# LIST OF ENGLISH GRADUATE COURSES FOR 2017 – 2018

[updated 9-25-17]

## FALL 2017

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<td>Prof. Cohen</td>
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<td>Developments and Issues in Modern Critical Thought</td>
<td>Prof. Hornby</td>
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* First year students are strongly encouraged to enroll in this proseminar and will be given priority.

## WINTER 2018

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<td>Prof. Fisher</td>
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<td>American Literature to 1900</td>
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English 200

**Graduate Proseminar**

Approaches to Literary Research

Prof. Cohen

Tuesdays, 3:00pm – 5:50pm

The Graduate Proseminar is an introduction to the profession of literary studies. The course will cover a wide array of topics related to issues in the profession and professionalization, including (but not limited to): the structures and histories of the discipline; writing and publishing for scholarly and general audiences; scholarly organizations and conference presentations; building a CV; understanding the academic job market; humanities careers; and critical and methodological approaches to literary studies.

English 201C

**Ulysses**

Developments and Issues in Modern Critical Thought

Prof. Hornby

Thursdays, 9:00am – 11:50am

In "Ulysses, Order, and Myth," T.S. Eliot writes that *Ulysses* "is a book to which we are all indebted, and from which none of us can escape." This course interrogates the inescapability of *Ulysses*, focusing on the novel’s grand experiment with prose style in the context of modernism. We will use Joyce’s novel to think through a series of questions about literary influence; the epistemology of the novel; the relationship between literature, science, and art; the novel’s production of time and space; stylistic difficulty; canonicity; and the purchase of modernist studies. We will consider various ways in which the novel has been taken up critically, each week focusing on a particular theoretical or historical approach to *Ulysses* and to literary criticism. In addition to *Ulysses*, we will read *Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*, selections from *Dubliners*, and portions of *Finnegans Wake*. Students may either write two 8-10 page papers or a seminar paper.

English 247

**Shakespeare: A Graduate Introduction**

Prof. Watson

Shakespeare

Tuesdays, 9:00am – 11:50am

This seminar intends to help students engage with Shakespeare’s plays at an advanced level and, secondarily, use that engagement to develop professional perspectives on literary research in various methodologies and ideologies (historicist, feminist, ecocritical, editorial, close and distant reading, performance and adaptation, etc.). We will explore between eight and ten plays, and direct analysis of those plays will be our primary emphasis, but we will also consider various scholarly approaches -- usually through articles or chapters chosen by members of the seminar -- to those plays. The weekly discussions will require students to prepare thoroughly for each meeting, not only studying the assigned material in detailed, alert, and imaginative ways, but also taking initiatives to look further into areas of doubt or interest, and then to be active, informed, and courteous participants during class.

We will most likely study *Romeo and Juliet*, *Measure for Measure*, and *Othello*, and will choose our other plays from among *Midsummer Night’s Dream*, *Merchant of Venice*, *Hamlet*, *Henry V*, *As You Like It*, *King Lear*, *Macbeth*, *Coriolanus*, *The Winter’s Tale*, and *The Tempest*.

Students will write brief (1-2 page) position-papers on topics of their own choice for each session of the first half of the Quarter, to be posted on the course website the day before the class meets, and will write a seminar paper (about fifteen pages) at the end of the Quarter.
English 256  
*Imagining the Early Modern Mediterranean*  
Studies in Drama  
Prof. Fuchs

**Thursdays, 12:00pm – 2:50pm**

This course will examine representations of the Mediterranean—that space in between Europe and Africa, Christianity and Islam, East and West—in the late sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries, to explore how English identities are negotiated in relation to Italy, Spain, and Africa. What is the role of the Mediterranean in early modern conceptions of race and gender? How do Mediterranean exchanges complicate our histories of imperialism? How does the literary negotiate and inflect these exchanges? Authors will include Kyd, Marlowe, Shakespeare, Cervantes, Massinger.

English 258  
*Anatomy of the Novel*  
Studies in the Novel  
Prof. North

**Wednesdays, 9:00am – 11:50am**

This will be a practical course in formal analysis of the novel. Thus we will read some of the important authorities on the topic: Genette, Bakhtin, Chatman, and a number of novels, including Joseph Andrews, Jane Eyre, Emma, Frankenstein, Mrs. Dalloway, and others. Our purpose will be to acquire a command of the basic categories in the analysis of the novel, but also to subject these to some critical pressure. For example, why is the apparently basic distinction between story and discourse so hard to describe and why are the names given to these two so variable? Is it appropriate to divide novelistic narration along the linguistic line between first and third person? What are the limitations to omniscient narration and how does the acknowledgement of limitations undermine the very concept? Is the term “psychological realism” an oxymoron? Requirements include a) two scholarly book reviews, or b) a seminar paper.

English M262  
*Toni Morrison’s Literary Trilogy*  
Studies in Afro-American Literature  
Prof. Streeter

**Thursdays, 3:00pm – 5:50pm**

This seminar focuses on Nobel Laureate Toni Morrison’s novels *Beloved* (1987) *Jazz* (1992) and *Paradise* (1998), works the author has described as a trilogy. Spanning a century, *Beloved* represents African American life during and immediately after slavery, *Jazz* is set during the 1920s Jazz Age, and *Paradise* during the ambiguous, transitional decade of the 1970s. We also read Morrison’s first novel *The Bluest Eye* (1970), and her most recent, 2015’s *God Help the Child*, along with selected critical essays. Note: Vintage International print editions of all books are required for this seminar.
English 201C  
*Title*  
Developments and Issues in Modern Critical Thought  
Prof. Seltzer  
Description TBA.

English 250  
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Restoration and 18th-Century Literature  
Prof. Kareem  
Description TBA.

English 251  
*Title*  
Romantic Writers  
Prof. Nersessian  
Description TBA.

English 265  
*The Oceanic Imaginary*  
Postcolonial Literatures  
Prof. DeLoughrey  
This course traces out the recent oceanic turn in the humanities, with an emphasis on postcolonial methods and approaches to the Caribbean and the Pacific. While diaspora and transnational studies has emphasized the mobility of people across the oceans, most scholars have treated the oceanic as a blank space across which human subjects attain their agency. More recently there has been a rise in what has been called a “critical ocean studies” that examines the ocean as embodied space, fluid material, a place for engagement with nonhuman others, and a place of alternative knowledges and ontologies. We will examine texts that engage with all of these themes and examine representations of the ocean (including the frozen poles) as a space of migration as well as an agent of climate change. Given the interdisciplinary engagement of the “Oceanic Humanities” (or “Blue Humanities”) we will examine a wide range of texts, including literature and the visual arts and host a number of visiting scholars. Students will be required to attend the “Relational Undercurrents: Contemporary Art of the Caribbean Archipelago” exhibit (part of Pacific Standard Time: LA/LA) at the Museum of Latin American Arts, Long Beach.  
https://www.molaa.org/exhibition/relational-undercurrents/  
Readings will include Epeli Hau'ofa, Derek Walcott, Craig Santos Perez, Phil Steinberg, Liza Paravisini-Gebert, Stefan Helmreich, Christopher Connery, Paul Gilroy, Stacy Alaimo, and Astrida Neimanis.

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*Title*  
Seminar: Literary Theory  
Prof. Makdisi  
Description TBA.

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Seminar: Literary Theory  
Prof. Heise  
Description TBA.
English M299

Title
Interdisciplinary American Studies

Description TBA.
English 245  
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