ENGLISH DEPARTMENT
Graduate Course Descriptions
Summer 2021

If you need permissions to enroll, please contact theresa.spadola@stonybrook.edu and include your ID number in your email. Non-Stony Brook students should refer to the Summer Session Website for instructions on how to enroll as a non-matriculated student prior to contacting the department for permissions.

SUMMER I (5/24-7/3)

EGL 584.30 Topics in Genre Studies: Shakespeare
This course can satisfy the Shakespeare content area requirement for SBU teacher education students.

This course is designed to re-introduce graduate students to Shakespeare’s plays as literature, in history, and as performance. Reading almost exclusively plays, we will concentrate on bringing the verse to life, imagining the historical stagings and contexts, and discussing and analyzing recent films and video clips from theatrical performances. Shakespeare’s plays continue to breathe life into our culture and our politics; his work is not a historical artifact but a living tool we use to address questions and concerns we have now. We will also use the plays to understand the changing historical, political, cultural, and social world in which he lived. Plays we will read include: Henry V, As You Like It, Titus Andronicus, Hamlet, Julius Caesar, & Much Ado About Nothing.

Some of the questions we will be asking are:

- What were the conventions used during Shakespeare’s times to stage the plays?
- What elements of the historical/cultural moment can we see in the plays?
- What is our understanding of the story and themes of each play?
- What are some tools we can use to bring the verse and plays to life—for ourselves and our students?

LEC 30 ONLINE/FLEX AMY COOK

EGL 588.30 Writing Workshop: Narrative Nonfiction

In this creative writing workshop, we will learn about and write in the form of creative nonfiction, or narrative nonfiction (both terms are used). We will read one long creative nonfiction book, and a variety of CNF essays. The creative nonfiction essays we will read will cover assorted topics and styles: race, gender studies, feminism, the environment,
birth, death, addiction, science, and history. Creative nonfiction as a form may be experimental, hybrid, or more “journalistic.” As writers in this course, you will experiment with writing in these different styles.

LEC 30 ONLINE MON 6:00-8:50PM/FLEX HEIDI HUTNER

SUMMER II (7/5-8/14)

EGL 587.30 Topics in Race, Ethnic Studies: Magical Realism in the Global South
This course can satisfy the Literature of People of Color or the Non-Western Literature content area requirements for SBU teacher education students. (only one, not both)

This course will examine notions of reality and its artistic representation in works that have been described as “magical realism.” Magical realism refers to narratives in which occurrences of the fantastic, the supernatural, the magical are taken as commonplace, accepted and integrated into the rational and material world of literary realism. By containing the binary between the rational and magical worlds—the term itself an oxymoron—magical realism allows for understanding categories without relying on absolute truth or fixed definitions. Instead, the artistic production leaves space for many truths to exist simultaneously.

Although most texts will come from the Latin American tradition with which magical realism is most often associated, we will read a number of novels, short stories, and theoretical pieces from different cultural contexts in the global south in order to compare the workings of magical realism from within different contact zones and explore the diversity of its philosophical, political, and literary implications. We will also discuss visual arts and their connection to the works we are reading. Possible authors include: Gabriel García Márquez, Jorge, Luis Borges, Isabel Allende, Cristina Garcia, Ben Okri, Toni Morrison and others. This class operates completely online, and, as such, will require a great deal of reading and writing for discussions, formal assignments, and papers.

LEC 30 ONLINE/FLEX NICOLE GALANTE

EGL 585.30 Topics in Cultural Studies: The Literature of Hacking

In this course, we will explore the brilliant, profane, psychedelic, and often dangerous literature of hacking and the cybersphere, from the origin of the internet to the present.
Topics include cyberpunk, steampunk, ethics, privacy, pseudonymity, postmodernism, zines, and tech subcultures. No prior coding or technological expertise is required.