.

ENG 550: KEEP IT MOVING: LITERARY GEAR SHIFTS, KEY CHANGES, SPINNING PLATES (4)

McClanahan

This multi-genre course focuses on examining and creating dynamic texts that engage both writer and reader through the use of structural, rhetorical, and linguistic shifts. The format for the course is a mix of brief lectures, oral and written critical responses to readings, and creation of original work in the student's genre of choice. Students will identify and discuss gear-shift techniques used in brief selections of fiction, nonfiction, and poetry, including varying discourse modes, syntactic structures, sounds and rhythms, pacing, narrative stance, and point of view. Then, they will write and revise original works that incorporate similar techniques. Assigned texts: *Touchstone Anthology of Contemporary Creative Nonfiction, The Vintage Book of Contemporary American Poetry*, and *Points of View: An Anthology of Short Stories*.

ENG 553: FILM AS A NARRATIVE ART I (4)

Dillard

Films of Alfred Hitchcock as moral, aesthetic, and psychological narratives with particular attention to the development of his cinematic style in relation to his concerns throughout his cinematic career. Such films as *The 39 Steps, Sabotage, Shadow of a Doubt, Notorious Strangers on a Train, Rear Window, Vertigo, North by Northwest, Psycho, The Birds, Marnie, Frenzy, Family Plot.*

ENG 554: FILM AS A NARRATIVE ART II (4)

Dillard

Films of Federico Fellini as moral, aesthetic, and psychological narratives with particular attention to the development of his cinematic style in relation to his concerns throughout his cinematic career. Such films as The White Sheik, I Vitelloni, La Stada, Nights of Cabiria, La Dolce Vita, 81/2, The Temptation of Dr. Antonio, Juliet of the Spirits, Toby Dammit, Fellini Satyricon, I Clowns, Amarcord, Ginger and Fred, Intervista.

ENG 567: CROSS-GENRE AND EXPERIMENTAL WRITING (4)

Hankla

An examination of and practice in forms of writing that straddle the worlds of fiction/nonfiction/poetry and image/word. Students will write prose poems, flash fiction, and experimental forms, while considering works by such writers as Gertrude Stein, Lydia Davis, Michael Ondaatje, Alison Bechdel, David Shields, and others. Not offered 2014-15.

ENG 569: PEDAGOGY AND PRACTICE OF CREATIVE WRITING (2)

Larser

The pedagogical background and practical application of creative writing for the college classroom. Students will research pedagogical materials and texts, build syllabi, work one-on-one with peer mentors, engage in practice teaching, and learn institutional practices pursuant to college level teaching. Limited to MFA-CW program Teaching Fellows and Graduate Assistants by permission.

ENG 584: ADVANCED STUDIES IN POETRY (4)

Larsen

An intensive exploration of poetry, focusing on contemporary writers from the United States. Can poetry, really, matter? How does it mean now? Is craft dead, murderous, of the essence? How do past poets speak through/against/around writers of our time? Is aesthetic progress possible? What are the orthodoxies, transgressions, blunders of the age? Not offered in 2014-15.

ENG 585: ADVANCED STUDIES IN THE NOVEL (4)

Dillard

Studies in the form of the novel, ranging throughout the history of the novel. Close readings of a variety of novels with an effort to determine the demands of the form and ways in which it has been and can be developed. Not offered in 2014-15.

ENG 586: ADVANCED STUDIES IN CREATIVE NONFICTION (4)

Trethewey

This is a course on the literary form that has come to be known as "Creative Nonfiction." We'll read and discuss various modes of writing about personal experience and the aesthetic and ethical issues raised

by such writing. Written assignments include discursive prose as well as students' original creative nonfiction.

ENG 587: ADVANCED STUDIES IN SHORT FICTION (4)

Poliner

Close readings of representative stories past and present that define or defy our expectations for the form. Attention to building a vocabulary for discussion and to the analysis of technique and structure. Includes focused study of several contemporary masters of the form.

ENG 599: THESIS (8)

Department

A collection of original work: poetry, fiction (short fiction or a novel), screenplay, play, or an appropriate grouping of more than one genre.