

PLEASE POST/ANNOUNCE

SPRING 2010 ENGLISH ELECTIVES

LITR-320-W01

Dr. Anthony DiMatteo

T/Th 11:00 AM-12:20 PM 3 credits

Shakespeare

Prerequisite: WRIT-151 or WRIT-161

May be used as a Group A course

Shakespeare, as both poet and playwright, aspired to outdo all previous writers in whatever kind of literature he was working in—tragedy, comedy, history, lyric and narrative. He thereby set his sights on personal fame and wealth and on creating a national literature—all of which he achieved. Yet there is another side to Shakespeare, the humanist thinker who was deeply informed by highly moral and philosophical writers from classical, medieval and early-modern times. This side of Shakespeare had grave doubts about fame, the accumulation of wealth and property, and the English pursuit of empire. To examine this uniquely Shakespearean struggle, we will read one work from each of the kinds of literature that Shakespeare wrote, using modern films to help our understanding of the plays. Above all, our study will focus on *Hamlet*, the work in which, more than any other, all sides of Shakespeare converge.

This course can be used to satisfy the Group A core requirement in English or Liberal Arts requirement.

LITR-340-F01

Dr. Elizabeth Donaldson

Online

3 credits

African-American Literature

Prerequisite: WRIT-151 or WRIT-161

2.5 GPA

May be used as a Group A course

Want to learn more about African-American literature and read some great books while you satisfy your Group A English requirement or liberal arts elective? Do you like spending quality time with your computer? Then this is the class for you! In this online course, you'll learn about the major writers and movements within the canon of African-American literature. Readings may include Frederick Douglass's slavery narrative, a play by Lorraine Hansberry (*A Raisin in the Sun*), novels by Zora Neale Hurston (*Their Eyes Were Watching God*) and Ralph Ellison (*Invisible Man*), as well as selections from Langston Hughes' poetry, W.E.B. DuBois's essays and Malcolm X's autobiography. Coursework includes weekly online discussions, a midterm, a final exam, and a final research paper.

Satisfies Group A or Liberal Arts requirement.

LITR-341-W01

Dr. Thomas Jacobs

M/W 12:30 PM-1:50 PM 3 credits

**Twentieth-Century American
Literature**

Prerequisite: WRIT-151 or WRIT 161

May be used as a Group A course

Rivalrous Media: The Literature of 20th Century Visual Culture.

One of the key points of contestation and debate over the past century has centered on the meaning of the shift between living in a text-based culture (the culture of the book, the radio, the magazine) versus living in an image-based culture (the culture of t.v., cinema, and you tube). From our present perspective, it seems clear which has won. But what have we lost and what have we gained in the slow but certain dominance of image over text? This course will explore the roots of the uneasy relations between the two cultures over the past century. Focusing on how literature has addressed the threat of non-verbal culture, we will read hybrid texts that mix the visual and verbal (like James Agee and Walker Evans's *Let Us Now Praise Famous Men*, Erskine Caldwell and Margaret Bourke-White's *You Have Seen Their Faces*, and Richard Wright's *10 Million Black Voices*). We will also read works that take up the particular challenges of living in a visual culture, like Thomas Pynchon's *The Crying of Lot 49*; Jack Kerouac's *On the Road*; selections from Donald Barthelme, Don DeLillo, and David Foster Wallace's short stories; Nicholson Baker's *The Mezzanine*; and Neal Stephenson's *Snow Crash*. We will also read a range of cultural theorists and philosophers who interrogate the meaning of this shift from the verbal (e.g., Wittgenstien, Barthes, McLuhan, W.J.T. Mitchell). We will also screen a few films, including Citizen Kane and Memento.

Satisfies Group A or Liberal Arts requirement.

LITR-350-W01

Dr. Hui-Yin Hsu

F 4:00 PM-6:40 PM 3 credits

Children's Literature

Prerequisite: WRIT-151 or WRIT-161

May be used as a Group A course

In this advanced course, students will study selected children's literature from the nineteenth century to the present. A variety of genres, including fairytales, fantasy, fables and adventure stories are examined, each in the light of literary and psychological themes. Writing is an integral component of the course.

Satisfies Group A or Liberal Arts requirement.

LITR-410-F01

Dr. Daniel Quigley

Literature Seminar: The Comic Spirit

Prerequisite: WRIT-151 or WRIT 161

2.5 GPA

Online

3 credits

May be used as a Group A course

Throughout history, we have laughed at ourselves about as often as we have cried. But for centuries, literature that presents our tragic tears has been considered more “serious” than that which presents a comic view of our world. And yet, such “less serious” comedies have, through the years, exposed the evils of society, mocking them into oblivion; celebrated our union with the natural world and the continuation of the human race; and created a vision of our path to God. Beginning with the comedies of Ancient Greece, this course will move through the religious comedies of the Middle Ages and the comic view of Shakespeare, up through the darkly comic absurdist plays of Beckett and Stoppard. We will conclude by examining contemporary comedies.

Satisfies Group A or Liberal Arts requirement.

LITR-420-F01

Dr. David Hogsette

**Literature Survey: English Literature
from the Romantics to the
Modernists**

Prerequisite: WRIT-151 or WRIT-161

2.5 GPA

Online

3 credits

May be used as a Group A course

This literature survey is intended to introduce students to a variety of literary works by British writers from the “Romantic,” “Victorian,” and “Modern” periods (and if time permits, we may get into some “Postmodern” literature). We will study the distinguishing features of these literary labels and examine how these literary eras are interrelated. Furthermore, we will attempt to come to a richer understanding of the social and cultural contexts creating and recreated in the literature. That is, we will look at how the works are simultaneously a product of its age and a reaction to it. One way to do this is to focus on notions of radicalism and disillusionment, sentiments that have informed Western literary production for centuries and that speak vividly to us today. In the context of this course, we will consider these sentiments as they were shaped by such events as the French Revolution, the Napoleonic Wars, the Industrial Revolution, British Imperialism (particularly in India, Ireland, and the West Indies), World War I, and World War II.

Fulfills core Group A (literature) English requirement or Liberal Arts requirement or counts as elective credits towards most degrees.

This course is open to all NYIT students through the Online Campus. If you would like more information, please e-mail Dr. Hogsette at dhogsett@nyit.edu, or visit his website: <http://iris.nyit.edu/~dhogsett/>.

LITR-450-F01
Dr. David Hogsette

**Special Topics in Literature: Narnia,
MiddleEarth&Beyond: Fantasy
Realms in Literature**

Prerequisite: WRIT-151 or WRIT-161
2.5 GPA

Online

3 credits

May be used as a Group A course

Writers, poets, and artists have explored the powers of the imagination for thousands of years. Even in our technologically advanced age, with its philosophical cynicism and political skepticism, the imagination still fills us with awe and wonder. Nothing reveals this more than the ever-popular genre of fantasy literature. This course explores the literary features of fantasy literature, examining its political significance and social function. We will read some classic fantasy works by such writers as George MacDonald, Lord Dunsany, C.S. Lewis, J.R.R. Tolkien, Ursula LeGuin, Michael Ende, and others. Readings may include such titles as *Phantastes*, *The King of Elfland's Daughter*, *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*, *The Fellowship of the Rings*, *A Wizard of Earthsea*, *Out of the Silent Planet*, *The Neverending Story*, and others.

Fulfills core Group A (literature) English requirement or Liberal Arts requirement or counts as elective credits towards most degrees.

This course is open to all NYIT students through the Online Campus. If you would like more information, please e-mail Dr. Hogsette at dhogsett@nyit.edu, or visit his website: <http://iris.nyit.edu/~dhogsett/>.

LITR-450-W01/M02

Dr. Kevin LaGrandeur

T/Th 2:00 PM-3:20 PM 3 credits

Special Topics in Literature: Strange Creations

Prerequisite: WRIT-151 or WRIT-161

May be used as a Group A course

This course examines literary representations of artificial, intelligent servants, such as robots, androids, computer networks, and human replicants. Using a broad definition of intelligent systems which includes intelligent networks as well as “mechanical men,” we will explore early, pre-industrial versions of such tales—from medieval legends of talking, moving statues, to the talking brass head created by a character in the Elizabethan play, Friar Bacon and Friar Bungay. We will also discuss later tales of artificial creations, such as Frankenstein and Blade Runner (Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep?). The focus of our explorations will be how these tales represent various views regarding the appropriate bounds for humankind’s intellectual and scientific ambition. Are there limits to what we should do with our abilities? In other words, just because we can do something, does that mean we should? What is at stake when we decide to give control of aspects of our lives over to our own “intelligent” creations? Texts will include those mentioned above, as well as selections from various philosophers and scientists whose work bears on our topic.

Satisfies Group A and Liberal Arts requirement.

Meets simultaneously on both campuses in the distance learning classrooms.

LITR-450-W02/M03

Dr. Michael Schiavi

Th 9:30 AM-12:20 PM 3 credits

Special Topics in Literature:

Prerequisite: WRIT-151 or WRIT-161

May be used as a Group A Course

NOTE: This course is open to ALL students, regardless of sexual orientation. You don’t have to be black to take African-American Literature or female to take Women’s Literature; you also don’t have to be gay to take Gay & Lesbian Literature. EVERYONE is welcome.

In this course, we will study a subject that the vast majority of American high schools and colleges omit from their curriculum: gay and lesbian literature.

New York City’s Stonewall Riots marked the official beginning of Gay Liberation in 1969. But long before, gay men and lesbians wrote about their lives and their efforts to find love, friendship, and community in a society that tried to silence them.

Our course will examine portraits of gay and lesbian life before and after liberation. We will begin with the writings of the ancient Greek lesbian poet Sappho and will continue

up through Alison Bechdel's blockbuster graphic novel *Fun Home* (2006). Along the way, we'll be examining poetry, stories, memoirs, and plays of gay men and lesbians who recorded their experience of being different in a society that often wasn't ready for them. We'll also be studying gay and lesbian film, both documentary and narrative.

Readings will include: the landmark play *Boys in the Band* (1968), the first major play to deal with the subject of homosexuality from a gay perspective; the comic lesbian novel *Rubyfruit Jungle* (1973); Larry Kramer's searing *Normal Heart* (1985), the first important AIDS play; Paul Monette's National Book Award-winning memoir *Becoming A Man* (1992); a look at transvestite and transsexual politics in David Henry Hwang's play *M. Butterfly* (1988) and the musical *Hedwig and the Angry Inch* (1999). Other authors may include Audre Lorde, Alice Walker, James Earl Hardy, E. Lynn Harris, and Reinaldo Arenas.

Gays, lesbians, bisexuals, and transgendered folk are the only people on earth who aren't born into our tribe—we have to seek it out as we grow up. The literature of our course offers you the voices of pioneers.

Satisfies Group A and Liberal Arts requirements.

If you would like more information e-mail Dr. Michael Schiavi at mschiavi@nyit.edu or call him at (212) 261-1581.

Meets simultaneously on both campuses in the distance learning classrooms.

SPCH-205-W01

Dr. Elaine Brown

T/Th 11:00 AM-12:20 PM 3 credits

**Professional Speaking & Advanced Oral
Communication**

Prerequisite: SPCH-105

Study through practice of professional public speaking and advanced professional communication techniques. Topics covered include: audience analysis, techniques of persuasion, interview techniques, listening skills, presentation styles and techniques, effective audio and visual aids, and special problems of communicating technical information. Students deliver presentations in both live audience and media environments.

Student enrolled in the Technical Writing Certificate program are strongly encouraged to register for this class, since it is an elective for the program requirements.

THEA-265-W01, 270-W01, 275-W01

Prof. James Fauvell

TBA

2-4 credits

Workshop in Theatre Performance

Prerequisite: SPCH-105

Students enrolled in this course are given the opportunity to work in a supervised professional manner on some aspect of play production—from acting to set design. Grades are on a pass/fail basis. May be repeated up to 12 credits.

WRIT-210-W01, 220-W01, 230-W01

Prof. John Hanc

TBA

2-4 credits

Workshop in Publication

Prerequisite: WRIT-101 or WRIT-111

These sections are open only to students who are interested in working on the Campus Slate. No prior newspaper experience is necessary. Details in English or CA offices. Students commit to a supervised program of activities in conjunction with producing the weekly college newspaper. Students may write, edit, produce photographs, graphics, layout or manage advertising as part of their commitment. Grades are on a pass/fail basis. May be repeated up to 12 credits.

WRIT-335-W01

Prof. Cindy Davis

W 9:30 AM-12:20 PM 3 credits

Writing for Publication: Creative Writing

Prerequisite: WRIT-151 or WRIT-161

This course is where writers of all skill levels and interests can come together and share their best stories and inspiration. Even if you never thought of being a professional writer or creative writer but you're interested in learning how to get some of your stories in print or creating new stories, then this course is for you. There will be a special emphasis on getting your work ready for publication, writing prose articles, fiction and poetry.

WRIT-363-F01

Dr. Kevin LaGrandeur

Online

3 credits

Writing for the Web

Prerequisite: Any Group B course

2.5 GPA

This is a computer-intensive course. Focus is on learning and practicing advanced aspects of creating multimedia, hypertext, and online help documents. Topics: linear and nonlinear planning structures (“information architecture”), writing stylistics, the rhetoric and use of graphics, linking, reading and editing online, project management. Oral presentations of final project with computer-based presentation programs.

LANGUAGES

ARAB-101-W01

Elementary Arabic I

Prof. Naheda Al-Hihi

M 11:00 AM-1:40 PM 3 credits

The Arabic course is a semester-long course of Arabic as a living language. It introduces students to the four language skills, namely listening, speaking, reading & writing. Instruction includes initiating and responding to a simple conversation, reading simple short passages, and writing simple compositions. The course touches on aspects of the culture and exposes students to authentic materials such as audio, video, and text. Previous knowledge of Arabic is not required.

SPAN-151-W01

Elementary Spanish II

Prof. Doris Velasquez

T/Th 6:45 PM- 8:15 PM 3 credits

Drill in pronunciation. Essentials of grammar and basic vocabulary. Reading of basic text.

Elective credits open to students in all majors.