

ENGL 20133, Essay Writing

Teacher: L. Hallett

Textbooks Required:

Bacon, Nora. *The Well-crafted Sentence*, 3rd edition. ISBN 9781319058623

Miller, Brenda, and Suzanne Paola. *Tell It Slant*, 3rd edition. ISBN 9781260454598

Description: Through assignments in Creative Nonfiction, from memoir to personal journalism, students will learn how form affects content, and develop their personal voice and their ability to use rhetorical techniques and strategies in all forms of writing. Prerequisite: [ENGL 10103](#) and [ENGL 10203](#) or [ENGL 10303](#) (or equivalent). (Typically offered: Fall and Spring)

Essays, exams, and other major requirements for undergraduates: four essays (2-6 pages), in-class writing activities, enthusiastic participation.

ENGL 49303, Studies in Popular Culture, Films of the Coen Brothers

Teacher: M. K. Booker

Textbooks Required:

Digital textbook will be supplied free of charge.

Description: In this course, we will view and discuss most of the films made by Joel and Ethan Coen in their long and distinguished career, from *Blood Simple* (1984) to *The Ballad of Buster Scruggs* (2018). Highlights such as *Fargo* (1996), *The Big Lebowski* (1999), and *No Country for Old Men* (2007) are especially well known, but the Coens' other films are also some of the funniest, most entertaining, most outrageous, and most distinctive of the past several decades. We will pay special attention to the engagement of the Coens' films with alternate reality versions of various American settings, as well as their engagement with their cultural predecessors in film and other media.

Essays, exams, and other major requirements for undergraduates: Periodic brief informal writing assignments. Final exam.

ENGL 52203-001, Adv Studies in Renaissance Literature and Culture: Shakespeare in Film ENGL 59303-001, Adv Studies in Popular Cultures and Popular Genres: Shakespeare in Film

Teacher: D. Stephens

Textbooks Required:

Each student must have a subscription to Amazon Prime Video, but you can get it for free for thirty days, if you time your enrollment to include all of the dates of the course, including the exam period:

https://www.amazon.com/amazonprime/ref=search_aa_prime_text_signup?c_c=

[-74066531](#)

Greenblatt, Stephen, et al., eds. *The Norton Shakespeare, Third Edition, Digital Edition*. W. W. Norton, 2015. ISBN 978-0-393-68349-3. Ebook, delivered by VitalSource to our Blackboard site.

Description: We will read four plays by Shakespeare and watch many film adaptations of these works—some at full length and many more as clips. Here is a sampling: we will analyze Asta Nielsen’s 1921 *Hamlet* starring herself, and we will compare modern Hamlets played by David Tennant, Patrick Stewart, Benedict Cumberbatch, Adrian Lester, and Andrew Scott. We will look at selections from Aki Kaurismaki’s Finnish *Hamlet Goes Business* and from Kurosawa’s *The Bad Sleep Well*. We will view *The Tempest* in a science-fiction adaptation and in a stop-motion puppet production. We will see Caliban played as everything from a hairy, white-skinned Neanderthal to an angrily proud colonial slave. We will familiarize ourselves with adaptations of *Twelfth Night* that include Dinita Gohil playing Viola in a sari and an all-male stage production featuring Mark Rylance in a Tudor dress and Stephen Fry in yellow stockings. We will analyze a 1911 *Merchant of Venice* with a Shylock played as a grotesquely stereotyped Jew and watch Al Pacino’s culturally complex portrayal of Shylock in 2004, asking ourselves what it means that this production elides Portia’s racism. We will not search for the “best” version of each play or criticize productions for not being “faithful” to the written texts; instead, we will use our literary- critical powers to discuss how each director uses the materials of cinema to give a particular interpretation of a play, how each director’s interpretation speaks to and from its cultural moment, and what that director’s interpretation means to us in terms of the intersectional issues of today. We will read half of a play each night; class time will consist of discussion and film-watching, but there will be some lectures, and students taking the course at the 6000 level will give class presentations.

No *specific* prior knowledge of Shakespeare is required, but students should already be fairly comfortable with reading Shakespeare’s language, because this class is not an introduction to Shakespeare. If you have taken an undergraduate course that included some Shakespeare, you should be fine.

Essays, exams, and other major requirements: due to the time constraints of Intersession, there will not be a full-length essay requirement. Instead, there will be very short writing assignments—some at home, some in class—and a final exam. Active and consistent class participation will be the central requirement, but the class will be relaxed and mutually supportive in this regard. Students taking the class as ENGL 6203 will conduct a moderate amount of research into literary criticism of one or more film adaptations and will make a brief presentation about what they have learned.

MA advisory codes:

- **Generalist B – Renaissance Literature and Culture**
- **Specialist 2 – Cultural Studies**
- **Specialist 5 – Gender and Sexuality**

COURSE NUMBER: TBD

Course: Arts and Cultures of the American South

This travel seminar will examine and visit historic landmarks, artifacts, museums, libraries, and various other sites in Birmingham, Montgomery, and Selma. In this 10-day intersession course, students will learn from contemporary artists, curators, activists, private collectors, scholars and

many others about Alabama's vibrant artistic and literary traditions from the Jim Crow era to the Civil Rights Movement.

Taught by:

- Kelvin L. Parnell Jr., Ph.D., Endowed Assistant Professor in Arts of the Americas
- Jarvis A. Young, Ph.D.; Assistant Professor in the Department of English and in the Program of African and African American Studies

Funding provided by UA Master of Arts in Art History program

Open to Graduate Students in UA Fulbright College of Arts & Sciences

- Dates of Program: Thursday, January 2 - Saturday, January 11, 2025
- (January 2 virtual seminar will be joined by New York Times bestselling author and poet, Clint Smith)
- Dates for Travel throughout Alabama: Friday, January 3-Friday, January 10, 2025
-

Other Important Dates:

- Oct 24, 12-1pm: Trip Info Session in Room 206 of Gerhardt Hall
- Oct 28: Deadline to submit Interest Application on SlideRoom
- Nov 1: Notification of Acceptance into Program

Link to Interest Application on

SlideRoom: <https://uarkart.slideroom.com/#/permalink/program/81256>

MA advisory codes:

- **Generalist F: satisfies American Literature and Culture Before 1900 requirement.**
- **Generalist G: satisfies American Literature and Culture After 1900 requirement.**
- **Specialist 1: satisfies Cultural Studies requirement.**
- **Specialist 2: satisfies Environmental Literature, Writing, and Culture.**
- **Specialist 3: satisfies Ethnic and Regional Literatures requirement.**

M.A. Advisory Coding

The advisory codes indicate what course distribution requirement will be satisfied by the designated listing. If more than one code is listed in the description for a particular class, a student may satisfy only one of those distribution requirements with that class, unless the code is T, for Theory.

For M.A. Students with the Generalist Concentration

Generalist A: satisfies Medieval Literature and Culture requirement.

Generalist B: satisfies Renaissance Literature and Culture requirement.

Generalist C: satisfies Restoration and 18th-century Literature and Culture requirement.

Generalist D: satisfies 19th-century British Literature and Culture requirement.

Generalist E: satisfies British Literature and Culture After 1900 requirement.

Generalist F: satisfies American Literature and Culture Before 1900 requirement.

Generalist G: satisfies American Literature and Culture After 1900 requirement.

Generalist H: satisfies World Literature and Culture Written in English requirement.

For M.A. Students with the Specialist Concentration

Specialist 1: satisfies Cultural Studies requirement.

Specialist 2: satisfies Environmental Literature, Writing, and Culture.

Specialist 3: satisfies Ethnic and Regional Literatures requirement.

Specialist 4: satisfies Gender and Sexuality requirement.

Specialist 5: satisfies Medieval Literature requirement.

Specialist 6: satisfies Religion and Literature requirement.

Specialist 7: satisfies Rhetoric, Composition, and Literacy requirement.

For All M.A. Students

(T): satisfies Theory requirement. (A course can satisfy the theory requirement while also satisfying one of the other requirements in the lists above.)