

Department of English Spring 2026 Course Offerings

ENG 101 Writing Seminar

101 001	1031	TWF	09:30 am-10:20 am	Shawn Flanagan
101 002	1032	TWF	10:30 am-11:20 am	Shawn Flanagan
101 003	1033	MR	10:00 am-11:15 am	STAFF
101 004	1034	TR	01:00 pm-02:15 pm	Cristina Rodriguez
101 005	1035	TWF	09:30 am-11:20 am	STAFF
101 006	1036	TWF	08:30 am-09:20 am	STAFF
101 007	1037	MWF	01:30 pm-02:20 pm	STAFF
101 008	1038	MWF	11:30 am-12:20 pm	STAFF
101 009	1039	MWF	12:30 pm-01:20 pm	STAFF
101 010	1040	MWF	11:30 am-12:20 pm	STAFF
101 011	1041	MWF	01:30 pm-02:20 pm	STAFF
101 012	1042	MWF	11:30 am-12:20 pm	STAFF
101 013	1043	MWF	01:30 pm-02:20 pm	STAFF
101 014	1044	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	1045	W	04:00 pm-06:30 pm	STAFF
161 002	1046	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	1047	MWF	01:30 pm-02:20 pm	Emily Pittinos
175 002	1048	TWF	08:30 am-09:20 am	Fr. Jordan Zajac
175 003	1049	TWF	09:30 am-10:20 am	STAFF
175 004	1050	TR	11:30 am-12:45 pm	Russell Hillier
175 005	1051	TR	11:30 am-12:45 pm	E.C. Osondu
175 006	1052	TR	01:00 pm-02:15 pm	Russell Hillier
175 007	1053	TR	01:00 pm-02:15 pm	Tuire Valkeakari
175 008	1054	MR	08:30 am-09:45 am	STAFF
175 009	1055	TR	02:30 pm-03:45 pm	Tuire Valkeakari
175 010	1056	TR	04:00 pm-05:15 pm	Raphael Shargel
175 011	1057	MWF	12:30 pm-01:20 pm	STAFF
175 012	1058	MR	10:00 am-11:15 am	STAFF

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 2026 Course Offerings

ENG 185 Introduction to Creative Writing

185 001 1059 TR 01:00 pm-02:15 pm

E.C. Osundu

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 185 Introduction to Creative Writing

185 002 1060 TR 02:30 pm-03:45 pm

Chun Ye

This introductory course focuses on the fundamental elements of craft in poetry and fiction. Over the semester, students will read a variety of literary works in both genres, approaching them from a writer's perspective to understand how they are constructed and how they achieve their effects. In addition to reading, students will engage in in-class writing exercises and complete assignments that apply these insights to their own work. The course will also emphasize collaboration through workshops of poems and stories, encouraging students to view writing as a sustained process of revision, experimentation, and critical engagement. *Required of English Creative Writing Majors.*

ENG 202 Rhetorical Analysis

Mark Pedretti

202 001 1061 MR 10:00 am – 11:15 am

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 217 Intro Asian American Literature

Chun Ye

217 001 1062 M 04:00 pm-06:30 pm

This course is an introduction to Asian American literature from the mid-20th century to the present moment. We will read poetry, fiction, and creative nonfiction by a diversity of Asian American voices whose cultural heritages include Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Vietnamese, and Hmong. While appreciating the literary sophistication of these texts, we will spend substantial amount of time exploring their historical, social, and geopolitical dimensions, investigating issues of immigration, war, race, gender, class, sexuality, and identity formation.

Lit Post-1800 Elective

UG Core: Diversity

UG Core: Intensive Writing II

Cross listed with AMS 217 001 [1009]

Cross listed with AST 217 001 (2703)

ENG 231 Survey of British Literature I

Robert Reeder

231 001 2707 MR 08:30 am – 09:45 am

To begin the semester, we will lean into the "greatest hits" nature of this course, devoting significant time to the hard-bitten Anglo-Saxon masterpiece Beowulf, the storytelling riches of Geoffrey Chaucer's The Canterbury Tales, with its complex depiction of medieval England, and to the early modern psychological and political strife of Shakespeare's Hamlet. Other units will address the sonnet sequence, with particular attention to Sir Philip Sidney's Astrophil and Stella and Pamphilia to Amphilanthus, written by his niece Lady Mary Wroth; the subtle and sincere lyric poems of George Herbert, possibly the most profound poet of religious devotion in the English tradition; and, in part, John Milton's Paradise Lost, with a particular focus on Milton's self-presentation and on the civil war in heaven.

Lit Pre-1800 Elective

UG Core: Intensive Writing II



PROVIDENCE
COLLEGE

Department of English Spring 2026 Course Offerings

ENG 232 Survey of British Literature II

Description to be posted shortly

Raphael Shargel

232 001 2708 TR 02:30 pm – 03:45 pm

Lit Post-1800 Elective

UG Core: Intensive Writing II

ENG 301 Writing Genres

301 001	1063	MR	08:30 am-09:45 am	John Scanlan
301 002	1064	MR	02:30 pm-03:45 pm	John Scanlan
301 003	1065	TR	02:30 pm-03:45 pm	Amy Foley
301 004	1066	TR	04:00 pm-05:15 pm	STAFF
301 005	1067	MWF	12:30 pm-01:20 pm	Shawn Flanagan
301 006	1068	MWF	01:30 pm-02:20 pm	Shawn Flanagan

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/>.

ENG 311 Shakespeare: History and Comedies

Description to be posted shortly

Raphael Shargel

311 001 1069 TR 11:30 am – 12:45 pm

Lit Pre-1800 Elective

Cross listed with TDF 311 001 (1444)

ENG 312 Shakespeare: Tragedies and Romances

Russell M. Hillier

312 001 1070 T 04:00 pm-06:30 pm

This is the stuff of Shakespearean tragedy: a disgraced Roman general bent on avenging his wounded honor and the injustices perpetrated against his family; a tyrannicide and assassin who is at the same time a sensitive moral philosopher; a noble Moor, a grand poetic soul broken by his manipulative, brilliant, ruthless, and strangely motivated tormentor; a rash king, reduced to a very foolish, fond old man and bound upon a wheel of fire; a usurping Scottish "butcher and his fiend-like queen"; a fearless and savage Roman warrior who can play the part of patriot, traitor, outcast, and mother's boy; and a smiling philanthropist who is transformed into a caustic, sneering misanthrope.

And this is the stuff of Shakespearean romance: the trials of a faithful princess, wronged by her father and her betrothed, who awakens from a drug-induced stupor to find herself lying on a Welsh hill beside a headless corpse; the jealous torment of a mad king who defies nature and the gods, while another character exits the stage, pursued by a bear; and the vindication of an exiled magus with the power to wield thunderbolts, bedim the sun, and summon the walking dead from their graves.

This class is devoted to exploring a variety of Shakespeare's better and less known tragedies and romances (or tragicomedies, or late plays). The course will allow students to range throughout Shakespeare's tragic and romantic cosmoses and to undertake research within the vast commentary tradition surrounding plays that are familiar and less familiar to them. The class will also give students the opportunity to steep themselves in some of the finest verse in the English language, composed to last, as Ben Jonson wrote of Shakespeare himself, "not of an age, but for all time!"

Fulfills Lit Pre-1800 Elective

Cross-listed with TDF 312 001 (1445)



Department of English Spring 2026 Course Offerings

ENG 354 19th Century British Novel

Elizabeth Bridgham

354 001 1071 TR 11:30 am-12:45 pm

The nineteenth century saw a boom in realistic and sensationalistic British novels. As primary forms of popular entertainment, these novels also expressed social criticism, engaged with other literary texts and authors, and experimented with literary form. In this class, we will read a number of Victorian (and proto-Victorian) novels that interact with each other and with their contemporary social contexts, often in subversive ways. We will investigate the multi-faceted nature of the nineteenth-century British novel, which is able to encompass such issues as the burgeoning feminism of texts like *Pride and Prejudice* and *Jane Eyre*, the advent of the detective novel, the social class conflicts that arise in the rapidly expanding urban environment of Dickens's London, and the racial, cultural, and religious conflicts at home and abroad, stemming from the rapid expansion of the British empire. To help us make sense of these diverse concerns, we will read the novels alongside key critical and theoretical commentaries which engage their social and cultural implications.

Lit Post-1800 Elective

WGS Humanities

Cross listed with WGS 354 001 (2461)

ENG 376 Toni Morrison

Tuire Valkeakari

376 001 1074 M 02:30 pm-05:00 pm

In this course, we will examine six novels written by the 1993 Nobel laureate Toni Morrison: *The Bluest Eye*, *Sula*, *Beloved*, *Jazz*, *Paradise*, and *A Mercy*. We will analyze Morrison's dialogue with African American and American history, focusing on individual and communal trauma, memory, and healing. We will study Morrison as a literary author who, while writing about history and society, creates memorable portraits of individuals who are caught in swirls of social currents beyond their immediate control and find themselves responding, willingly or unwillingly, to such vicissitudes. And, of course, Morrison's multivoiced and multilayered lyrical prose offers endless opportunities for discussions of literary style. Selected, accessible Morrison scholarship will be read as well, with an emphasis on race, class, and gender and on Morrison's strategies as a creative writer.

Each weekly session will be run primarily as a discussion, usually initiated by a student presentation and by discussion questions posted on the course website. The mandatory coursework will also include two short essays and a final research paper.

Lit Post-1800 Elective

UG Core: Diversity

UG Core: Intensive Writing II

American Studies Elective

Black Studies Elective

Women's & Gen Stud Humanities

Cross listed with AMS 376 001 (1027)

Cross listed with BLS 376 001 (2701)

Cross listed with WGS 376 001 (2463)



Department of English Spring 2026 Course Offerings

ENG 377 Studies in Literature: Distant Reading

Mark Pedretti

377 001 1075 MR 2:30 pm-3:45 pm

This course aims to introduce students to one of the major approaches in the emerging field of Digital Humanities: computational literary analysis. As we will see, this field requires a fundamental reorientation in how we approach literary texts: treating them not as aesthetic objects but as linguistic data that can be quantified and statistically measured; ranging across thousands of texts at a time instead of studying individual works; engaging in what Franco Moretti calls “distant reading” rather than the “close reading” we are used to; focusing less on the exceptional masterpiece and more on the typical and the average. The goal of such an approach is not to replace traditional literary interpretation so much as to supplement it: what new kinds of questions does a quantitative approach to literature enable for us? How can computation augment or challenge our interpretive judgments? What kinds of patterns do we see when we pull back to the big picture, and how does that inform our interpretation of individual texts?

In this course, we will attempt to understand this computational turn in literary studies by oscillating between the close textual analysis of individual works and the “distant” machine-driven analysis of large bodies of texts — in both cases using the insights of the one to inform the other. To do so, we will be doing as much counting as reading. In addition to learning about the theoretical foundations of the computational turn, students will learn the mathematical principles that underlie its core techniques, and will demonstrate proficiency in them through statistical analysis. And while no experience with programming is necessary for this course, students will be asked to format data, run tools from the command line, and modify the parameters or their queries based on their interpretations of the results. In other words, be warned: there will be numbers.

Lit Pre-1800 or Post-1800 Elective

Fulfills Quantitative Analysis Core requirement

Communications Elective

ENG 381 Creative Writing: Poetry

Emily Pittinos

381 001 1078 F 02:30 pm-05:00 pm

This is a craft class on the study and practice of writing poetry as an art form. The course will broaden students' understanding of, and comfort with, the vocabulary and techniques necessary to read and write in this genre. Those enrolled will spend the semester drafting original poems, reading contemporary collections, workshopping poems with their peers, and exploring the creative practice of revision.

UG Core: Fine Arts

ENG 383 Studies in Literature: Creative Non-Fiction

Emily Pittinos

383 001 2498 M 04:00 pm-06:30 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



Department of English Spring 2026 Course Offerings

ENG 390 Law and Literature

John Scanlan

390 001 1079 MR 10:00 am-11:15 am

The focus of our attention will be the relations between law and literature, two of the most compelling ways of understanding the world. Although we'll discuss a wide range of subjects and writers, I expect some important questions will arise again and again, albeit in slightly different formulations. What are the similarities and differences in the way lawyers and writers think about the law? If some writers register critiques of one or more aspects of the law, on what grounds do they do so? Are their critiques in line with lawyers' critiques? Are their critiques convincing? What areas of law most engage our writers? Why? Which writers, if any, hold views on justice or other social issues that actually influence the legal reality? Why, in the end, have writers been so fascinated by the law? And do films replicate, more or less, writers' interests and predispositions?

Students' writing will be an important dimension of this class. As things now stand, I'm planning on having everyone write two short papers, one long final paper, and handful of brief, in-class writings. There will be no in-class final examination.

This course is open to all students, including those who have never taken a single class in the Department of English. The course has only two "prerequisites": a willingness to argue as carefully and as strongly as possible, and a desire to improve your ability to "see things from the other side."

Should you wish to speak with me further about this course, don't hesitate to send me an email (hambone@providence.edu).

Lit Post-1800 Elective

Lit Pre-1800 Elective

UG Core: Intensive Writing II

Cross listed with HON 481 001 (1260)

ENG 440 Studies in Literature: Quest Narratives

Robert Stretter

440 001 1080 F 02:30 pm-05:00 pm

Join our quest this spring as we slay some dragons, search for the Holy Grail, and maybe find our heart's desire!

From the Biblical Exodus to The Lord of the Rings to the recent Barbie film (yes, really!), quest stories have been used to express a primal human search for meaning and purpose. This course examines narratives about journeys – literal and figurative, physical and spiritual – as they relate to the human struggle to understand things such as good and evil, personal identity, and one's place in the world.

The course is built around the careful reading and discussion of a wide variety of texts, ranging from archetypal quest narratives such as the ancient Babylonian Epic of Gilgamesh to Modernist classics such as Virginia Woolf's haunting novel *To the Lighthouse* and T. S. Eliot's revolutionary poem *The Waste Land*, texts which ask us to refine our understanding of "quest" in more personal and psychological ways. One of the unifying themes of the course is the Quest for the Holy Grail, a powerful legend which we will trace from its mysterious origin in medieval chivalric romance to its later symbolic role in modern literature and film (e.g., Terry Gilliam's *The Fisher King*).

Additional texts may include: J.R.R. Tolkien, *The Hobbit*; the Old English *Beowulf*; Chrétien de Troyes, *Yvain and Perceval* (*The Story of the Grail*); Sir Gawain and the Green Knight: Shakespeare, *Pericles*; Mary Shelley, *Frankenstein*; Cormac McCarthy, *The Road*; and selections from mythologists such as Jessie Weston (*From Ritual to Romance*) and Joseph Campbell (*The Hero with a Thousand Faces*).



Department of English Spring 2026 Course Offerings

Lit Post-1800 Elective

Lit Pre-1800 Elective

Fulfills the Oral Communication Proficiency core requirement

ENG 441 Studies in Literature: The Neighborhood in Latinx Literature

Cristina Rodriguez

441 001 2706 T 02:30 pm-05:00 pm

20th and 21st century Latinx poetry, fiction, and memoir has produced several snapshots of life inside the “barrio,” the Spanish term for a U.S. neighborhood with a majority of Latino/a residents, set apart from a larger city or region. How have barrios shaped Latinx identity and literature? How have they shaped the U.S. more broadly? This interdisciplinary study of space in narrative gives students a grounding in human geography, transnationalism, and space theory in order to explore how Latinx authors of various backgrounds—Puerto Rican, Dominican, Cuban, Central American, and Mexican—use local settings to shape and style their narratives. As we travel through narrative to neighborhoods across the U.S., we will analyze how place effects the construction of identity, how environment informs aesthetic choices, and how urban spaces can reinforce societal prejudices. This class will teach students to close read space. Students will analyze how space and location function in the text and in our country, with particular attention paid to the inherent structural oppressions—ethnic, racial, gender, and spatial—at work in segregated Latinx neighborhoods throughout the U.S. This course will also explore the role of space in our own lives: throughout the semester we will analyze the spatial logics of both PC and greater Providence. As a civic engagement proficiency, this course will require students to work with community members to conduct on-site research in the city of Providence.

Lit Post-1800 Elective

ENG 480 Seminar: Prosody

Eric Bennett

480 001 1082 T 04:00 pm-06:30 pm

A history-from-the-inside of poetic rhythm in English verse from the sixteenth century through the twenty-first. Intended as a primer for creative writers who wish to write poetry with a deeper sense of what makes English musical; for aspiring scholars who wish to heighten their sensitivity to the craft of verse; and more generally for students who want better to appreciate the basic sonic architecture of their language.

Lit Pre-1800 Elective

ENG 481 SEMINAR: Flannery O'Connor

Suzanne Fournier

481 001 1083 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.

Lit Post-1800 Elective

Cross listed with AMS 470 001 (2704)



Department of English Spring 2026 Course Offerings

ENG 489 SEMINAR: Advanced Fiction Writing

E.C. Osondu

489 001 2705 R 04:00 pm-06:30 pm

As a writer in this highly supportive and nurturing course, you will have the opportunity to improve your skills both as a writer and reader of fiction in a workshop setting. All good writers are great readers. Prior workshop experience is a bonus not a necessity.

A portfolio of publishable fiction—written by you—with a scholarly introduction is required by the end of the course.

ENG 492 Publishing and Producing The Alembic

Emily Pittinos

492 001 2709

The Alembic is the literary magazine produced completely by PC students in The Alembic Club, and this course is designed to give 1 credit to the editors dedicated to ushering the latest issue into the world. This process will include making final selections from submissions, finalizing the cover and interior layout on InDesign, sending the issue to the printer, and throwing a launch party at the end of the semester.

