

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

College of Fine Arts and Humanities

Sam Umland, Ph.D., Chair - (308) 865-8293

Martha Kruse, Ph.D., Graduate Program Committee Chair - (308) 865-8415

Master of Arts

- English (<http://catalog.unk.edu/graduate/departments/english/english-ma>) - Master of Arts Degree
 - Literature Emphasis (<http://catalog.unk.edu/graduate/departments/english/english-ma/#requirementstext>)
 - Creative Writing Emphasis (<http://catalog.unk.edu/graduate/departments/english/english-ma/#requirementstext>)
 - Children's and Adolescent Literature Emphasis (<http://catalog.unk.edu/graduate/departments/english/english-ma/#requirementstext>)
 - Writing Emphasis (<http://catalog.unk.edu/graduate/departments/english/english-ma/#requirementstext>)

Graduate Faculty

Professor: Susan Honeyman, Robert Luscher, Marguerite Tassi, Rebecca Umland, Sam Umland

Associate Professor: Michelle Beissel Heath, Megan Hartman, Martha Kruse, Maria O'Malley, Denys Van Renen

Assistant Professor: Jessica Hollander, Seth Long, Amanda Sladek

Graduate Program Committee

Kruse (Chair), R. Umland, S. Umland

English (ENGL)

ENG 803 – Descriptive Linguistics 3 credit hours

An introduction to descriptive linguistics with emphasis on phonology, syntax, and morphology, as they apply to the study of English as a language.

ENG 804P – History of the English Language 3 credit hours

Development of English language as reflected in the language of writers from the Anglo-Saxon time to the present.

ENG 805 – The Teaching of Composition 3 credit hours

Study of topics and issues related to rhetorical theory and the teaching of expository writing in college classrooms.

ENG 806 – Principles of Literary Criticism 3 credit hours

An application of literary theories to selected literary works.

ENG 807 – History of Literary Criticism 3 credit hours

This seminar investigates the connections and discontinuities found in literary criticism from Plato to present-day critical theory. By observing the shifts in various theoretical interests, critical theory will be seen as part of a larger intellectual and cultural history.

ENG 814 – Writing Tutorial 3 credit hours

Individual or group tutorial focusing on macro elements of discourse, including but not limited to aims and purposes; argumentation and categories of argument; strategies of arrangement and emphasis; coherence and cohesion. The tutorial primarily serves the needs of students working on written projects, especially theses. Elective. Repeatable.

Total Credits Allowed: 6.00

ENG 822 – Poetry Writing 3 credit hours

ENG 822P – Poetry Writing 3 credit hours

An opportunity for students to write their own poetry, to investigate what it means, and to develop poetic touchstones by studying a few outstanding poets of the Western tradition.

Department Consent Required

Total Credits Allowed: 6.00

ENG 823 – Fiction Writing 3 credit hours

Department Consent Required

ENG 823P – Fiction Writing 3 credit hours

A study of the techniques of prose fiction, primarily through an examination of student manuscripts written for the class. The class may also study prose techniques in some published contemporary short fiction.

Department Consent Required

Total Credits Allowed: 6.00

ENG 824 – Drama Writing 3 credit hours

An advanced course in drama writing. Formal requirements of the drama are studied extensively while writers also concentrate on the methods and principles of literary adaptation.

ENG 825 – Creative Nonfiction 3 credit hours

This course examines the concept and contemporary forms of creative nonfiction, including memoir, biography, essay, letter, journal, prose poetry, and combined forms, as well as crossover with fiction in both writing techniques and content shaping. Students will be expected both to critically examine and to write nonfiction.

ENG 826 – Prosody: The Music of Poetic Form 3 credit hours

A course devoted to the art of versification, including a study of metrical structure, rhyme, stanza forms and their relationship with the ideas of poems.

ENG 827 – Colloquium: Creative Writing 3 credit hours

ENG 832 – Colloquium: World Literature 3 credit hours

ENG 841P – Language for the Elementary Teacher 3 credit hours

This course is a practical survey of the current findings in language as they pertain to the Language Arts teacher. The topics it examines have been under discussion for some time and form a solid part of the developing body about the English language, particularly as related to the traditional responsibilities of the Language Arts teacher.

ENG 843P – Reading Problems in Secondary Schools 3 credit hours

This course proposes to enable teachers of English and other context areas to deal with those students who have reading problems as well as to increase reading ability in all students.

ENG 844 – Teaching English in the Community College 3 credit hours

The identification, analysis, and evaluation of the special place of the English instructor and the teaching of English in the junior college as delineated in recent research and literature.

ENG 845 – Creative Writing for Public School Teachers 3 credit hours

This course will emphasize the teaching of creative writing and the basic craft of writing poetry and short stories. Prospective and practicing teachers will examine selections from contemporary literature as creative writing models.

ENG 847 – Children's Literature 3 credit hours

Establishing criteria for selecting, evaluating, and reading a wide range of literature for children.

ENG 847P – Children's Literature 3 credit hours**ENG 848 – Literature for Adolescents 3 credit hours**

An exposure to and evaluation of the literature genres appropriate for study in secondary schools.

ENG 848P – Literature for Adolescents 3 credit hours**ENG 849 – Children's Adolescent Lit 3 credit hours**

Study and analysis of Children and Adolescent Literature from grades preK-12. Students examine primary texts and scholarly commentary in the context of prevailing assumptions and ideologies over conceptions of childhood and adolescence. The class also offers strategies for increasing children and adolescents engagement with literature and their understanding of literary techniques.

ENG 851P – Literature of Puritanism and Early American Nationalism 3 credit hours

A study of the emergence and development of American national literature from the Colonial period to the early nineteenth century. Selected authors and works may differ from semester to semester in accordance with specific instructional emphases.

ENG 852P – Literature of the American Renaissance 3 credit hours

A study of American literature from the early nineteenth-century to the pre- Civil War period. Authors and works under study may change from semester to semester depending on the organizational design of the course.

ENG 853P – Literature of American Realism 3 credit hours

A study of American Literature from the late nineteenth century through the early twentieth century. Authors and works may vary according to instructional emphasis.

ENG 854P – Modern American Literature 3 credit hours

The seminar covers the literature of the period roughly from the turn of the century through World War II, focusing on the later development of realism and naturalism and the rise of modernism. Authors, genres, and approaches may vary from term to term.

ENG 855P – Contemporary American Literature 3 credit hours

The seminar examines the literature from World War II to the present, focusing on the later development of modernism and the rise of postmodern literature. Authors, genres, and approaches may vary from term to term.

ENG 856 – Literature of the American West 3 credit hours

Examines folklore, fiction, nonfiction, drama, and poetry by Western and Plains writers selected from a time period beginning with presettlement literature to contemporary writings and including works by Native American, Chicano, and women writers. Several Nebraska authors will be included. The class focuses on the distinctive features of each genre as well as their similarities of theme and symbol, especially those myths based on the frontier experience and the Sense of Place.

ENG 857 – Colloquium: US Literature through 1855 3 credit hours**ENG 858P – Great Plains Studies 1-3 credit hours**

Great Plains Studies offers the opportunity to reflect on life through the literature and other lore of the Great Plains. Through a different subject focus each offering, the course integrates literary, historical, and paleontological investigations around issues affecting the plains, with a special focus on prairie. May be offered independently or, as the Prairie Institute, offered interdisciplinary as 1 credit each in English, History, and Geography (with which it is cross-listed). Credit for the Institute requires reading and writing assignments completed outside the contact hours of the Institute. Repeatable for credit.

Total Credits Allowed: 3.00

ENG 859 – Colloquium: US Literature 1855-Present 3 credit hours**ENG 860 – American Political Rhetoric 3 credit hours**

Course surveys major works in American political history, including sermons, pamphlets, founding documents, letters, addresses, and essays. Students will critically examine and compose original material that participates in or challenges U.S. rhetorical traditions.

ENG 861 – Fairy Tales & Folklore 3 credit hours

This course will cover popular culture historically associated with young people, including fairy tales (from oral, written, and pictorial sources), nursery rhymes, legend, ethnography, childlore, and games.

ENG 863 – The Graphic Novel 3 credit hours

Course will focus on the broad genre of art-writing known as "visual narrative" in comic strips, art books, collage novel, silent film, graphic journalism, single-panel cartoons, comic books, picture books, and graphic novels, including heroic, saga, adaptation, and memoir.

ENG 864 – Critical Approaches to Children's Literature & Culture 3 credit hours

This class explores the unique critical and methodological questions that scholars of literature for juvenile readerships grapple with, in both classic theoretical texts and contemporary criticism.

ENG 865 – American Environmental Literature and Theory 3 credit hours

Course explores questions such as, What is environmental literature in the Western canon? How can the study of environmental literature forge relationships with other disciplines? In order to answer these questions, students will study major trends in environmental literature. The course focuses on literature and scholarship on the environment humanities and on ecological criticism.

Prerequisite: Admission to MA program in English or department permission.

ENG 866 – Global Environmental Literature and Theory 3 credit hours

Course will focus on major trends in global environmental literature. In addition, the course will focus on ecological criticism and environmental humanities with a particular focus on global environmental problems. Readings may include primary texts in biology, history, and literature.

Prerequisite: Admission to MA program in English or department permission.

ENG 871P – Language and Composition in the Secondary School 3 credit hours

Study of topics and issues in rhetorical, linguistic, and literacy theory as related to the teaching of language arts.

ENG 872P – English Literature to 1500 3 credit hours

Study in-depth of one or more major British authors of the period, to be chosen by the professor. The authors studied will change from semester to semester.

ENG 873P – Literature of the English Renaissance 3 credit hours

Study in-depth of one or more major British authors and genres of the period, to be chosen by the professor. The authors studied may change from semester to semester.

ENG 874P – The Literature of the Restoration and Eighteenth Century 3 credit hours

A study in-depth of one or more major British authors of the Restoration and Eighteenth Century, 1667-1770. The authors studied will change from semester to semester.

ENG 879P – Literature of the Romantic Period 3 credit hours

A study of the poetry and/or prose of English writers in the Romantic period from 1789-1830. The course may be organized by author, theme, or genre, and the authors and works may change from semester to semester.

ENG 880P – Literature of the Victorian Period 3 credit hours

Study in-depth of one or more major British authors of the period, to be chosen by the professor. The authors studied will change from semester to semester.

ENG 881P – Modern British and Commonwealth Literature 3 credit hours

This seminar investigates the modernist movement in British and Commonwealth literature, covering the period from 1890-1940. Emphasizing self-conscious and non-representation as modes of both style and content, this aesthetic and historic movement is marked by its persistent experimentalism. Course content might focus on individual writers, political or historical influences, or genre study.

ENG 882P – Contemporary British and Commonwealth Literature 3 credit hours

While the scope of this course will be on literature from 1950-present, the major emphasis will be on living authors and works produced within the last decade. Individual authors, works, and topics will alter each semester.

ENG 883 – Colloquium: British Literature through 1700 3 credit hours**ENG 884 – Colloquium: British Literature: 1700-Present 3 credit hours****ENG 885 – Narrative Strategies 3 credit hours**

Study of language, structure, point of view, imagery, dialogue, setting, character, and plot in works of fiction, including fiction written by class members. Aim is for students to demonstrate mastery of techniques and identify them in the literary works of others.

Prerequisite: ENG 822P or ENG 823P or ENG 824 or ENG 825 or ENG 826

ENG 887 – Theory and Practice of Digital Rhetoric 3 credit hours

This course explores the theoretical and pedagogical implications of digital media for writing, reading, and communicative action. Print is no longer the standard medium of literacy. The majority of reading and writing now occurs on networked multimedia interfaces that facilitate new literate practices just as they complicate traditional ones. The course re-theorizes literacy and communicative action in light of the nearly universal shift from print to screen.

ENG 890P – Ft. Kearny Writers' Workshop 1-3 credit hours

(1-hour Directed Readings (ENG 895) can supplement these hours with related study.) A workshop in creative writing for those who would like to improve their abilities in writing poetry, fiction, and drama.

Total Credits Allowed: 10.00

ENG 892P – Plains Literature Institute 1-3 credit hours

This course proposes to study major Western and Plains writers either individually, by theme, or by genre. Writers might include Nebraskan or regional writers.

Total Credits Allowed: 3.00

ENG 895 – Directed Readings 1-3 credit hours

Individual research under the guidance of a graduate faculty member. Proposals for Directed Readings must be approved in advance by the Graduate Director and Department Chair.

Total Credits Allowed: 3.00

ENG 896 – Thesis 3-6 credit hours

Total Credits Allowed: 6.00

ENG 897P – Film Institute 1-3 credit hours

A study of the film in both its aesthetic as well as historical dimensions. Students will examine the development of film as both art and mass entertainment in addition to studying the various critical methods of interpreting the film.

Total Credits Allowed: 3.00

ENG 899 – Special Topics 1-3 credit hours

This course is intended to provide opportunity for the offering of literary topics not covered by the regular curriculum. Topics are not limited to but can include the study of a single author, a particular genre or theme, and/or comparative or world literature.

Total Credits Allowed: 6.00