

# English Course Descriptions – Spring 2021

*All literature courses fulfill the College of Arts & Sciences literature requirement and MPSL culture track requirement.  
Any writing course 200 or above fulfills an advanced writing requirement.*

CRN	Course	Crd	Course Title	Faculty	Days	Times	Prerequisite
30279	EN160-01	1	Reading Roundtable: Memoir	Frech	W	12:00-12:50—Online	

We bring to memoir a curiosity not just about the material details of the author's life, but also about the unflinchingly examination of the self. How steady is the author in this all-important work of knowing the self? This roundtable will read the memoirs of painters (Ben Shahn), ballet dancers (Toni Bentley), explorers (Albanov), and of course writers: Neruda, Angelou, and Hemingway.

30398	EN170-01	1	Playwriting Roundtable	Zorn	T	11:00-11:50	
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Playwriting Roundtable is a one-credit writing workshop focusing on the structure of playwriting. Reading goals include becoming familiar with the micro-drama (1-5 minutes), ten-minute plays, monologues, one-acts and full-length plays. The writing goals will be focused on completing multiple drafts of new, original monologues and micro-dramas.

30188	EN201-01	3	Intro to Creative Writing	Braniger	TR	12:30-1:45—Online	IN151 or consent
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EN 201 is an invitation to explore the mysterious and evocative workings of the world and self through bringing about your own creative work. We will discover various means of inquiries into these mysteries, and you will be encouraged to adopt those means or methods best suited for your own self-expression. As you glean from the *fields of your own experience*, think of ways to accentuate the puzzlement surrounding the daily, ordinary things about which you write. *How can you think about these things in new ways and evoke others to see them in new ways?* Engaging in exercises to practice craft, we will study three genres: poetry, fiction, scriptwriting, and/or memoir. You will have the opportunity to keep a journal, to draft and revise creative work from each genre we study, to workshop your work and the work of others, to create a writing portfolio, and to write a self-reflection piece on your writing process. Fulfills the University-wide Creative Arts Requirement.

Fulfills an advanced writing requirement.

30222	EN202-01	3	Writing about Literature	Magagna	TR	9:30-10:45—Online	
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What is it that we do as literary scholars? How are the ways we read and write about literature unique and useful? The goal of this course is to begin to answer these questions by exploring ways to read, think, and write as literary scholars. The class begins with the question of why we read and write about literature. We then move to careful readings and close textual analyses of literary creations—from the traditional to the experimental—focusing on explication, analysis, and interpretation. In the process, we will introduce some basic critical approaches to studying literature, including: reader-response theory; New Criticism; feminism and gender theory; lesbian, gay, and queer theory; psychoanalytical theory; Marxist theory; African American theory; and postcolonialism. As a final project, we will produce a near-professional critical casebook in collaboration with other students. For Spring 2021, the text for this final casebook will be the 2018 novel *There There*, by contemporary Native American author Tommy Orange.

**Please Note:** This is a course designed for those pursuing (or considering) majors/minors in English. As such, the reading and writing load for the course will be rigorous, and our course topics will be best suited for those whose academic plans or personal interests include the intensive study of literature and language.

Fulfills an advanced writing requirement.

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30196	EN215-01	3	Journalism: Newswriting I	Lambert	TR	2:00-3:15—Online	
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Introduction to basic methods of news reporting and writing. Students learn Associated Press style basics and an introduction to journalism ethics while writing the basic types of news stories: advances, follow-ups, breaking news, controversy and research-based journalism, with an emphasis of writing from a beat. Students will be assigned a beat and will learn the process of writing about it. Focuses on print journalism, but also addresses broadcast news writing. The 315 course also adds copy editing. Fulfills an advanced writing requirement.

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30102	EN220-01	3	The Handmaid's Tale: Feminism, Freedom, And Resistance	Braniger	MW	5:00-6:15—Online	IN151 or consent
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Language has always been an essential part of resistance and using it properly to say what we really mean has never been more important. Rooted in American literature, Margaret Atwood's 1985 novel *The Handmaid's Tale* explores what happens when history repeats itself. In addition to reading Atwood's novel, we will also watch the first season of Hulu's adaptation of it. To explore the relationship between Atwood's terrifyingly prescient novel and American history, we will look at early American literature that might have influenced Atwood's approach to the novel, such as *The Scarlet Letter*. We will also read Henry David Thoreau's essay "Civil Disobedience" and apply his ideas to the various ways in which the women in the novel and the TV show demonstrate resistance in their plights for freedom.

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30026	EN222-01	3	Contemporary Adolescent Literature	Glause	M WF	1:00-1:50—Online 1:00-1:50	IN151 or consent
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Adolescent or Young Adult Literature (and media) is written and intended for adolescents and framed within a rich literary, historical, and social context. In this class, we will explore this highly popular, often trivialized, canon and explore the impact these texts have on our education, culture, and own internal ideologies. Together we will broaden our understanding of the richness of this genre and its place in the literary canon. Through multiple modes of discussion and projects, students will better understand the topics, styles, themes, and issues common to Young Adult (YA) literature and media. We will examine the purpose of writing for adolescents while carefully examining many representative texts/films of the genre, which explore intersectional adolescent identities including race, gender, sexuality, ability, and socioeconomic status. We will consider why so many of these texts are challenged and/or labeled controversial while engaging with very recent young adult publications in a variety of genres and media. Recommended for all Education majors, especially language arts students.

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30009	EN232-01	3	American Literature 1900 to Present	O'Conner	MWF	10:00-10:50—Online	IN151 or consent
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This course surveys a wide range of American writers from around 1900 to the present. It examines these writers in the cultural, intellectual, and historical contexts of the 20th Century and beyond. Units include Regional and Social Realism, Early 20th century Poets, Modernist Portraits, the Southern Renaissance, the Literature of Liberation and the Search for Identity, among others. Along with close readings and examinations of the literature, we will look at a broad range of the cultural contexts that influence this literature including the fine arts, history, material culture, religion, politics, music, cultural geography, folklore and anthropology. Fulfills the Literature after 1900 requirement.

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30216	EN234-01	3	American Multicultural Literature	Matthews	TR	2:00-3:15—Online	IN151 or consent
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An introduction to American writers from diverse cultures. The course will examine culturally specific questions, as well as cross-cultural issues of race, class, gender, and sexuality. Possible authors include Zora Neale Hurston, Nella Larsen, Toni Morrison, James Baldwin, August Wilson, Ta-Nehisi Coates, Louise Erdrich, Sherman Alexie, Junot Diaz, Li-Young Lee, John Okada, Maxine Hong Kingston, Art Spiegelman and Cynthia Ozick, among others. Prerequisite: IN151 or consent. Fulfills College of Arts & Sciences literature requirement; if cross-listed, fulfills U.S. Cultural Studies requirement. Partially fulfills requirements for the African American Studies minor. Recommended as a course that fulfills the College of Arts & Sciences lit requirement.

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30024	EN270-02	3	Computer-Aided Publishing	Hollis-George	MWF	9:00-9:50—UC226	
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This course is an introduction to layout and design as well as computer tools that assist designers in their tasks. The course will revolve around Adobe InDesign CS. In addition, you will work with image software like Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator. Class sessions will be a combination of presentation and discussion, followed by workshop time for you to practice what we covered that day.

Fulfills a publishing requirement.

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30399	EN280-01	1	<i>Decaturian</i> Newspaper Staff	Lambert	tba	Online	EN215 or consent
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Staff members of the *Decaturian*, Millikin's student newspaper, receive credit for making a regular contribution to the paper for the semester, writing and performing other weekly duties for each issue. Participants create a portfolio reflecting on their development during the semester. This course can be repeated each semester for up to eight credits.

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30303	EN290-01	1	Sophomore Writing Portfolio	Braniger	F	12:00-12:50—Online	
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Sophomore Writing Portfolio is a one-credit workshop required of all sophomore-level writing majors (including transfers). The primary goal of the course is to provide an opportunity for sophomores to review and reflect on their writing, editing, and publishing projects completed in their first two years of study. Over the course of the semester, students will work to discover their writing identities in relation to various audiences and to develop a strong sense of the expectations of the writing major and Millikin's writing concentrations. Students will develop a preliminary personal writing theory. Then, by the end of the course, each student will design, prepare, and present a professional writing portfolio that demonstrates the knowledge they have acquired about what constitutes quality performance at Millikin and in the broader field.

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30140	EN301-01	3	Advanced Creative Writing: Verse Drama	Frech	TR	11:00-12:15—Online	EN201 or consent
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301, as an advanced creative writing course, will continue those considerations of craft from the introductory course: the essentials of form and structure (rhyme & meter, figurative language, narrative point of view) with an eye for improving and situating our own writing, whatever it is we wish to write.

The tradition of plays in verse is long and celebrated, dating back to ancient Greece when drama was a form of poetry. Verse plays are still written and produced today, and they provide writers an opportunity to collaborate with other artists and to see their work come to life on stage. This class will study verse plays including Sophocles' *Oedipus Rex*, Byron's *Manfred*, and Eliot's *Murder in the Cathedral*. Students will work on their own one-act plays in verse and have them stage-ready by the end of the semester.

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30075	EN302-01	3	Methods for Teaching Literacy	Glause	M WF	8:00-8:50—Online	Admission to School of Ed
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This course is required for all K-12 and secondary content area majors. It supports the Illinois Professional Teaching Standards (IPTs) as well as the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) in literacy for English/Language Arts, History/Social Science, Science, and Technical Subjects such as Art, P.E. and Music. Course content focuses on the preparation of teacher candidates for the responsibility of integrating reading, writing, listening and speaking instruction into their content area curriculum. Topics of study will include but are not limited to: culturally relevant literacy and instruction; language acquisition and development; instructional design, differentiation, and literacy assessment; English language learners and students with special needs.

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30198	EN302-02	3	Methods for Teaching Literacy	Gilpin	TR	5:00-6:15	Admission to School of Ed
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This course is required for all K-12 and secondary content area majors. It supports the Illinois Professional Teaching Standards (IPTTS) as well as the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) in literacy for History/Social Science, Science & Technical Subjects such as Art, P.E. and Music. Course content focuses on the preparation of teacher candidates for the responsibility of integrating reading, writing, listening and speaking instruction into their content area curriculum. Topics of study will include, but are not limited to: language acquisition and development; instructional design and literacy assessment; English language learners and students with special needs; differentiation and RTI; and college and career readiness.

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30090	EN307-01	3	Professional Editing	Bates	MWF	10:00-10:50	IN151 or consent of instructor
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This course focuses on the theories and practices that guide professional editors who are integral in a variety of capacities to the production of written texts. Students will learn about the different roles of editors in the publishing industry and will practice all levels of editing: developmental editing, content editing, technical editing, copyediting, proofreading, and fact checking. The course enables students to interact with current professional editors and also gain hands-on editorial experience through a performance learning client project.

Fulfills a requirement for the Publishing & Editing Minor.

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30012	EN310-01	3	Applying Writing Theory	Bates	MWF	1:00-1:50	An advanced writing course
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This course introduces contemporary theories of writing (broadly conceived), including theories from rhetoric, composition, and professional writing studies. We will study these theories and how we can apply them to our own writing processes and when analyzing existing texts. Additionally, this course examines the history and application of writing theory to the teaching of writing (conceptualized broadly to include not only teaching writing in the K-12 or college classroom, but also the teaching of writing by tutors working in writing centers, volunteers working in community literacy settings, editors working with authors, and managers or leaders guiding employees writing in professional contexts).

Required for Writing and English Education majors.

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30073	EN322-01	3	Major English Authors	Matthews	MWF	12:00-12:50	IN 151 and one lit course
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Reading and analysis of major writers of English literature from the end of the 18th century, the Romantic period, the Victorian period, the 20th century, and the present. Prerequisite: IN151 and 1 literature course.

Fulfills the British Literature after 1700 requirement.

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30081	EN325-01	3	Otherworldly Shakespeare	Hollis-George	MWF	11:00-11:50	IN151 or consent
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Many of Shakespeare's plays use supernatural elements and/or take place in a world-set-apart. This section of Studies in Shakespeare will explore the role of the otherworldly and the world-set-apart in Shakespeare's plays. This will include Shakespeare's settings as well as aspects such as fairies, witches, deities, and magic. Plays might include *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *As You Like It*, *Macbeth*, *The Tempest*, *Pericles*. Other readings will be supplied by the instructor.

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30176	EN335-01	3	Global Haiku	Brooks	TR	2:00-3:15	IN151 or consent
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Global Haiku Traditions examines the origins and spread of Japanese poetics from Japan around the world, with a special focus on the adaptation of haiku into other cultures and languages. This course explores the role of haiku as a social literary art—both the art of reading and art of writing haiku emphasize the importance of shared collaborative aesthetic experiences (shared acts of the imagination). There is a very active global haiku community of writers, editors, scholars, and associations celebrating participation in this literary art. A special feature of the course is that students will study leading international poets of contemporary haiku. We will study the history of haiku and related poetics in Japan, and then examine the contemporary internalization of haiku in various cultures. Students complete both an analytical study of a contemporary haiku poet or issue in the haiku community as well as various creative projects connecting haiku to other arts.

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30098	EN380-01	3	Sports and Protest	Lambert	MWF	2:00-2:50	EN215
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This class examines the cultural impact of protest in the world of sports and how media representations of those protests impacted people. From the bound defiance of Jackie Robinson to the words of LeBron James, this class will study the impact of sports and protest.

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30141	EN384-01	1-3	Art of Publishing	Frech	TR	12:30-1:45	
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The Art of Publishing is a performance learning course on book publishing. Students will continue the operations of Sting & Honey Press, publisher of literary chapbooks.  
Fulfills a requirement for the Publishing & Editing Minor.

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30311	EN386-01	1-3	Blue Satellite Press	Frech	R	5:00-7:30	
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Students will operate Blue Satellite Press, publisher of letterpress poetry broadsides, literary pamphlets, coasters, and Cheeky Greetings cards. In doing so, we will learn aspects of design and print production that letterpress printing encourages: layering, color "interaction" and font as a design element, all aspects one can learn in computer layout, but only with deliberate, conscious effort. We will maintain the ongoing operations of running a small literary press: editing, design, marketing, sales.  
Fulfills a requirement for the Publishing & Editing Minor.

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30229	EN388-01	1	Publishing Roundtable: Authorship	Bates	M	12:00-12:50	
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What is an author? Are writers automatically authors? Is authorship a singular endeavor or a collaborative cultural function attributed to one individual? To answer these questions, students in this roundtable course will study different (and sometimes contested) perspectives on authorship within publishing, rhetoric/composition, journalism, education, and other fields and will examine examples of writing that highlight collective and collaborative authorship, that have been deemed egregious examples of plagiarism, and more. A key emphasis of this course is reading and discussion about differing conceptions of and debates over authorship. Additionally, students will work throughout the semester to collaboratively write a series of essays on the topic of authorship.  
Fulfills a requirement for the Publishing & Editing Minor.

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30010	HN203-01	3	Humanities Honors Seminar, Intro to American Film	O'Conner	MWF	2:00-2:50	Honors Program
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This three-credit film studies honors seminar is essentially an introduction to viewing film as an aesthetic art form, with some emphasis on cinema terminology and technique, the history of film, and the relationship between film and literature. A significant theme running throughout the course will be "the American Dream, the American Nightmare," or an examination of how cultural and national identity, including our hopes and fears, are reflected in the films we make and watch in the United States. These films often include examinations of issues of race, class, or gender. Influential and award-winning films used in the past have included Birth of a Nation, The Gold Rush, Citizen Kane, Stagecoach, It's a Wonderful Life, The Godfather, The Maltese Falcon, Do the Right Thing, American Beauty, War of the Worlds, Singin' In the Rain, Juno, and others. Fulfills a humanities honors seminar requirement for Honors Students. If student does not continue on in the Honors Program, can fulfill the College of Arts & Sciences literature course requirement, and/or can count as an IN250 requirement.

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30185	HN203	3	International Nobel Prize Literature	Matthews	TR	3:30-4:45	Honors Program
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According to one philosopher, literature is a thought experiment in ethics. Another philosopher wrote that people are beings for whom being is a problem. Indeed, these approaches to literature and being are other ways of articulating Milliken's three core questions: who am I? how can I know? what should I do? All of the authors we will read—Heinrich Boll, Albert Camus, Wole Soyinka, Toni Morrison and Doris Lessing—concern themselves one way or another with personal identity, community, values, conflict and self-knowledge, among other issues. Most importantly, their work calls on us to reflect on ourselves and our relationship to others and the world.

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