English Undergrad and Graduate Courses
Anchor and Classics
Summer 2016

English 119/Classics 119: Myth and Literature (33332/32550)
Jeff Rydberg-Cox
Online
Focus A – Arts and Humanities
This on-line course explores the stories and characters of classical mythology with a primary focus on Ancient Greece and a secondary emphasis on myths of the Ancient Near East and Ancient Rome. It also explores the conceptual foundations of mythology including the ways that the concept of a ‘myth’ has changed from antiquity to the present, the literary, social, and religious contexts of myth, theoretical approaches to ancient myth, and representations of mythic stories in contemporary film and literature.

English 126: Popular Literature (33230)
Stephen Dilks
Online 1st 5 weeks
"Popular Literature" focuses on texts that have achieved "bestseller" status in the Anglo-American marketplace. During our five-week, online class we will work with Mary Shelley's Frankenstein (1816), Bram Stoker's Dracula (1897), Stephen King's The Running Man (1982), J K Rowling's Harry Potter and the Sorceror's Stone (1997), and Alan Moore's V for Vendetta (2008). We will read the books AND watch film versions of the first six texts. Our goal is to explore ways in which each of these works is "popular." We will examine how each is packaged and "sold," thinking about relationships between art and commerce, focusing on the literary marketplace and the professional business of authorship. We will situate each text in historical, social, and political contexts and will develop strategies of reading and re-reading designed to produce text-based critical interpretations.
English 214: Introduction to Fiction (33315)
Christie Hodgen
Online 1st 4 weeks
This online section of English 214 will follow the development of the literary short story from the mid-nineteenth century to the present day, covering a range of authors including Nikolai Gogol, Leo Tolstoy, Anton Chekhov, James Joyce, Virginia Woolf, William Faulkner, Franz Kafka, Ernest Hemingway, Flannery O'Connor, John Cheever, James Baldwin, Lorrie Moore, Sherman Alexie, and Jhumpa Lahiri. By studying the basic elements of fiction—plot, character, setting, point of view, style, theme, etc.—we will come to understand how stories work—how the effects of narrative are created and constructed. By the end of the course we will not only have read a wide selection of the most significant works in the history of the short story, we will also have honed our ability to understand, analyze, discuss, and write about literature—to respond to works of art in both critical and creative ways. Coursework will include daily Blackboard responses to our readings, and two papers.

English 215: Introduction to Poetry (33114)
Hadara Bar-Nadav
Online 2nd 4 weeks
A way to allow people to feel the meeting of their consciousness and the world, to feel the full value of the meanings of emotions and ideas in their relations with each other, and to understand, in the glimpse of a moment, the freshness of things and their possibilities . . . There is an art which gives us that way; and it is, in our society, an outcast art.
—Muriel Rukeyser, The Life of Poetry
This Introduction to Poetry course will help you become active and analytical readers of poetry and, by extension, of life. Following are some questions we will consider in this course: What is your definition of poetry? How does it differ from other forms of writing? What influences have shaped your definition? What does poetry require of its readers? How do your beliefs, values, and personal experiences affect the way you interpret what you read? What role does reading play in your life? As an introductory course, we will develop strategies for reading poetry, learn to recognize technical elements (ie, poetic devices, verse forms, etc.), and study a range of poetry from across centuries and continents. Course texts will include an anthology and an individual collection of poetry. Requirements include rigorous reading of course texts, regular discussion board posts, peer response posts, and a final research paper, as well as curiosity and imagination.

English 242: Women Writing/Women Reading (33234)
Crystal Doss
Online
This course investigates women as producers and consumers of literature. Students will become acquainted with diverse women writers, explore women's reading practices, and interrogate the cultural, historical, and social contexts that influence women's writing and reading.
English 301WI: Writing and the Academy (32428)
Kristin Huston
Online
This course examines social and ethical issues raised by academic reading and writing. While some attention is paid to the formal aspects of academic prose within specific disciplines, the main emphasis of the course is on the cultural consequences of the different ways that academic knowledge is created and taught. In addition to studying the language and structure of academic reading and writing, the course explores the various rhetorics of the academy in terms of a broad range of subjects including economics, gender, education, history, and myth. This course satisfies the junior-level writing requirement and counts towards the writing minor.

English 311: American Literature I (32409)
John Barton
MTWR 10:00AM-12:30PM
2nd 4 weeks
This course surveys U.S. literatures from the colonial period to just before the Civil War. It begins with Cabeza de Vaca's *Relación*, a narrative of Spanish contact with the “New World,” and concludes with the poetry of Whitman and Dickinson, major precursors of the modernist movement. The course will cover a wide range of important literary works from many different genres and examine them in relation to the cultural and historical contexts within which they were produced. In our exploration of American literature before the Civil War we will give special attention to questions about race and gender.

Assignments include a series of short quizzes to begin class, a rhetorical analysis of 4-5 pages, a midterm, a final exam, and a final literary analysis of 5-6 pages. In-class group assignments and active participation will also be required.

English 321: American Literature II (31516)
Anthony Shiu
Online 1st 4 weeks
In this online class, we will read, discuss, and examine a wide range of American literature from the Civil War to the present. While studying the major movements and authors of this period, we’ll also spend time studying a wide variety of genres and forms: poetry, short stories, essays, autobiographical writing, novels, and film. We’ll examine how writers, producers, directors, and everyday people have imagined America in terms of its present and its possible futures by focusing on issues concerning identity, society, history, and politics. Our main text will be the *Heath Anthology of American Literature, Concise Edition* (Volume 2; ISBN 1285080009), and we will also watch Charlie Chaplin’s film *Modern Times* and read John Okada’s incendiary post-WWII novel *No-No Boy* (ISBN 0295994045).

*This course fulfills a requirement for the B.A. in English and can fulfill a requirement for the Creative Writing Emphasis.*
English 323: Shakespeare (32261)
Laurie Ellinghausen
Online 1st 4 weeks
Why do the poetry and plays of William Shakespeare remain so popular and influential nearly 400 years after his death? These writings contain nearly limitless potential for interpretation, debate, and creative re-imagining, as scholars and artists from Shakespeare’s lifetime to our own will readily attest. This online course presents an opportunity for undergraduates to delve into Shakespeare’s works, their historical and literary contexts, and their impact on modern culture. We will examine Shakespeare from a variety of angles, including language use, source study, historical context, visual art, and film. We will cover plays from each of the four genres (comedy, history, tragedy, and romance) as well as a selection of sonnets. Due to the fundamentally collaborative nature of Shakespeare’s art, active online participation will be expected of all students. Assignments will include daily discussion board posts, a weekly film blog, and a final paper analyzing a Shakespearean text and film adaptation.

Poetry:
Sonnets

Plays:
A Midsummer Night’s Dream
Twelfth Night
Richard III
Hamlet
Othello
The Tempest

English 365WI: Contemporary Novel (32076)
Jennifer Phegley
Online 2nd 4 weeks
In Inventing the Victorians, Matthew Sweet argues that throughout the twentieth century, popular culture typically constructed the “dour and repressed” Victorians as our quaint but backward “others” so that we could bask in the glory of modern progress and superiority. However, as John Kucich and Dianne Sadoff argue in Victorian Afterlife, postmodernism is greatly indebted to Victorian culture. Not only are we now nostalgic for the nineteenth century as we long to recreate its manners, fashions, and furnishings, but we are also indebted to its economic, political, sexual, and scientific ideas, which provide the origins of our own. Rather than rejecting the Victorians, they argue, we have begun to define ourselves through our connections with them. In this course we will examine the specific uses that contemporary historical fiction writers have made of the Victorian past.

The Neo-Victorian fiction we will read explores a variety of themes, including disease, crime, insanity, and sexuality, in a range of locales including the United States, Canada, and England. We will examine the ways in which the authors use postmodern narrative techniques to problematize what and how we know about the nineteenth century, highlighting the gendered, raced, and classed historical narratives that have dominated our understanding of the past.
Students will be expected to participate regularly in the class Discussion Board and to complete a multi-step Wiki project that includes an annotated bibliography, a proposal, a draft, and a final project that requires peer response.

**Required Texts:**

Margaret Atwood, *Alias Grace* (Anchor Books)
Angela Carter, “The Fall River Axe Murders” (On Blackboard)
Sheri Holman, *The Dress Lodger* (Ballentine Books)

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**English 405/5501: Magazine Editing (32835/32836)**

Robert Stewart

TWR 2:00pm–4:45pm – 1st 5 weeks May 23rd to June 24, 2016

Editing is a writing skill. Students in this course will study how language can be used, abused, and improved. Learn about publication processes and also basic language use. Anyone who wants to write better and help others write better will benefit from this course. Course time will include hands-on experience at *New Letters* (an award-winning, international magazine of writing and art) and BkMk Press, where students will learn to evaluate submissions, proofread, and practice manuscript procedures.

Learn the fine art of copy editing and learn other skills, such as manuscript development and processing, magazine management, editor/writer relationships, language and grammar principles, design and production. Instruction will include copyright, libel and other legal technicalities.

Each student will research, write, edit and revise one short magazine article, plus smaller items; students will collaborate on an editorial & business plan for a new magazine of their creation and produce a printed prototype of that magazine.

The instructor for this course, Robert Stewart, has won a National Magazine Award for Editing, the magazine industry’s highest honor, and was a finalist for that award another time. He has been editor-in-chief for book-publishing companies, a commercial magazine writer, copy editor for newspaper and magazine syndication, and editor for art critical journals. He is editor of *New Letters* magazine, and executive editor for *New Letters on the Air* and BkMk Press. (816) 235-2610 office telephone.
English 406CD: CC: Film Adaptation (32902) / 5591 (33331)
Cross listed with Comm-ST 406CD (32903)/Anch 303 (33211)
Jeff Rydberg-Cox and Mitch Brian
Off Campus Meets at Tivoli Manor Square Theater
May 16/17/18 and May 23/24/25
This class will explore the process of adapting both fiction and non-fiction literary works into motion pictures. Students will examine the original literary source, then the interim screenplay and finally the completed motion picture.

This class meets at the Tivoli Theater in Westport during the May intersession from 10:00 AM – 4:30 PM on May 16, 17, 18, 23, 24, and 25.

For the class, we will be reading one short story (Ernest Hemmingway’s The Killers), one nonfiction article (“Orchid Fever” from the New Yorker), one graphic novel (Batman: Year One), one novella (Turn of the Screw), and one novel (Devil in a Blue Dress).

We will also discuss the process of filmmaking in Kansas City, including a survey of representations of Kansas City in feature films and a conversation with members of the Kansas City film commission. This course is primarily offered for undergraduate credit. Students who wish to take this course for graduate credit can enroll in English 5591, section 0018 with reference number 3331. Graduate students will complete all regular undergraduate coursework and will also complete a substantial analytical or creative project about film adaptation. You need to contact Professor Brian or Dr. Rydberg-Cox for permission to enroll in this section.
THE NEW LETTERS SUMMER

Writing Conference 2016

ENGLISH 438: ONE, TWO, OR THREE CREDIT HOURS.

Writing for Love, Money, & Immortality
FROM NEW LETTERS MAGAZINE & THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI-KANSAS CITY.

Friday evening, June 24, through Sunday, June 26, 2016
WRITING SEMINARS, WORKSHOPS, PRIVATE CONSULTATIONS,
MEALS ON SITE, SNACKS, SOCIALIZING.

PROFESSIONAL, PUBLISHED FACULTY (LAST YEAR’S, 2015):
Catherine Browder & Philip Stephens (novels and short fiction),
Frank Higgins and Mitch Brian (stage and screen writing), Trish
Reeves and Stanley E. Banks (poetry),
Loring Leifer (nonfiction) Robert Stewart (director and essays).
Guest speakers: editor & publisher Greg Michalson; author Linda Rodriguez.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER TBA: (PREVIOUS KEYNOTERS INCLUDE
ROBERT OLEN BUTLER, KATHERINE KARLIN, GERALD EARLY)

This conference will be held at Diastole Center, The University of Missouri- Kansas City’s beautiful conference center, at 2501 Holmes St., Kansas City, Mo. It will include creative and interdisciplinary sessions on writing and publishing and private manuscript consultations conducted by accomplished, working writers. Students can register through the UMKC College of Arts and Sciences office of Continuing Education (816) 235-2736.

ENGLISH 438:
* One-credit hour students use section 0001.
* Two-to-three credit hour students use section 0002, with consent of
  Director/Instructor Robert Stewart.
* Noncredit option available at reduced fees. To receive a brochure in the mail in
  the spring, contact Continuing Education (235-2736) New Letters (235-1168) or email
  newletters@umkc.edu. See www.newletters.org (Writers Wanted).

www.newletters.org (Writers Wanted, Conference) Continuing
Education, College of Arts and Science (816) 235-2736.
English 450/5560: Special Topics – Monastic Worlds (3307/33308)  
Cross listed with History 400B/5500BB (33310/33309)  
Virginia Blanton and Rabia Gregory  
1st 5 weeks  Blended  
Monastic Worlds is an experiential learning course (3 cr) being offered through the Course Share program. Dr. Rabia Gregory of MU and Dr. Virginia Blanton of UMKC are co-teaching this course, which introduces students to the religious history and culture of premodern Europe and the contemporary American Midwest. The class begins with two weeks of online learning, then moves to two weeks of face-to-face classes held at the Benedictine communities of Conception Abbey in Conception, MO and Mount St Scholastica in Atchison, KS. Onsite, students will participate in communal living and attend classes on the historical and cultural worlds of monastic communities in Europe and America. Students will practice ethnography through observation of and participation in communal life of prayer, study, book production, and labor. They will also be trained to work with the manuscripts and early printed books owned by these communities and visit the largest reliquary collection in North America, housed at a Benedictine convent in Clyde, MO. Students will also participate in two hands-on workshops in medieval calligraphy and bookbinding.  

Special Note: This is a blended course, requiring both online and face-to-face engagement. Students will complete online learning modules and participate in online discussions May 16-27 and attend classes onsite at Conception Abbey and Mount St Scholastica May 29-June 10. There are no prerequisites. In addition to course tuition, there will be fees for housing and food at the monasteries.

English 455/5556: Studies in the Novel 1740-1900 (33231/33232)  
Jennifer Frangos  
TWR 5:30pm-8:15pm  
1st 5 weeks  
In this summer course, we will read and discuss several novels of Jane Austen (including Emma, which celebrates its 200th anniversary this year), consider those works in their historical contexts, and explore the presence and significance of the author and her works in the world we live in today. As Karen Joy Fowler notes, Austen is one of the small group of writers able to “occupy the rare intersection of academic and popular culture.” We will give due attention to each, from Sense and Sensibility to Sense and Sensibility and Sea Monsters, and everything in between.

*English 455 fulfills a pre-1900 period requirement for English majors, minors, and graduate students, and is approved for the undergraduate minor in Women’s and Gender Studies.  

*English 455 can be used as an undergraduate capstone.  

*English 5556 fulfills a pre-1900 requirement for graduate students.
Anchor 307: Frauds, Myths and Mysteries in Archaeology (33208)
Cynthia Jones and Ann Raab
Online class
Course investigates and analyses a collection of archaeological hoaxes, myths, and mysteries from around the world, including within the state of Missouri and in the Kansas City region. Students will use science to examine the phenomenon and advance their knowledge regarding good judgments regarding responses to various media in today’s world. By exploring a variety of wildly inaccurate claims about the past – in news reports, books, film and other media - within the context of the scientific method, this course will demonstrate how science approaches questions about human antiquity and, in doing so, will show where pseudoscience falls short. By studying both global and local examples, students will be able to have a stronger connection with their own community, and a better understanding of how urbanization has a significant impact on important local cultural resources.
(Lecture/on-line asynchronous)

Classics

Classics 119/English 119: Myth and Literature (32550/33332)
Jeff Rydberg-Cox
Online
Focus A – Arts and Humanities
This on-line course explores the stories and characters of classical mythology with a primary focus on Ancient Greece and a secondary emphasis on myths of the Ancient Near East and Ancient Rome. It also explores the conceptual foundations of mythology including the ways that the concept of a ‘myth’ has changed from antiquity to the present, the literary, social, and religious contexts of myth, theoretical approaches to ancient myth, and representations of mythic stories in contemporary film and literature.

Classics 340WI: Classical Literature in Translation (32883)
Cynthia Jones
Online
This writing intensive explores readings from the literature of classical Greece and Rome with emphasis on selected works by Homer, Euripides and Plautus. These selected works provide the backdrop for students to express themselves formally in discursive prose. Students will develop the skills to evaluate the texts in context, comprehend critical analyses, including modern debates, and interpretation. Essays will focus on the student’s ability to express their ideas cogently, maintain excellent mechanical presentation, demonstrate a thesis and carry the thesis through to the concluding elements
Classics 369: Introduction to Prehistoric and Classical Archaeology (32884)
Ann Raab
Online
The earliest written records appeared about 5,000 years ago, but the record of humankind extends
millions of years into the past. This class surveys the vast expanse of time “behind history.” After a brief
introduction to the history and principles of archaeological research, the class traces human origins and
cultural development from its African origins around two million years ago to the threshold of written
history and civilization. This tour of world prehistory emphasizes the cultural developments that allowed
our ancestors to colonize the continents. This is a story of increasing cultural diversity and complexity,
including hunting and gathering, the first farming villages and the rise of civilizations and cities.

Latin

Latin 110: Elementary Latin I (32050)
Elpida Scott
Online
The Elementary Latin I course is meant to introduce students with no previous Latin experience to the
fundamentals of Latin grammar. The course is continued with Elementary Latin II in the winter term.
Completion of the first-year Latin coursework will provide the students with the fundamentals of Latin
grammar, morphology, and basic grammar in preparation for the second year reading course.

Latin 120: Elementary Latin II (32051)
Elpida Scott
Online
Elementary Latin II is a continuation of LATIN 110. This course focuses on the fundamentals of
Latin grammar and morphology, and students will read longer Latin passages.

Latin 211: Second Year Latin Readings I (32052)
Elpida Scott
Online
This course introduces students to extended readings from Roman authors in Latin. Students’
knowledge of basic Latin grammar, vocabulary, and morphology will be reviewed and reinforced.