

SPRING 2027 UPPER-LEVEL ENGLISH COURSES

2003 Intro to Creative Writing *MW 4:45-6:00, Cathy Staples*

Designed for students who wish to experiment with composing several kinds of creative writing: short fiction, creative nonfiction, and poetry.

2009 Writing the Traditional Novel *TR 11:30-12:45, Alan Drew*

A creative writing workshop course designed for students eager to leap into the complex process of writing a novella or short novel. Students will close-read short novels to analyze elements of craft and workshop sections of their own novel in-progress.

2013 Writing of Memoir *TR 2:30-3:45, Tsering Wangmo*

Memoir is an opportunity to understand life. This writing workshop provides students with practical skills in reading and writing about the events, memories, places that inform their lives.

2022 Writing through Conflict *TR 1:00-2:15, Alan Drew*

In this creative writing workshop, you will study contemporary Irish/Northern Irish writers while working on your own creative pieces. Over semester break, you will travel to Belfast for a week of seminars and creative writing workshops at the Seamus Heaney Centre.

2023 Journalism *MWF 12:50-1:40, Kate Szumanski*

Introduces students to key techniques of news gathering and news writing. We will also explore the principles and rules that guide the writing of news pieces, editorials, and features.

2024 Scriptwriting *MW 3:20-4:35, Michelle Filling-Brown*

In this creative writing course, students will study drama and techniques that lead to developing characters, crafting stories, and writing scenes. In the collaborative scriptwriting workshop, students will work as authors, editors, and critics, ultimately each crafting a one-act play.

2250 Ways of Reading *TR 10:00-11:15, Joseph Drury*

An exploration of how we engage, understand, explicate, and enjoy texts of all sorts.

2302 Literature of the Apocalypse *TR 1:00-2:15, Heather Hicks*

One of the oldest forms of narrative, apocalyptic literature is more popular - and powerful - than ever. Starting with Revelation, this course traces this tradition through fascinating poems, stories, novellas, novels and films to the present day.

2991 English Majors in the Workplace *MW 1:55-3:10 for first 10 weeks of the semester, Michelle Filling-Brown*

Through reflection, conversation, and practical exploration, students will gain a clearer understanding of the many professional and academic pathways open to English majors, from publishing, education, and law to nonprofit work, business, media, and graduate study. Students will build essential career skills, including crafting polished résumés, writing compelling cover letters, developing effective interviewing strategies, and networking with Villanova alumni.

2994 Reading and Community *T 5:30-6:45 for first 10 weeks of the semester, Mary Mullen*

Studying the kind of reading that takes place outside of the classroom in book groups and community reads, this course practices reading in community while studying hot new books selected by students in the course. Please note: this is a one-credit course.

3181 Irish Epics, Visions & Hauntings *TR 8:30-9:45, Joseph Lennon*

A study of Irish literature from its origins in the world of Celtic mythology, epic and saga through the development of Anglo-Irish literature.

3250 Shakespeare *TR 11:30-12:45, Lauren Shohet*

This course studies the plays and/or poems of Shakespeare. It may be focused on a particular genre of Shakespeare's work, a period in his career, or a topic. The course seeks to develop students' appreciation of Shakespeare's artistry and relevance.

3507 Strange Cases: Imagining Health & Illness *TR 1:00-2:15, Joseph Drury*

Explore literary responses to pivotal developments in medical science and practice from the eighteenth century to the present. Study works that engage with the new ideas about illness, treatment, and disability that arose alongside changing understandings of the human body.

4000 American Literary Tradition I *TR 1:00-2:15, Kimberly Takahata*

What makes literature "American?" Who gets to decide? This course examines how literary traditions developed and changed in nineteenth-century America, with a particular focus on race, citizenship, colonialism, and history-making.

4618 Harlem Renaissance *TR 11:30-12:45, Crystal Lucky*

F. Scott Fitzgerald called the years between the wars the "Jazz Age." Folks uptown recognized that a Renaissance was happening in Harlem. Students will study major works by African Americans written during the 1920s and 1930s.

4646 Race and Ethnicity: American Novel *MW 3:20-4:35, Yumi Lee*

This course examines a fascinating range of contemporary US literary texts to explore the ways that gender and sexuality intersect with race, class and other categories of identity to form our experiences of selfhood, community, national belonging, and power.

4652 Letters, Texts, & Twitter *MWF 10:40-11:30, Kamran Javadizadeh*

How does writing bring together distant lovers, friends, family? We'll read letters, the digital forms (social media, instant messaging) that have replaced them, and their representation in novels, poems, and essays to explore how intimacy forms across distance.

4691 Work & Play in Contemporary Literature *TR 10:00-11:15, Michael Dowdy*

This class explores representations of work and play in contemporary cultural texts from the Americas. We will consider how stories, poems, films, and songs depict the struggles and joys of various jobs: "dirty" (i.e., coal mining), "unskilled" (i.e., crop picking), "professional" (i.e., sports), and more. In these innovative texts, oppositions between work and play break down and creative forms of solidarity and community emerge.

4702 Authors On & Off the Page *TR 4:00-5:15, Adrienne Perry & Tsering Wangmo*

Do you love to write? Dream of visiting with authors to discuss their work and the publishing world? This course combines creative writing workshops with literary analysis and the chance to hob-nob with prestigious authors during the Villanova Literary Festival.

5000 James Baldwin *MW 1:55-3:10, Yumi Lee*

In this senior seminar, we will study the work of one of the great writers and thinkers of the twentieth century, James Baldwin. Readings will include the novels *Go Tell It On the Mountain*, *Giovanni's Room*, *Another Country*, and *If Beale Street Could Talk*; Baldwin's era-shaping essays on race, sexuality, masculinity, and America; and biographical and critical materials that will help us appreciate and situate the work of this major figure in Black, queer, and American literary history. This capstone course will culminate in a final research project and a course mini-conference in which students will have the opportunity to share their work.

5000 Middlemarch *TR 4:00-5:15, Mary Mullen*

Middlemarch is a classic—a novel so good (or at least, so acclaimed, so canonized) that it became a standard used to assess other novels and novel traditions. In this senior seminar we will study George Eliot's *Middlemarch* and consider what it teaches us about the form of the novel, literary history, and the canon. We will think about gender, genre, race, and colonialism.