## English Graduate Courses

### Summer 2015

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P=Permission Number Required for registration. Contact Graduate Secretary
**ENGL 607 0001 3146  American Ethnic Poetry  Gómez-Vega  TTH  2:00-4:45  RH 305**

**Description:** This class will examine the works of minority or ethnic poets whose work gets neglected or ignored in survey classes simply because there is too much material to include. We will focus on the trends appearing in the work of these very diverse writers, but we will also attempt to place these writers within the larger schools of poetry flourishing in America today.

**Texts:**
Adrienne Rich’s *The Fact of a Doorframe, Selected and New Poems, 1950-2001*
Maria Mazziotti Gillan, ed. *Unsettling America*

**Requirements:**
An analytical essay (15+ pages) typed using the MLA style.
Or
A research paper (20+ pages) typed using the MLA Style

**Note:** This course may be counted toward the Ph.D. distribution requirement for Post-1900 British, American, and Postcolonial Literature.

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**ENGL 614x 0001 2283  Introduction to Linguistics  Callary  TTH  2:00-4:45  RH 201**

**Description:** This is an introductory course in language and linguistics; there are no prerequisites. It is a survey course intended to acquaint you with the content and methods of modern language study. We will consider the basic assumptions of language study, basic concepts of language structure (phonology, morphology and syntax), first and second language learning, language and the brain, language universals, development of writing and contemporary writing systems (time permitting), world languages and language families, dialects, and language change. The course is descriptive rather than prescriptive; it is concerned with the nature of language and the ways in which people use (and manipulate) language. It is not judgmental or normative; no attempt is made to correct your language, nor are guidelines offered as to which usages are better than others.

**Requirements:** There will be several short (objective) tests, as well as regular assignments and exercises.

**Text:** Bruce Rowe, *Short Introduction to Linguistics*. 4th Edition only.
Course Description: 668 will divide this long, long English and Anglophone twentieth century into three eras: “modernism,” “postmodernism” (post- World War II), and “the contemporary.” We will read novels from all three eras and seek good working definitions of these three terms— even as a fourth, “postcolonialism,” cuts across the eras, further troubling our formulations. And even as a fifth...&c. But such a high concept approach will occupy us only part of the time. Indeed, most of our time will be spent closely reading a series of challenging novels, a number of which are notoriously innovative in their style and form no less than in their content, with a view to giving them the individual attention that they both demand and reward.

Course aims and intended outcomes: Students in 668 should expect, over the course of the semester, 1) to develop good working definitions of the major terms and concepts, “modernism,” “postmodernism,” “interior monologue,” “impressionism,” “Symbolisme,” “intradiegesis,” “an adversarial culture of the new,” “avant garde,” et al.; 2) to acquire detailed knowledge of the culturally-influential and in some cases remarkably famous literary texts we will be reading and studying; 3) to develop skills that are employed in decoding and interpreting intricate, complex, in some cases deliberately, devilishly challenging narratives; 4) to practice expository and argumentative writing skills; 5) and to learn all sorts of things that contribute to a more thoroughly examined (pun intended) life.

Course Requirements (in 668 I will be attaching pluses and minuses to the final grades*): 1. 40% (15%; 25%)--two essays (literary-critical analyses), one brief, the other longer; 2. 20%--a mid-term exam (two essay-examinations, plus identifications, maybe); 3. 25%--a final exam (two or three essay-examinations, plus identifications, maybe); 4. 10%--weekly quizzes (how well you have read the material to be discussed; I will count your ten best quizzes); 5. 5%--class participation (how well you contribute to our class-time discussions).

Course Texts:
Joseph Conrad, Heart of Darkness
James Joyce, A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man
D. H. Lawrence, Women in Love
Virginia Woolf, Mrs. Dalloway
Samuel Beckett, Murphy
Elizabeth Bowen, Death of the Heart
P. D. James, Children of Men
J. M. Coetzee, Waiting for the Barbarians
Ian McEwan, Ato

*See http://www.niu.edu/regrec/grading/gradingfaqs.shtml .for more information.
ENGL 698 P001 1894 Independent Reading Staff
[Permission Number Required] Contact Graduate Secretary

Prerequisite: 15 hours of course work

This course allows graduate students in English to receive credit for specialized, independent study not fitting neatly within other course offerings. A student wishing to engage in such study must prepare a written proposal describing what he or she wants to do, how it will be done, what the significance of the project is for the student's program of study, and what products (reports, papers, or whatever) will come out of the project. The student must find a faculty member who will accept the proposal and who will agree to direct the student and evaluate his or her work. After it is approved (and signed) by the faculty member, the proposal must be submitted to the Director of Graduate Studies for final approval before the student is issued a permit to register for the course.

NOTE: Approval must be granted by the end of the semester prior to the proposed independent reading.

ENGL 699 P001 1897 Master's Thesis Van Wienen
[Permission Number Required] Contact Graduate Secretary

This course may be taken upon selection of a thesis director, appointment of a committee of two additional readers, and approval of a prospectus. Selection of a thesis director is made by the thesis writer, based upon the faculty member’s expert knowledge in the thesis field. The other two readers, typically a subject specialist and a general reader, are selected by the Director of Graduate Studies in consultation with the thesis writer and thesis director.

Approval of the thesis prospectus by all committee members should be obtained at least one semester in advance of enrollment in 699. A student writing a thesis must register in 699 in the semester in which he or she plans to defend the thesis, and must register in any subsequent term until the thesis is submitted to and formally approved by the Graduate School. A permit for registration will be given to approved students by the Director of Graduate Studies.

ENGL 799 P001 1898 Doctoral Dissertation Van Wienen
[Permission from Director of Graduate Studies Required] then contact Graduate Secretary

Dissertators will be enrolled in ENGL 799 when they have entered into candidacy: after their director has been selected, their committee approved, and dissertation proposal defended. Please meet with the Director of Graduate Studies regarding these important steps. Once enrolled in 799, continuous enrollment is required, including summers, until the dissertation is submitted to and formally approved by the Graduate School.