

English 200.01 Introduction to the English Major

T 12:30–1:45

Dr. Brent Kinser

CRN 81010

This required one-hour course provides an introduction to the major and an opportunity for you to meet your peers and a number of faculty and staff. During the course of the semester, you will be introduced to various opportunities for study in the major, as well as encouraged to consider what you might do with your major and how to get where you want to be at the end of your time at Western. We will consider employment opportunities and plan a possible route through the English classes you will take during the next two and a half years. You should leave this course with an understanding of the parameters of your chosen field, with a plan for how you will pursue your goals at Western, and with ideas about the ways you can pursue your goals after you are graduated.

Juniors and Seniors should discuss the possibility of substituting another class for English 200 with their advisors.

ENGL 206.01 Literature Of Place

MWF 11:00 AM-12:15 PM

Dr. Nate Kreuter

CRN 81022

Liberal studies of literature of place, focusing on one general locations—such as Appalachia, South, West—or pairing of related places, such as urban-suburban. (P4)

ENGL 240.01 Research, Literary Criticism & British Literature

MW 4:00–5:15

Dr. Brent Kinser

CRN 81135

Survey of British literature with a particular emphasis on learning research skills as well as how to incorporate outside sources and literary criticism into writing.

In this course we will paint the history of British literature with broad strokes, from *Beowulf* to Eliot, while paying particular attention to developing the fundamental skills that define what it means to be a student of literature. In addition to becoming better readers, writers, and thinkers, by the end of this course you will have become more adapt at identifying, finding, and utilizing outside sources. In other words you will become a more effective participant in the diverse and fascinating critical discussion we call English Studies.

ENGL 302.70 Introduction to Creative Writing & Editing

TR 3:30-4:45 pm

Pamela Duncan

CRN 80922

Career opportunities and practices in creative writing genres; editing and preparation of creative manuscripts for publication. (Closed to freshmen 0-24 hours).

This course is designed to fit the needs of a range of students, including those with concentrations in writing, literature, or education. At the end of this course, you will have a good understanding of three basic creative writing genres: fiction, nonfiction, and poetry. You will have the opportunity to explore your creative side through a variety of exercises and using techniques practiced by professional writers. You will also gain skills in the writing workshop process, editing, proofreading, revising, and professional

manuscript preparation. By the end of the semester, you will have written, edited, and revised poems, short fiction, and short essays.

ENGL 303.01 Introduction to Professional Writing and Editing

MWF 12:20 – 1:10 pm

Dr. Drew Virtue

CRN 81224

Career opportunities, practices and skills in professional writing, editing, and conventional and electronic publication. (Closed to freshmen 0-24 hours). Credits: 3

Course Description: This class will address several genres related to writing as a professional career, and give you practice with drafting, peer reviewing, and revising work. We will focus on specific aspects of writing including professional editing skills, formatting and design, stylistic guidelines, and preparing professional documents. This will be a writing intensive course to provide you with the opportunity to practice and harness your skills as professional writers.

ENGL 307.01: Professional Editing and Publishing

MWF 10:10 – 11:00 am

Dr. Drew Virtue

CRN 81228

Advanced practicum in student's chosen area in professional writing; editing practices and production; copyright and libel law. (Closed to freshmen 0-24 hours). PREQ: Engl. 101 and 102; 303 Credits: 3

Course Description:

This class is designed to help you learn about and practice three critical skills for professional communicators:

Advanced editing—Effective professional communicators know how to write well, but they also know how to provide expert feedback. Editing actually involves a process that includes various levels of attention to certain details. In conjunction with learning how to simplify technical and complex information, you will also learn about and practice the various stages of the editing process in order to hone this crucial skill.

Information design—The ability to communicate complex ideas in ways that are easy to grasp visually and understand is a vital communication skill for any professional. This class will introduce you to the world of information design, which is the visual depiction and simplification of complex or technical information. As you will learn, information design is an art and a form of communication that is becoming even more important in today's technological and information-heavy society. This course is designed to help you think through ideas for transferring textual, technical, and statistical information into easily readable and understandable graphics.

Desktop publishing—The more you learn to use the tools most commonly associated with publications, the more marketable you will be to employers. Given that, you will use Adobe Creative Suite 5 (or 6) to create your own unique information graphics. You will gain valuable experience primarily with Adobe Illustrator, but you may also use PhotoShop and other programs in Creative Suite.

ENGL 308.01– Fiction Writing

TR 11:00 -12:15

Pamela Duncan

CRN 80924

In this class you will:

study & practice fiction writing create original work workshop student stories discuss assigned reading & writing exercises practice editing & revision participate in a public reading at the end of the semester

Study and practice of technique and form in fiction writing; workshop discussion of students' stories and assigned exercises; original work and revision. (Closed to freshmen 0-24 hours).

Prerequisite: English 302

This course is designed to fit the needs of a range of students, including those with concentrations in writing, literature, or education. At the end of this course you will have a good understanding of the elements of fiction and will have completed and revised several stories. You will also gain skills in the writing workshop process, editing, proofreading, revising, and professional manuscript preparation. In addition, you will gain an overview of publishing fiction and jobs available in this profession.

ENGL 325.01 Language and Culture

TR 12:30 – 1:45

Dr. Eleanor Petrone

CRN 81113

This course will examine how language and culture impact the experience of immigrant and second generation students in the K-12 classroom. Students will examine salient aspects of U.S. culture and how they are manifested in the classroom, with a focus on the implications for linguistically and culturally diverse students. The various ways that immigrant and second generation students acculturate to the U.S. will also be explored, as well as the role that language plays in identity formation. Students will be asked to consider and design educational practices on a micro and macro level that support the achievement of language minority students.

ENGL 367.01 Appalachian Literature

MWF 11:15 AM-12:05 PM

Dr. Mae Claxton

CRN 80864

This class will be a survey of the poetry, fiction, and non-fiction works from the Southern Appalachian region. We will also explore music, photography, and film relating to Appalachia. In addition to reading two novels plus a variety of other readings, students will complete two written assignments plus a final exam. Students will complete discussion list postings for each class.

ENGL 401.01 Writing for Careers

MWF 9:05 – 9:55 am

Dr. Drew Virtue

CRN 81236

Theory and application of rhetoric in professional communication; emphasis on triad of author, subject, and audience. Practical assignments: memos, letters, resumes, reports, and persuasive messages. Closed to freshmen 0-24 hours. Credits: 3

Course Description:

This course focuses on communication in the workplace with an emphasis on new skills needed for the 21st century, specifically in global communication. This is a 400-level course, which means it will involve complex readings, writing assignments, and research, all which either emulate workplace genres or address workplace situations. Course readings, discussion, and work will emphasize a detailed understanding of globalization and intercultural rhetoric and how these concepts affect and influence communication in the workplace and in our world.

ENGL 405.70
Advanced Creative Writing
Monday 6-8:50 PM
Ron Rash
CRN 81122

The advanced fiction workshop in the short story. Prerequisites are either English 308 and/or permission of the instructor. The course emphasizes intense reading as well as writing.

ENGL 463.01 Contemporary Literature
TR 2:00 – 3:15 pm
Dr. Laura Wright
CRN 81329

Catalog description: Study of literature written from World War II to the present with an emphasis on intertextuality and influence. (Closed to freshmen 0-24 hours).

Credits: 3

“Perhaps climate change had once seemed too large-scale, or too abstract, for the minutely human landscape of fiction. But the threat seems to have become too pressing to ignore, and less abstract, thanks to a nonstop succession of mega-storms and record-shattering temperatures.”

-- Rebecca Tuhus-Dubrow “Cli-Fi: Birth of a Genre”

In this course, we will read a variety of texts in terms of how these works depict and theorize the environment, and we will examine the concepts of “environment,” “wilderness,” and “environmentalism” in terms of how they are imagined, shaped, and created by specific cultural contexts. We will focus, in particular, on the contemporary genre of “cli-fi,” or climate change fiction. As an academic practice in the West, ecocriticism as a theoretical model first manifested in 1990s era studies of eighteenth and nineteenth-century writers like Emerson, Wordsworth, Ruskin, Morris, and Carpenter, and environmentalism, as a social movement, is a product of the 1960s that took hold most visibly in the United States. Despite its origins in the United States, the study of environmentalism in literature has become increasingly concerned with environmental concerns depicted in more global literatures.

Works:

The Year of the Flood Margaret Atwood (Canada)

the bone people Keri Hulme (New Zealand)

Solar Ian McEwan (England)

Heart of Redness Zakes Mda (South Africa)

Serena Ron Rash (United States)

The God of Small Things Arundhati Roy (India)

ENGL 477.01 Gender and Literature
MW 2:30-3:45
Dr. Annette Debo
CRN 80897

This course will focus on the representation of women in literature by women. We will respond to Virginia Woolf’s cry for a room of her own, H.D.’s revisionary mythmaking in the wake of two European wars, Toni Morrison’s rendition of female friendship in African American culture, Anne Sexton’s celebration of all things bodily female, Jeanette Winterson’s sense of shifting sexualities, Maxine Hong Kingston’s efforts to recreate an identity out of both Chinese and American heritage, and Alice Walker’s search for a matrilineal artistic heritage.

Accompanying the literature are selections of feminist theory like writings by Adrienne Rich, Monique Wittig, Audre Lorde, and Judith Butler. Besides feminist theory, you are welcome to apply any theoretical approach in your work and in class—these texts will open up in many ways.

For more information, contact Dr. Annette Debo at ext. 3934 or adebo@wcu.edu.

ENGL 498.01 Senior Seminar
MW 2:30 – 3:45 pm
Dr. Brent Kinser
CRN 81021

This course will provide a capstone experience for the English major, evenly divided between career preparation and an intensive study of a chosen topic. (Closed to freshmen, sophomores, and juniors 0–72 hours).

Well, that was fun. Now what do we Do?

So you are an English major, ready to move from world of “so what” to world of “what now.”

In this course, we will work to remove some of the anxiety you might be feeling about your impending launch into the world, be it the world of graduate school, of teaching, of editing, of writing, of working, of being fabulous.

At the same time we will explore some literature you have not yet experienced, we will take a look back at your time here at WCU as you prepare to move forward. Part professionalization and part capstone experience, in this course we will perfect resumes, convene a conference, complete portfolios, write a senior thesis, and generally prepare ourselves for the great big, exciting, wonderful world, for which you are, whether you realize it or not, fully prepared.

ENGL 603.80 Writing for the Marketplace: Grant and Proposal Writing
Tuesday 6:00-8:50 Biltmore Park
Dr. Diane Martinez
CRN 82444

Grant and proposal writing skills are highly valued by employers. This class introduces you to the grant and proposal writing process and provides you with experience writing actual grant/proposal applications in collaboration with non-profit or other organizations. By the end of the class, you will be able to identify organizational needs, research funding sources, and plan, develop, and write a grant or proposal.

ENGL 608.70
Advanced Fiction Writing
Monday 6-8:50
Ron Rash
CRN 81122

English 405/608 is the advanced fiction workshop in the short story. Prerequisites are either English 308 and/or permission of the instructor. The course emphasizes intense reading as well as writing.

ENGL 677.80
Twentieth-Century Literary Criticism and Theory
W 6:00-8:50 at Biltmore Park
CRN 80900

Literary theory is “thinking about thinking,” according to Jonathan Culler. Theory is reflexive and speculative, but understanding theory offers concrete advantages in literary studies. Primarily, it provides

the rationale behind the modes of literary interpretation that we all practice. Fundamental questions like should we allow authorial intentions or commentary to color our reading become clearer once we understand Roland Barthes's effort to (metaphorically) kill the author in an effort to liberate the text or, in contrast, J. Hillis Miller's contention that the author's intention constitutes the absolute, final meaning. Poet Adrienne Rich on occasion addresses professional critics in print, finding fault with their interpretations—is she right because she wrote the poetry? Or do we look to the concept of “the unconscious” to explain why her poems have content that she might have meant for them to have? We all make decisions on issues like this by the way that we practice interpretation, but studying theory offers you new options in how you interpret and provides justification for your choices.

ENGL 677 will survey the critical approaches most widely used in contemporary literature criticism, including new criticism, deconstruction, psychoanalysis, Marxism, feminism, queer theory, new historicism, theories of race and ethnicity, post-colonialism, , and ecocriticism. We will grapple with first understanding the theories and then with the equally challenging task of applying these theories to literature.

For more information, contact Dr. Annette Debo at ext. 3934 or adebo@wcu.edu.

ENGL 693.70 Topics: 19th Century American Literature
M 6-8:50 PM
Mae Miller Claxton
CRN 80866

The nineteenth century began with an infant nation establishing a tentative toehold on a continent and ended with a country rising to global domination. We will begin with a close study of the American renaissance, including writers such as Emerson, Thoreau, Melville, Poe, and Hawthorne. The class will end with naturalism and realism—writers such as Twain, Crane, and Chopin. Genres will include poetry, short fiction, novels, and nonfiction. Students will present contextual material in class on the art, history, and politics of the age. Students will also complete discussion list postings, a short paper, longer paper, and a final exam.