

FALL 2025

English Course Descriptions

(except for ENG 1000, 1001, 1002, 1091, 1092)

ENG 1105-001 CRN 92264

[English Major Forum](#)

MW 12:00–12:50 PM* (First half of the semester)

Instructor: Caldwell

What makes English such a great major? And how can students be empowered to get the most of out their studies and time at EIU? These are the main questions we will be answering in English Forum this semester as this 1-credit hour course acquaints you with practical advice and important information about your home department at EIU. Whether you've known you wanted to be an English major for years or still aren't quite sure, this is the course for you!

*This course meets during the first half of the semester, from Aug. 25-Oct. 15, 2025.

ENG 2000-001 CRN 93045

[Introduction to Creative Writing](#)

MWF 1:00-1:50 PM

Instructor: McClelland

This course will introduce students to reading for craft and writing creatively across poetry, fiction, nonfiction, and dramatic genres (writing for the stage and screen). Students will participate in workshops of their creative work and read writing in each genre. Reading will be divided into classic and current work, with special attention given to unsung groups of writers, and we will also talk about career elements like publication and conferences.

ENG 2205-001 CRN 93047

[Introduction to Literary Studies](#)

MWF 9:00 AM–9:50 AM

Instructor: Caldwell

In this course, you will learn to read literary texts like an English major—carefully, with attention to how the form of a text helps to shape its meaning/s. To discern how a text creates a meaningful conversation with its reader—to discern the power of storytelling and the power of listening—will be our goal this semester. Although this is a course focused primarily on the literary analysis of various genres (fiction, nonfiction, poetry, plays, graphic novels, etc.), the skills you learn in this course should be transferable to your work in upper-division literary studies courses as well as work in other areas of English studies—creative writing, professional writing, and teaching. This course is required of English majors, but open to all.

ENG 2504G-001 CRN 97990

Film and Literature

TR 2:00–4:00 PM

Instructor: Martínez

“An introduction to practical and theoretical relations between film and literature.” In this course, we will study a variety of film and literary approaches to and appropriations of real-life social and political incidents that had a profound impact on the body politic. We will encounter historical moments, novels, poetry, and films from around the world (specifically, for this course, in the U.S., Mexico, Chile, Colombia, Argentina, and Britain) in order to study how different practitioners of literature and film work to explore and make sense of human experience during times of personal or national difficulty.

Note: This course fulfills a General Education Humanities requirement.

ENG 2705G-001 CRN 99512

African American and Africana Literatures

TR 11:00 am-12:15 pm

Instructor: Ludlow

An introduction to African-American and Africana literatures in their sociocultural and historical contexts, with emphasis on connections to contemporary social and political events. Course requirements include careful and critical reading for every class session, active listening, engaged participation/speaking during discussions, and completion and revision of short writing assignments.

ENG 2760-001 CRN 91527

Introduction to Professional Writing

MWF 11:00–11:50 AM

Instructor: Spear

Introduction to the principles and practices of writing in professional settings. Students will complete case-based and/or client-based projects in multiple genres and media. This course also addresses ethical communication, document design, intercultural/global communication, collaboration, basic copyediting, and oral presentation.

ENG 2901-001 CRN 91233

Structure of English

TR 9:30–10:45 AM

Instructor: Smith

This course is an introduction to the grammar of English. It is designed to help you learn to describe and analyze the structure of sentences in English and, as such, focuses primarily on syntax. However, phonology (pronunciation), morphology (word forms), and semantics (meaning) will also come up from time to time. Although we will consider grammar from both traditional and modern perspectives, we will take a rhetorical rather than rules-based approach. In other words, we will treat grammar as a tool for reflecting on possible stylistic choices, not as a set of inflexible rules. Ideally, this course will heighten

your understanding of the complexity of the English language and help you develop strategies for communicating clearly and effectively in speech and writing.

ENG 2901-002 CRN 90333

[Structure of English](#)

TR 12:30–1:45 PM

Instructor: Smith

This course is an introduction to the grammar of English. It is designed to help you learn to describe and analyze the structure of sentences in English and, as such, focuses primarily on syntax. However, phonology (pronunciation), morphology (word forms), and semantics (meaning) will also come up from time to time. Although we will consider grammar from both traditional and modern perspectives, we will take a rhetorical rather than rules-based approach. In other words, we will treat grammar as a tool for reflecting on possible stylistic choices, not as a set of inflexible rules. Ideally, this course will heighten your understanding of the complexity of the English language and help you develop strategies for communicating clearly and effectively in speech and writing.

ENG 2901-003 CRN 90334

[Structure of English](#)

MWF 11:00–11:50 AM

Instructor: Caldwell

In *Structure of the English Language*, we will closely examine the English language at the level of syntax—that is, how and why sentences are put together the way they are. In doing so, we will seek to better understand how English is constructed as a language. We will examine the so-called “rules” of grammar, but we will also think about why these rules exist, where they come from, what it means when we don’t follow these rules in either written or oral expression, and why we might not want to, anyway. This course should be of interest to anyone interested in language and should be particularly useful if you are planning for a career in teaching, a career that will require you to do writing of any kind, or editing.

ENG 2950-001 CRN 93048

[Transatlantic Literary History: Culture, Literacies, and Technologies I](#)

TR 9:30–10:45 AM

Instructor: Campbell

In this course, we will examine the rise and spread of print with its attendant influences upon literature, language, and culture. We will preface our study with consideration of key medieval works that were circulated orally or in manuscript, then move on to medieval texts that reflect the culture of oral transmission as well as the rise of incunabula. Then, we will consider the world of Renaissance print culture, especially exploring the influence of the Aldine Press and how it has continued to impact publication practices today, and we will move forward in print history to consider the proliferation of printing in the U.S.—and what was coming off the early presses. In the process, we will follow “big picture” religio-political developments that will ultimately permeate transatlantic culture.

ENG 3001-600 CRN 95571

[Advanced Composition](#)

Online

Instructor: Binns

Advanced Composition centers on advanced applications and principles of various genres including analysis, reflection, and argument. This course offers opportunities to use a variety of research sources and experience writing for transfer. Attention will be given to analyzing writing situations, including contexts, purposes, audiences, appropriate styles, and correctness. Active participation in online class activities is required. In addition to major writing projects, discussion assignments will include analytic reading responses. Students will also evaluate and provide feedback on one another's writing assignments.

ENG 3005-001 CRN 99433

[Technical Communication](#)

MWF 9:00-9:50 AM

Instructor: Spear

Instruction and practice in technical communication and creating documents used in professional settings. Focus on communicating complex information to specialized and non-specialized audiences. Students will complete case-based and/or client-based projects in multiple genres and media. Course will also address online communication, ethical communication, document design, intercultural/global communication, collaboration, accessibility issues, and oral presentation.

ENG 3008-001 CRN 93344

[Digital Writing and Multimodal Texts](#)

TR 2:00–3:15 PM

Instructor: Ryerson

Addresses digital writing and multimodal theory and production through the lens of one or more areas of English Studies. Course engages the history of digital and multimodal literacy.

ENG 3062-600 CRN 99511

[Intermediate Poetry Writing](#)

Online

Instructor: Whittemore

In this workshop-based course, we will write in free verse and in a number of poetic forms, from villanelle to pantoum to sonnet. By experimenting with a variety of forms, and reading poems by contemporary and past authors working in these forms, we will gain a greater understanding of the strategies available to poets to create worlds and convey truths. We will frequently workshop one another's work and offer and receive insightful, honest, and fair critique. At the end of the course, you will create a final collection of revised work.

ENG 3063-001 CRN 93962

[Intermediate Fiction Writing](#)

MWF 10:00-10:50 AM

Instructor: McClelland

This course serves as an introduction to the creative aspects of fiction writing through studying the work of published authors and producing original work discussed in an open forum throughout the semester. For this course, we will read short stories intensely to determine how they “work,” covering issues of craft and technique. We will also read a variety of craft essays concerning the nuts and bolts of fiction writing. This course also focuses extensively on our own writing; students will complete exercises, workshop polished pieces, and participate regularly in entire class workshops, submitting drafts, revisions, and more polished works. This semester, we will be paying special attention to fiction written by refugees, immigrants, and people writing under oppressive regimes.

ENG 3099G-099 CRN 99532

[Myth and Culture, Honors](#)

TR 3:30 pm-4:45 pm

Instructor: Tacke

If we understand myths, in part, as the stories that help us to understand how societies are formed, knowledge is created, and norms are produced, then it is important to ask: What are some of the myths that have constructed America as we know and experience it today? Whose story is told? Who does the telling? Whose voices are silenced? In this course, we will explore the myths that have been woven into the fabric of our daily lives and how those myths relate to issues of identity, epistemology, language, beliefs, and other systems of privilege and oppression. We will read and interrogate a diverse arrange of texts, including novels like *Circe* by Madeline Miller and *The Marrow Thieves* by Cherie Dimaline; lyric essays like *Between the World and Me*, by Ta-Nehisi Coates; long-form journalism projects like *The 1619 Project*; and other poems, short stories, art, and essays.

ENG 3401-001 CRN 90341

[Methods of Teaching Composition in the Middle and Secondary School](#)

TR 12:30–1:45 PM

Instructor: Tacke

In this course, you will develop your skills of planning and enacting effective secondary English Language Arts (ELA) teaching with a focus on scaffolding writing instruction. This course will be all about putting theory into practice. In doing so, we will focus on research-based strategies to develop critical, reflexive, and effective instruction that serves a range of secondary students. Although our course will cover all domains of ELA, English 3401 has an extended focus on the various best practices and approaches to teaching evaluating written composition in secondary schools. Course work will consist primarily of reading and responding to pedagogical texts, applying the findings in such to contemporary educational concerns, and crafting/modeling instructional tools both independently and cooperatively in ways that mirror professional learning communities.

ENG 3405-001 CRN 95580

[Children's Literature](#)

TR 3:30–4:45 PM

Instructor: Nance-Carroll

A study of the rich variety of texts written for or primarily read by children, including picture books, chapter books, fairy tales, graphic novels, and more! The texts are explored through historical, cultural, pedagogical, critical, and theoretical perspectives.

ENG 3805-001 CRN 99542

[Restoration and Eighteenth-Century British Literature](#)

TR 3:30–4:45 PM

Instructor: Wharram

Why should you read literature written between 1660 and 1800? Let's start with *the massive transformation that happens during this period*.

At the beginning of this period, the people of England were ravaged every few years by smallpox, and every few decades by the Plague. By the end, thanks to some important women and men, inoculations and later vaccinations radically reduced the spread of disease in Great Britain. In 1660, everybody wore wool clothing, with a few exceptionally rich folks having access to silk, but by 1800, cotton became the norm, imported from far flung areas by merchants on ships, navigated by sextants—that hadn't been invented yet in 1660. The late 1600s brought comedies and tragedies to the London stage, but by 1800 the dominant genre was the novel, something that didn't exist for most English speakers of the seventeenth century. Women writers? By the end of this period, the highest paid author was Gothic novelist Ann Radcliffe. Revolutions? Someone in 1660 would have heard the word "revolution" and pictured a wheel. Someone in 1800 would have lived through both the American (1776) and French (1789) Revolutions, possibly picturing the spinning wheels of a factory that had "revolutionized" the textile industry.

This period (1660-1800) brought in a short space of time the greatest technological, scientific, economic, political, and cultural changes that human societies have ever experienced.

Why should you read literature written between 1660 and 1800? Entering into another such period of profound transformation today, we might find it helpful to see how others dealt with it!

ENG 3808-600 CRN 99557

[Modern British Literature](#)

Online

Instructor: Martínez

English 3808 is course focusing on "British and Irish fiction, drama, and poetry from 1900 to 1950, with emphasis on such writers as Forster, Lawrence, Woolf, Joyce, Rhys, Synge, and Yeats." This section of English 3808 will explore the exciting genesis of new literary and cinematic experimentations that emerged in and influenced Britain at the turn of the century through the end of the post-World War II period. We will focus on the various artistic, social, and political changes that took place during the first half of the twentieth century, and how artists, novelists, poets, dramatists, and some filmmakers responded to the rapidly changing conditions of Britain and Europe. Alongside our study of these thrilling writers, themes, art forms, and cultural events, we will also reinforce the key concepts of how

to read and analyze literature and film, and cover significant theoretical or artistic movements of the period—such as modernism, imagism, stream of consciousness/psychological realism, and social realism—that continue to influence writing, film, and art in our world today.

ENG 4060-001 CRN 93965

[English Studies Career Development](#)

MW 12:00–12:50 PM* (First half of the semester)

Instructor: Fredrick

This course is designed to prepare English majors for post-graduation, including the job market and graduate school. In this course, you will research job openings and professional organizations, participate in discussions with professional guest speakers, analyze your own professional skills and abilities, read course materials related to career development, and make plans for future. As part of the class, you will create materials that will assist you in applying for jobs or graduate school.

*This course meets during the first half of the semester, from Aug. 25–Oct. 15, 2025.

ENG 4275-001 CRN 94048

[Internship in Professional Writing](#)

Instructor: Fredrick

Students must meet with the Internship Coordinator (Dr. Fredrick) to arrange an internship placement before registering for ENG 4275.

A community-based experience featuring practical application of skills developed in the English curriculum, the Internship is open to any student who has taken ENG 2760 or ENG 3005. (Depending on career goals, the prerequisites can be waived.) To the extent possible, placement is matched to career goals with the expectation that students might approach graduation and the job search with writing/editing portfolios to show potential employers. Recent English interns have worked as writers or editors for nonprofit organizations, small businesses, corporations, libraries, local government offices. English 4275 is a three-hour course offered on a credit/no credit basis. In addition to work created as part of the internship, students will engage in reflective writing about the internship and organizational culture. The coordinator and site-supervisors cooperate in evaluation. Students who have taken English 4275 previously may repeat it again as an elective; students who repeat the course will be placed at a different internship site.

ENG 4300-001 CRN 97989

and ENG 4390-099 CRN 98675 (Honors section)

[English Studies Capstone](#)

MWF 1:00–1:50 PM

Instructor: Beebe

[Into the Wild](#)

In this Senior Seminar, we will use Jon Krakauer's *Into the Wild* as both a text and a central metaphor for the uncertainties, ambitions, and choices that define life after graduation. Krakauer's book traces the

real-life story of Chris McCandless, a young man who abandoned conventional life to venture into the Alaskan wilderness, seeking authenticity and escape from societal constraints. While McCandless's journey is uniquely extreme, his story speaks to a broader human impulse to break away and carve out a personal path. We'll use this impulse as a lens to explore literary and cultural narratives of risk and to frame your own transition beyond EIU.

In the first part of the course, we will read selections from *Into the Wild* alongside other narratives of exploration, survival, self-exile, and reflective meditation across a range of genres (fiction, nonfiction, and film). Our guiding theme will be the tension between the longing for unbounded freedom and the constraints imposed by society, relationships, and the natural environment itself.

In the second part of the course, we will pivot from literary journeys to your own path beyond EIU. While we will be developing critical reading, writing, and discussion skills throughout the semester, the final portion of the course will channel these skills toward career preparation. Through a variety of professional development activities—tailored to all concentrations in the major—we will work on translating your academic experiences into a compelling and confident next step. Whether navigating to graduate school, creative writing, teaching, publishing, or other fields, we will approach the transition with the same spirit of exploration that defines the literary journeys we have studied.

ENG 4742-001

CRN 93348

[Studies in Genre](#)

TR 9:30-10:45 AM

Instructor: Abel

[True Crime](#)

From podcasts to documentaries to Tik Toks, we are still as obsessed as ever with true crime. Even as violent crime statistics have continued to decline in the United States over the past twenty years, our consumption of crime stories has only increased. This class will explore the true crime genre through literature, film, podcasts and music to uncover what our obsession with crime says about our cultural fears and anxieties. Is it ethical to treat real crimes as entertainment? How do artists transform the facts of violence into art? What can looking at true crime tell us about our justice system? How do issues of race, gender, geography, class, and sexual orientation factor in? In addition to textual analyses, discussions, and writings, this class will also give students the opportunity to create their own true crime podcast. *This course may be repeated once with a change of topic.*

Courses numbered 4750 through 4999

These classes are open to juniors, seniors, and graduate students.

Graduate students are limited to 12 hours of coursework in this category.

ENG 4760-600 CRN 94049

[Special Topics in Professional Writing: Accessibility](#)

Online

Instructor: Binns

This semester's ENG 4760-600 involves focused study of professional writing designed to enhance understanding of accessible workplace writing and provide experience in producing it. All students will gain experience in writing reviews, reports and proposals for improving accessibility that cover a wide range of audiences and contexts. Any teachers taking the course may also explore possible classroom applications in course discussions and reflections as well. The topics covered include accessibility, usability, universal design, and content creation for people with disabilities, international readers, and people who do not read easily. May be repeated once (with a different topic) for credit.

ENG 4761-001 CRN 90358

[Advanced Nonfiction Writing](#)

TR 12:30–1:45 PM

Instructor: Abel

We all have a story to tell: This advanced course will provide students with an in-depth look of the styles and techniques of contemporary creative nonfiction in the service of helping develop their unique voice and style. We will read memoirs and essay collections to break down their structures and techniques, and students will workshop and revise their own writing in the service of transforming life into art.

ENG 4764-600 CRN 99463

[Advanced Dramatic Writing](#)

Online

Instructor: Wixson

This course offers further opportunities to unlock the possibilities of stage storytelling, providing advanced creative practice combined with reading/discussion of contemporary American plays in order to continue to develop, diversify, sharpen, and deepen the craft of the playwright. Like theatre itself, the course is as invested in process as it is in product.

ENG 4765-001 CRN 91238

Professional Editing

MWF 10:00–10:50 AM

Instructor: Fredrick

Editing is an important part of the work professional communicators do. In this course, we will practice all levels of editing: copyediting for grammatical correctness and consistency, fact-checking, editing for style, editing for design, and developmental editing for content and organization. We will edit texts from disciplines such as health, technology, business/marketing, and the sciences. Because editing, like all communication, is contextual, we will address the rhetorical choices editors have to make across cultures and disciplines, and we will look at the different style guides that might influence what and how you edit. Because editing usually takes place within a larger organizational setting, we will also discuss project management, editor-author relationships, editing AI-generated text, and more.

ENG 4775-600 CRN 99516

Studies in Literature, Culture, Theory

Online

Instructor: Smith

Science Fiction, Literature, and Culture

Darko Suvin defines science fiction (SF) as the literature par excellence of "cognitive estrangement." By disrupting normal frames of reference, Suvin argues, SF tends to complicate the distinction between self and other but also to open out the possibility of seeing contemporary reality from a fresh and unexpected angle. In this course, we will consider science fiction stories, novels, and films that raise questions about selfhood and identity in precisely these terms and that complicate the very notion of "genre" in the process. Topics for the course will be wide-ranging but will include identity and culture; media, technology, and popular culture; and science and the environment. *Please note: the readings for this course may include some overlap with 5061D.*

ENG 4903-001 CRN 96541

Young Adult Literature

TR 2:00–3:15 PM

Instructor: Nance-Carroll

Study of literature written for and about adolescents with emphasis on various genres, movements, themes, and major writers. From fiction to non-fiction, traditional novels to comics, the field of young adult literature has been expanding for the past few decades. In this course, we explore how literature for young adults has changed, where it is now, and what trends are emerging to match the changing interests and tastes of young adult today.

Graduate Seminars

ENG 5000-001 CRN 90361

[Introduction to Methods and Issues in English Studies](#)

M 3:30–6:00 PM

Instructor: Worthington

A required course for all MA students, this 8-week seminar provides a foundation for the MA in English, serving as an introduction to methods and issues of advanced-level research and scholarship in English Studies. In addition to short readings that profile the changing nature of English studies in the 21st century, we will read a novel as a core text, using it to identify and evaluate appropriate scholarly resources and using it as the basis for our discussions about how the many fields in English studies cohere and connect. Students will also gain practical experience in developing a professional research, creative, or applied project, while they study and practice some of the primary means of communication in the discipline of English Studies, such as conference proposals and presentations, grant writing, and book reviews.

ENG 5000-600 CRN 95165

[Introduction to Methods and Issues in English Studies](#)

Online

Instructor: Worthington

A required course for all MA students, this seminar provides a foundation for the MA in English, serving as an introduction to methods and issues of advanced-level research and scholarship in English Studies. In addition to short readings that profile the changing nature of English studies in the 21st century, we will read a novel as a core text, using it to identify and evaluate appropriate scholarly resources and using it as the basis for our discussions about how the many fields in English studies cohere and connect. Students will also gain practical experience in developing a professional research, creative, or applied project, while they study and practice some of the primary means of communication in the discipline of English Studies, such as conference proposals and presentations, grant writing, and book reviews.

ENG 5006-600 CRN 99534

[Studies in Twentieth Century British Literature](#)

Online

Instructor: Wixson

[“Those with Elsewhere in Their Blood”: Modernism’s Afterlife in Contemporary Fiction](#)

Scholars usually stake out the territory of British literary Modernism between the first and second world wars of the 20th century, when writers responded innovatively to a crisis of representation spawned by various spatial, temporal, psychological, socio-political, technological, and existential dislocations. Recent works of fiction, however, challenge such traditional periodized definitions as a new generation of authors seeks to dialogically reconfigure and repurpose Modernist tropes to represent the lived experience of “those with elsewhere in their blood.”

This course will begin with a review of literary Modernism staged within the context of four “case study” early twentieth-century texts. From there, it will pay particular (although not exclusive) attention to Modernism’s legacy in the work of 21st century black British writers as they tackle subjects such as migration, identity formation, desire, legacy, violence, and the construction of racial, gender, class, and sexual difference. Fiction by Oyinkan Braithwaite, Akwaeke Emezi, Bernardine Evaristo, Guy Gunaratne, Mohsin Hamid, Anna Kavan, Caleb Azumah Nelson, Helen Oyeyemi, Jean Rhys, Ali Smith, Zadie Smith, Rebecca West, and Virginia Woolf will be supplemented by secondary readings in criticism and theory

ENG 5007-001 CRN 91407

[Composition Theory and Pedagogy](#)

T 3:30–6:00 PM

Instructor: Ryerson

This seminar focuses on theories and pedagogies of teaching college writing. Students will explore diverse composition pedagogies, be introduced to the various theoretical influences that have shaped the teaching of college writing, and learn about the history of composition/rhetoric as a discipline.

ENG 5007-600 CRN 95588

[Composition Theory and Pedagogy](#)

Online

Instructor: Binns

This online course focuses on theories and pedagogies related to teaching writing. Students will explore diverse composition pedagogies, discover various theoretical influences that have shaped the teaching of writing, and reflect upon their own teaching/potential teaching in relation to course materials.

The student learning objectives are as follows:

- Demonstrate breadth and depth of knowledge about history, theories, and movements within Rhetoric and Composition
- Analyze and synthesize diverse composition theories
- Demonstrate preparation to apply composition theories and pedagogies to one’s own teaching
- Demonstrate effective written communication through discussions and peer feedback
- Demonstrate the ability to produce a research article about a chosen aspect of the course topic

ENG 5009-600 CRN 99517

[Studies in Nineteenth Century American Literature](#)

Online

Instructor: Craig

[Travel Writers in the 1800s](#)

In this course, students will read published records of global experiences by various nineteenth-century tourists and practice skills in textual analysis, historical research, and evaluation of published scholarship on travelogues. The travelogue is a highly elastic genre in which the travel writer can criticize, participate

in, and resist various social behaviors and attitudes while “passing through” a given location. Readings will include excerpts from Frances Trollope’s *Domestic Manners of the Americans* (1832), Mary Seacole’s *Wonderful Adventures of Mrs Seacole in Many Lands* (1857), David F. Dorr’s *A Colored Man Around the World* (1858), the 1859 diary of Annie Adams Fields, and Sui Sin Far’s *Leaves from the Mental Portfolio of a Eurasian* (1909). Students will learn to compare the nineteenth-century travelogue, with its potential, ambitions, and unique perspective, to analogous forms and genres in the twenty-first century media landscape.

ENG 5020A-600 CRN 99464

[Graduate Workshop in Creative Writing: Fiction](#)

Online

Instructor: Whittemore

In this advanced fiction workshop, we will take a microscopic look at form, taking into consideration formal features (point of view, narrative structure, imagistic pattern, diction, punctuation, typography, sentence structures) of the fiction we read, in an effort to identify, become familiar with, and begin using the primary tools of the craft of fiction in our own work. We will frequently workshop one another’s work and offer and receive insightful, honest, and fair critique.

ENG 5022-001 CRN 99192

[Grammar/Linguistics and the Teaching of Writing](#)

R 10:00 AM-12:30 PM

Instructor: Taylor

Official EIU Course Description: Graduate seminar that explores, analyzes, and synthesizes research about grammar/linguistics and the teaching of writing

My Personal Take

One of the most famous statements about grammar and writing instruction is Braddock, Lloyd-Jones, and Shoer’s conclusion in *Research in Written Composition* (1963) that “the teaching of formal grammar has a negligible or, because it usually displaces some instruction and practice in composition, even harmful effect on the improvement in writing” (37-38). To some composition instructors, that statement acts as a threat to their belief systems. To other writing teachers, that conclusion validates their experiences. To yet other writing instructors, they are conflicted and confused.

What’s a writing teacher to do?

In an attempt to answer that question, this graduate seminar will explore the research about grammar and the teaching of writing. We will discuss practical solutions for helping students learn and implement grammatical principles to improve their writing.

ENG 5022-600 CRN 99147

[Grammar/Linguistics and the Teaching of Writing](#)

Online

Instructor: Taylor

- Same as Course Description for ENG 5022-001, CRN 99192.

ENG 5061B-600 CRN 99518

[Special Topics in Literature and Literary Theory](#)

Online

Instructor: Nance-Carroll

[Beyond the Bildungsroman: The Novel of Development throughout the Life Cycle](#)

While the *bildungsroman*, broadly the “coming of age” story, remains a popular genre, its traditional form constructs maturity as an end point: one grows from childhood “to maturity” and then stops developing. This view is echoed in stage theories of life that posit a succession of developmental tasks leading, as in Erikson’s model, to a final stage of reflection. However, critics, authors, and psychologists have all observed that the reality of development is much messier, and that people continue to develop throughout their lives. Modern young adult novels are often still called “coming of age” stories, but they tend to focus on a relatively brief part of development, often just a few months or a year, sometimes only a few days. These novels intentionally leave development unfinished; the protagonist is still a work in progress. This course explores representation of development in literature across a wide variety of ages and types, from classic and contemporary *bildungsroman* to novels in which development continues through middle and even old age, from structures in which development is cyclical, returning again and again to the same themes, to those in which growth is linear and once-occurrent. We will examine texts for and about a variety of age groups, employing theoretical perspectives from children’s and YA literature, age studies, and the literary history of *bildungsroman*.

ENG 5091A-600 CRN 99544

[Language/Linguistics/Literacy](#)

Online

Instructor: Ames

[From Fandom & Fan Activism to Anti-Fandom & Cancel Culture: Approaches to Studying Digital Writing & Online Writing Communities](#)

This course focuses on the ever-evolving forms of 21st century digital writing. Students will engage with contemporary scholarship from various fields (e.g. computers and writing, composition and rhetoric, internet studies, new media studies) to understand theories and practices of digital writing and fandom studies. Students will learn that what might seem like trivial online activity occurring on fandom sites and social media platforms is often powerful digital writing that strategically employs rhetorical strategies and genre conventions to reveal the most pressing cultural issues of our times. In this course students will be introduced to best practices, ethical debates, and methodological approaches to studying digital writing. Course assignments will include discussion board posts, short exploration activities related to fanfiction, cancel culture/anti-fandom, and social justice action stemming from fan

communities, as well as a final project adapted to fit the students' area of study, professional development needs, or personal interests.

ENG 5091B-600 CRN 99543

[Language/Linguistics/Literacy](#)

Online

Instructor: Vietto

[History of Reading, Literacy, and Censorship in the West](#)

Did widespread literacy in Europe and North America and the technology of the printing press lead to capitalism and democracy? How did literacy spread, to whom, how, and when, and how did this differential spread affect and reflect social history more broadly? Are newer technologies of spreading the written word changing our economic, social, and political systems? How and why have governments and other authorities applied pressure to limit or restrict reading, and what have the results of those efforts been? These are questions asked by historians who focus on the histories of reading, literacy, and the technologies of printing and digital information distribution. As students of literature, writing, and language, this history can help us re-think our practices of reading, writing, publishing, and teaching today—and, perhaps, help us imagine the future differently.

In this seminar, we will study this history, considering both the large sweep of history and specific case studies to provide examples of the kinds of research and analysis conducted in this field. Seminar participants will explore topics of special interest to them with projects designed with both their personal interests and professional plans in mind.

ENG 5260-001 CRN 99148

[Communication in Science and Technical Organizations](#)

W 5:00–7:30 PM

Instructor: Spear

This graduate course looks beyond academic writing to the types of communication professionals use in their careers. The course will introduce students to practices and principles of audience-centered communication within organizational settings. The applied and strategic nature of this communication will be emphasized throughout the course, and students will learn to communicate scientific and technical information to internal and external stakeholders. Thus, the broad content areas covered in the class will include organizational communication, professional writing, technical writing, and public relations. Because this course is required for master's students in the Sustainable Energy program, the major projects for this course will focus primarily on energy and environmental communication.

ENG 5742-600

CRN 99533

[Studies in Genre for Writers and Teachers](#)

Online *First half of the semester

Instructor: Beebe

[Epistolarity in a Post-Letter World](#)

Epistolarity is a literary technique that involves letters in some way—stories told through a series of letters between characters or told through diaries, journal entries, or letters folded into traditional narratives. While the handwritten letter today may seem like a relic, the digital age, according to one scholar, “has rejuvenated the epistolary form, bringing it squarely into the 21st century.”

In this 8-week seminar, we will explore epistolarity in its many shapes and forms in literary history: from classical sources (such as Ovid’s *Heroides*) to contemporary YA fiction (such as Chbosky’s *Perks of Being a Wallflower*). We will also cover epistolarity in classic and contemporary short fiction, film, and nonfiction. Through this reading, we will discuss the unique features and complexities of epistolary narratives—how epistolary texts engage readers through formal demands, how they foster intimacy, and function as both a bridge and a barrier between characters and events.

*This course meets during the first half of the semester, from Aug. 25-Oct. 15, 2025.

ENG 5802-600

CRN 99462

[Studies Integrating the English Language Arts in the Middle and Secondary Classroom](#)

Online

Instructor: Ames

This course centers on connecting pedagogical theory and its practical applications for integrating the English language arts, including reading, writing, speaking, listening, critical thinking, and media analysis. Future teachers will have the opportunity to learn how to integrate a variety of methods grounded in theories in the teaching of English language arts, as well as strategies for teaching non-traditional texts from popular culture. Adapting written and oral communication to audience and situation; recognizing components of effective oral and written communication; and integrating technology and media into the language arts classroom will be key elements of this course. Assignments include discussion board posts, short exploratory activities, lesson plans, unit plans, pedagogy research, teaching philosophy statements & professional reflections. Enrollment in this course is limited to candidates taking part in EIU’s Accelerated MAT program. Candidates must successfully pass ENG 5800 prior to taking this course.

ENG 5960-001 CRN 94145

[Professional Writing Internship](#)

Instructor: Fredrick

Students must meet with the Internship Coordinator (Dr. Fredrick) to arrange an internship placement before registering for ENG 5960.

A community-based experience featuring practical application of skills developed in the English curriculum, to the extent possible, placement is matched to career goals with the expectation that students might approach graduation and the job search with writing/editing portfolios to show potential employers. Recent English interns have worked as writers or editors for nonprofit organizations, small businesses, corporations, libraries, local government offices.

English 5960 is a three-hour course offered on a credit/no credit basis. Internship work is part time (an average of 10 hours per week over a 15-week semester) and can be completed while enrolled in other courses and/or while holding a graduate assistantship. In addition to work created as part of the internship, students will engage in reflective writing about the internship and organizational culture. The coordinator and site-supervisors cooperate in evaluation.

Courses taught by English faculty outside the English Department this semester

FILM 2759G-600 CRN 94806

[History of Cinema](#)

Online

Instructor: Martinez

HIC 2100G-001 CRN 98671

HIC 2190G-099 CRN 98672

[Introduction to Health and Medical Humanities](#)

TR 2:00-3:15 PM

Instructor: Wharram

THA 2258-001 CRN 98006

[Script Analysis](#)

TR 11:00–12:15 PM

Instructor: Wixson

WGS 2309G-002 CRN 99546

[Introduction to Women's and Gender Studies](#)

TR 3:30-4:45 PM

Instructor: Ludlow

WGS 2903-001 CRN 99547

[Women and Gendered Violence](#)

T 5:30-8:00 PM

Instructor: Ludlow