

## **ENGL 3903 - Special Topics: Embracing Not-Knowing**

**Teacher: Bryan Hurt**

### **Textbooks: TBA**

“Do not seek answers,” Rilke tells us. “Live the questions now. Perhaps you will then gradually, without noticing it, live along some distant day into the answer.” Keats insists that writers be “capable of being in uncertainties.” In this class, we’ll investigate how writing is a form of fundamentally dealing with, and sitting in, uncertainty. How do we turn this perpetual state of not-knowing into a positive and productive artistic practice? In order to approach these questions, we’ll read theoretical essays in order to expand our understanding of craft and form and we’ll workshop pieces created without the pressure and framework of logic.

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## **ENGL 50803, Professional Topics: Humanities at Work**

## **HUMN 50803, Professional Topics: Humanities at Work**

**Faculty: Dr. Lissette Lopez Szwydky**

### **Course Description**

What are the professional options for humanities, fine arts, and liberal arts alumni outside of the conventional paths of teaching and publishing? This workshop will focus on preparing students to develop professional profiles and effective job application materials for a range of careers, including graduate school (for those interested). Readings will include book-length career guides and shorter web articles and blogs. We will cover strategies to make the most of academic time-to-degree in order to diversify career options. This course is for graduate students in all fields, but especially arts and humanities. The course will focus on job applications for careers outside of traditional teaching jobs as well as (optional) graduate school applications. (This course does not cover the academic job market for MFA or PhD students.) All arts and humanities majors are welcome—similar advice and strategies apply for English, History, Philosophy, Theater, Communications, Art, and other liberal arts majors. Sample student blog posts and course reflections can be found at <https://theadaptivehumanist.wordpress.com/>

### **Required Texts**

Katharine Brooks, *You Majored in What?: Mapping Your Path from Chaos to Career* ISBN 978-0452296008.

Kathryn Linder, Kevin Kelley, and Thomas Tobin, *Going Alt-Ac: A Guide to Alternative Academic Careers* (2020), ISBN 978-1620368312.

Susan Basalla and Maggie Debelius, “So What Are You Going to Do with That?” *Finding Careers Outside Academia* (2007). ISBN 978-0226038827.

*Now, Discover Your Strengths: The revolutionary Gallup program that shows you how to develop your unique talents and strengths* (Gallup 2020). ISBN 978-0743201148.

### **Assignments/Requirements**

Drafting and revising several job application documents including multiple cover letters and résumés with (3) different professional focus areas (optional graduate school application may be used as 1 professional focus area); active participation and peer review feedback; mock job interview; informational interview/career research poster presentation; professional web/LinkedIn presence; 2 reflective blog posts.