

Department of English Spring 2025 Course Offerings

ENG 101 Writing Seminar

101 001	1191	MWF	11:30 am-12:20 pm	Stephen Kurczy
101 002	1192	MWF	12:30 pm-01:20 pm	Stephen Kurczy
101 003	1193	TWF	09:30 am-10:20 am	Shawn Flanagan
101 004	1194	TWF	10:30 am-11:20 am	Shawn Flanagan
101 005	1195	MWF	11:30 am-12:20 pm	STAFF
101 006	1196	MWF	12:30 pm-01:20 pm	STAFF
101 007	1197	MWF	12:30 pm-01:20 pm	STAFF
101 008	1198	MWF	02:30 pm-03:20 pm	STAFF
101 009	1199	MWF	11:30 am-12:20 pm	STAFF
101 010	1201	MWF	12:30 pm-01:20 pm	STAFF

Focuses on the creation of complex, analytic, well-supported arguments that matter in academic contexts. Students receive regular feedback on their writing, both from their peers and the instructor, and learn flexible strategies for revision. Assignments promote awareness of stylistic conventions, rhetorical possibilities, and genuine inquiry.

Fulfills Intensive Writing Level I Proficiency

For additional details on the Writing Seminar courses, please visit: <https://english.providence.edu/writing-courses/>.

ENG 161 Introduction to Journalism

161 001	1204	W	04:00 pm-06:30 pm	STAFF
161 002	1205	R	04:00 pm-06:30 pm	STAFF

Introduces students to basic journalistic experiences including interviewing, researching, news, feature, and sports writing. It defines both standards of journalistic writing and the legal standards that govern journalism and combines lively writing experience with critical awareness.

Prerequisite: Intensive Writing Level I Proficiency

ENG 175 Introduction to Literature

175 001	1206	TR	11:30 am-12:45 pm	Stephen Lynch
175 002	1207	MR	08:30 am-09:45 am	Fr. Jordan Zajac
175 003	1208	TR	02:30 pm-03:45 pm	Tuire Valkeakari
175 004	1209	TR	01:00 pm-02:15 pm	Tuire Valkeakari
175 005	1210	MR	02:30 pm-03:45 pm	Chun Ye
175 006	1211	TR	01:00 pm-02:15 pm	Emily Pittinos
175 007	1212	TR	02:30 pm-03:45 pm	E.C. Osondu
175 008	1213	TR	01:00 pm-02:15 pm	E.C. Osondu
175 009	1214	TR	02:30 pm-03:45 pm	Russell Hillier
175 010	1215	TR	11:30 am-12:45 pm	Russell Hillier
175 011	1216	TR	11:30 am-12:45 pm	Raphael Shargel
175 012	1217	TR	01:00 pm-02:15 pm	Raphael Shargel
175 013	1218	MR	10:00 am-11:15 am	Chun Ye
175 014	1219	TR	11:30 am-12:45 pm	Fr. Jordan Zajac

An investigation of the three main literary genres—poetry, fiction, and drama—with an emphasis on writing. Students completing this course should be able to read with engagement and discernment, discuss literature critically, and write analytically and with an awareness of scholarly conventions.

Required for English Majors. All others welcome.

Fulfills Intensive Writing Level I Proficiency

For additional details on the Writing Seminar courses, please visit: <https://english.providence.edu/writing-courses/>.



Department of English Spring 2025 Course Offerings

ENG 185 Introduction to Creative Writing

185 001	1220	TR	04:00 pm-05:15 pm	Emily Pittinos
185 002	1221	MR	10:00 am-11:15 am	Alison Espach

Introduction to Creative Writing in fiction and poetry designed for non-majors and open to all students. Classes discuss reading and writing assignments in seminar and workshop settings. Students keep reading journals, write substantive critiques of each other's work, a book review on poetry or fiction, and assemble a portfolio of their work including nine poems, and three short stories, all with two to four revisions. *Required of English Creative Writing Majors.*

ENG 202 Rhetorical Analysis

Mark Pedretti

202 001	1222	TR	01:00 pm-02:15 pm
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This course introduces students to foundational concepts in the analysis of persuasive speech and argumentation across various kinds of texts and media. Students will acquire a foundational knowledge of Aristotelian rhetoric, including its contemporary adaptations and critiques. This knowledge is then applied to a variety of discursive domains, including narrative, cultural studies, public speech acts, and digital communication.

ENG 265 20th Century African American Literature

Tuire Valkeakari

265 001	1223	TR	11:30 am-12:45 pm
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An introduction to twentieth-century African American fiction, drama, and poetry, with attention to cultural and social contexts. Careful close readings of selected texts, as well as discussions of Black literary movements' and individual authors' understandings of the role of literary art in society. We will focus on race, class, and gender; on literary representations of Black identity, resistance, and freedom; and on dialogues between content and literary form. Writers include Nella Larsen, Ralph Ellison, Amiri Baraka, Toni Morrison, and John Edgar Wideman. T

This course fulfills the Diversity Proficiency and Intensive Writing II Proficiency requirements of the Core Curriculum.

Lit Post-1800 Elective

UG Core: Diversity

UG Core: Intensive Writing II

Cross listed with BLS 265 001 [1734]

Cross listed with AMS 265 001 [1174]

ENG 301 Writing Genres

301 001	1224	MWF	01:30 pm-02:20 pm	Shawn Flanagan
301 002	1225	MWF	02:30 pm-03:20 pm	Shawn Flanagan
301 003	1226	TR	01:00 pm-02:15 pm	Amy Foley
301 004	1227	M	04:00 pm-06:30 pm	STAFF
301 005	2739	MWF	12:30 pm-01:20 pm	STAFF

Applies students' skills in written argumentation to a nonfiction genre of writing chosen by the instructor. This course foregrounds the argumentative aspects of public genres like biography, reviews, letters, and manifestos, among others. Students will read exemplary texts to study the genre's rhetorical possibilities and will practice writing within and about the genre in ways that incorporate research and revision.

Prerequisite: Writing I Proficiency

For additional details on the Writing Seminar courses, please visit: <https://english.providence.edu/writing-courses/>.



Department of English Spring 2025 Course Offerings

ENG 307 Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*

Robert Stretter

307 001 1228 TWF 10:30 am-11:20 am

- ❖ a lusty widow skilled in the “art of love”
- ❖ a loud-mouthed, drunken, heavily-armed miller
- ❖ a penniless student who spent all his money on books
- ❖ a cook whose food you would never want to eat
- ❖ a shameless con-man
- ❖ martyred saints who lounge around in boiling cauldrons
- ❖ knights in shining armor (plus one in really grubby armor)
- ❖ damsels in distress
- ❖ damsels very much NOT in distress
- ❖ an especially memorable kiss
- ❖ sex in a pear tree
- ❖ and talking chickens . . .

Welcome to the world of Chaucer!

ENG 307 is an exploration of the life and work of Geoffrey Chaucer (c. 1342-1400), the most influential English poet of the Middle Ages. Our focus will be Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*, an exhilarating tour through the kaleidoscopic world of late medieval England, which we will read in the original Middle English. Because the course assumes no prior familiarity with Middle English, a portion of class time will be dedicated to mastering Chaucer's language (which usually can be done in about six weeks). In addition to studying the literary aspects of Chaucer's art, we will examine medieval attitudes towards religion, morality, politics, gender, family, sex, love (both “courtly” and non-courtly), and marriage. **No previous knowledge of medieval literature or language is required. Fulfills the pre-1800 literature requirement for English majors and minors.**

ENG 312 Shakespeare: Tragedies and Romances

Raphael Shargel

312 001 1230 TR 04:00 pm-05:15 pm

We will analyze and discuss the most famous Shakespearean tragedies — *Hamlet*, *Othello*, *King Lear*, and *Macbeth*— along with lesser-known plays like the ferocious and astonishing *Coriolanus* and *Antony and Cleopatra*. We will also cover what are probably Shakespeare's last works, a remarkable series of post-tragedies today known as romances, which include *Cymbeline*, *The Winter's Tale* and *The Tempest*. What is tragedy? What is romance? Is Shakespeare really the greatest writer of all time? We'll explore these questions and many others by diving deeply into Shakespeare's language, characters, plots, imagery.

Lit Pre-1800 Elective

Cross listed with TDF 312 001 (1329)

ENG 313 Renaissance Drama

Stephen Lynch

313 001 2736 MR 10:00 am-11:15 am

A mix of comedies and tragedies from 1580-1650, including Marlowe, Kyd, Jonson, Middleton, Webster, Beaumont and Fletcher. The plays will be studied within the social and political context of early modern England.

Lit Pre-1800 Elective

Cross listed with TDF 310 001 (2737)



Department of English Spring 2025 Course Offerings

ENG 330 Cormac McCarthy

Russell Hillier

330 001 1231 R 04:00 pm-06:30 pm

Cormac McCarthy, “Rhode Island Shakespeare,” was born on July 20th, 1933, in Providence. He passed on June 13th, 2023, in Santa Fe, New Mexico, at the age of eighty-nine. He was a major contemporary North American thinker, who published for nearly six decades and authored twelve novels, two plays, and five screenplays. He was a past recipient of Guggenheim and MacArthur “Genius” Fellowships, the National Book Award, the National Book Critics Circle Award, the James Tait Black Memorial Prize for Fiction, and the Pulitzer Prize. The Coen brothers, Ridley Scott, John Hillcoat, Billy Bob Thornton, Tommy Lee Jones, and James Franco have all adapted McCarthy’s narratives for the silver and small screen: *No Country for Old Men*, *The Counselor*, *The Road*, *All the Pretty Horses*, *The Sunset Limited*, and *Child of God*. Screen adaptations of McCarthy’s masterpiece *Blood Meridian*, under the direction of John Hillcoat, and McCarthy’s final novels from 2022, the duology *The Passenger* and *Stella Maris*, under the direction of Jeff Nichols, are currently in the works. At the invitation of the particle physicist Murray Gell-Mann, from 2001 to 2023 McCarthy was a Fellow at the Santa Fe Institute, where he collaborated in multidisciplinary study with distinguished members of the global scientific community.

McCarthy stated that the “good writers . . . deal with issues of life and death” and his professed literary influences were Herman Melville, Fyodor Dostoevsky, and William Faulkner. His is an authentic, unique literary voice in both the content and style of his work, but to read him is to enter the Western literary and philosophical tradition with which his fiction is in ceaseless conversation. His principal concerns are metaphysical, moral, and ecological: the nature and problem of evil, the idea of God or the transcendent, humanity’s place within nature, the question of moral choice and action, the possibility of goodness, the meaning and limits of civilization, the benefits and pitfalls of industrial and technological progress, the good of story, and the definition of what it is to be human.

The class will explore the full range of McCarthy’s works, from his Appalachian novels, experiments in Southern Gothic, to his reinvention of the Western, to his more recent contributions to the genres of post-apocalyptic, “narco-noir,” the philosophical dialogue, and science fiction. Along the way we will consider McCarthy’s investment in the consequential works and ideas of past poets, philosophers, and theologians in realizing his astonishing imaginative project — to discover of what kind of clay the human heart is made.

Although the course is classed at the 300 level, McCarthy’s fiction should appeal and be accessible to anyone who is passionate about, or interested in, great literature.

Lit Post-1800 Elective

Fulfills the Philosophy Core Curriculum Requirement

Fulfills the Oral Communication Proficiency

Cross-listed with AMS 370 001 (1186)



Department of English Spring 2025 Course Offerings

ENG 353 Victorian Age

Elizabeth Bridgham

353 001 1232 TR 02:30 pm-03:45 pm

Did the Victorians really cover up their piano legs for the sake of modesty? Were Victorian novelists really paid by the word? How do we reconcile the stuffy connotation of “Victorian” with the outrageous “Decadent” writers and artists, or with the horrific crimes of Jack the Ripper, who claimed that he “gave birth to the 20th century?” In this class, we’ll take a myth-busting approach to stereotypes about 19th-century Britain which fail to acknowledge the intensely modern self-concept that led the Victorians to pursue progress in every area of life. Reform shook the foundations of the British class system; radical agitation changed popular notions of women’s roles, religion, and science; Britain expanded its power as a global empire; and aesthetic experimentation produced new genres of literary and popular culture, many of which were scandalous, shocking, and sensational. This course examines the relationship between the literature of the period and the rapidly changing society in which it was produced. Students will read texts by well-known literary authors (which may include Dickens, Eliot, Tennyson, the Brownings, Arnold, Carlyle, Darwin, Wilde, etc.), and by popular authors whose literary merit has more recently been recognized. We will also study writers who developed the genres of science fiction, detective fiction, and children’s literature (including H.G. Wells, Arthur Conan Doyle, and Lewis Carroll).

Cross listed with WGS 353 001 (1375)

ENG 359 Communications Internship

By Arrangement

359 001 1233

Juniors and seniors may obtain internships at local businesses and agencies to develop and apply skills in writing and analysis in the workplace. In addition to the 10-15 hours per week of supervised experience, students must compose and fulfill a contractual learning agreement. *Pass/Fail credit only*

Department Chair Permission Required.

ENG 360 Modern Irish Literature

Alexander Moffett

360 001 1234 TR 01:00 pm-02:15 pm

A survey of Irish literature from 1880 to the present. Emphasis is placed on the Literary Revival (1880 - 1940). Authors include Yeats, Synge, Joyce, O’Casey, Lady Gregory, O’Faolain, O’Connor, O’Flaherty, Beckett, Bowen, Heaney, and Friel. Topics include the appeal of the past, literature and politics, the formation of a new Ireland, and the problem of violence.

*Please note this course will not be eligible for pre-registration.

Lit Post-1800 Elective

Fulfills Intensive Writing Level II Proficiency

ENG 380 Creative Writing: Fiction

E.C. Osondu

380 001 1235 T 04:00 pm-06:30 pm

This course helps students learn to write short stories. Exercises are designed to strengthen students’ skill in rendering the elements of fiction. All work is discussed in a workshop situation. An anthology of short stories is read along with students’ work. A folio of exercises, short stories, and revisions provides the basis for the course grade.

Fine Arts Core Requirement

Lit Post-1800 Elective



Department of English Spring 2025 Course Offerings

ENG 381 Creative Writing: Poetry

Chun Ye

381 001 1236 M 04:00 pm-06:30 pm

This course helps you improve your poetry writing through extensive reading and writing assignments. Students will also develop skills in analyzing poetic works. Class time will be devoted to the discussion of readings and poetic craft, workshop of student poems, and writing exercises.

Lit Post-1800 Elective

Fine Arts Core Requirement

ENG 441 Studies in Literature Creative Non-Fiction

Emily Pittinos

441 001 1237 F 02:30 pm-05:00 pm

This is a workshop and craft course on Creative Nonfiction, a genre that uses the devices of creative writing—such as world-building, characterization, dialogue, sensory detail, form on the page, etc.—to tell true stories. We will explore the foundations of this genre as well as some of its subgenres, including the Personal Essay, Literary Journalism, the Braided Essay, Flash Nonfiction, and more. The primary focuses of this course will be sharpening your writing skills, engaging in the workshop process, and writing original pieces inspired by your own life.

Lit Post-1800 Elective

Can count as a Creative Writing Elective

Can fulfill a Writing Course in the Writing Minor

ENG 470 Special Topic: Sports Journalism

Stephen Kurczyk

470 001 1238 M 04:00 pm-06:30 pm

Sports journalism is more than writing down a box score. When politicians offer millions in tax dollars to woo a professional sports team, when an athlete parlay a sports career into a presidential campaign, or when a player's kneel sparks a national discussion on race, we see how sports are bigger than any stadium and how sports journalism, in turn, can offer a unique and compelling lens on culture, politics, business, violence, social issues, and everyday life.

In this course, students will learn the nuts and bolts of reporting and writing sports stories, from basic game reports to in-depth investigations. Putting this into practice — and drawing inspiration from Providence College's own Doris Burke '87, today's top NBA analyst — students will take advantage of the excitement and storylines around campus athletics to craft their own stories, which will require attending games, interviewing athletes and coaches, digging into surrounding social issues, and writing on deadline. To gain a historical appreciation for the genre, students will read and analyze works by David Remnick, Buzz Bissinger, Louisa Thomas, and others about everything from surfing to figure skating. Class discussion will explore the relationship between sports media and politics, business, race, gender, sexuality, nationalism, consumerism, violence, and civic life.

ENG 480 SEMINAR Jane Austen

Bruce Graver

480 001 1239 T 07:00 pm-09:30 pm

The novels of Jane Austen are a source of continual delight to the reader, as well as considerable profit to British and American filmmakers. We will read her works chronologically, beginning with selections from the juvenilia, and ending with the posthumously-published *Persuasion*. Each class will begin with a cup of tea, served in china teacups.



Department of English Spring 2025 Course Offerings

The purpose of this course is to allow students to gain a thorough understanding of the achievement of one of the greatest British novelists. We will examine the novels from a formalist point of view, but also look at how Austen's works reflect various social, historical, and ethical issues. Students will also gain a sense of the major critical positions regarding Austen's works, such as the standard studies by Butler, Poovey and Johnson, as well as contemporary studies by Lynch, Heydt-Stevenson, Byrne, Looser, and others. We will also look at film adaptations of several of the novels, compare them with each other, and compare them with the novels themselves.

Class format will involve short background lectures, regular seminar reports, and vigorous discussion. Students will be responsible for weekly 2-page response papers, a 6-8 page short paper, due near midterm, and a long seminar research paper (15-20 pages) due at the end of the semester. There will be three oral assignments: a report on a work of secondary literature, a group discussion-leading assignment, and a final presentation on your seminar research project. Reading list (in order of appearance): *Austen's Juvenilia* *Northanger Abbey* *Sense and Sensibility*
Pride and Prejudice *Emma* *Mansfield Park* *Persuasion*

Fulfills the Oral Communication Proficiency

Lit Pre-1800 Elective

Cross listed with WGS 470 001 (1384)

ENG 481 SEMINAR Flannery O'Connor

Suzanne Fournier

481 001 1240 M 02:30 pm-05:00 pm

This course will explore the fiction of Flannery O'Connor, both her two volumes of short fiction and her two novels. In addition, we will read extensively in her letters and essays in order to understand her intellectual and esthetic principles, especially those that underlie her designation of herself as a Hillbilly Thomist. The approach will be chronological because another question that we will consider is that of her development, the ways in which her later work grows out of, but differs from, her earlier work. We will also examine the continuing influence of O'Connor on later works as different as Bruce Springsteen's album *Nebraska* and the films *Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri* and *Wildcat*.

Lit Post-1800 Elective

Cross listed with AMS 470 001 (1189)

ENG 490 001 (1241) Independent Study

STAFF

Department Chair Permission Required.

ENG 492 001 (1242) Publishing and Producing Alembic

Emily Pittinos

Department Chair Permission Required.

ENG 498 001 (1243) Senior Thesis

STAFF

Department Chair Permission Required.

ENG 499 001 (1244) Senior Thesis

STAFF

Department Chair Permission Required.

