**English & Creative Writing Information for Advisors, Fall 2024**

* We strongly recommend that students take a 100-level literature course in their first year, prior to taking 200- and 300-level literature courses. One 100-level literature course is required for the major; 100-level creative writing courses (141 and 142) do not fulfill this requirement. These courses are focused on a specific topic, are writing intensive, are limited in size and many fulfill the INQ CORE requirement.
* A Creative Writing Course is required for English & CW majors, 141 is ideal for this. Other classes that fulfill this requirement are 142, 210, and 375.
* Encourage students that have recently declared to enroll in a “M” / Methods course. (242 & 281 for Spring 25)
* Upper-level courses sometimes have prerequisites. These are designed to support student success; however, if a student feels they have a strong case for an exception, they should email the instructor for permission.
* **Courses open to first-year students // Spring 2025**
* English 141: Fundamentals of Writing Poetry and Fiction (Four sections. Please stress with new students that they will not be behind if they start the CW sequence in Spring instead of Fall. If all sections of 141 fill in Fall, there are sections open in Spring to accommodate all students who wish to enroll.)
* **Open by permission only:** English 142: Intermediate Creative Writing:141 is the prerequisite for 142, but highly qualified entering students may submit a multi-genre portfolio to Thorpe Moeckel, Director of the Jackson Center for Creative Writing, for entry directly into 142; we stress, however, that 141 is not a remedial course.
* English 151: Close Reading, Critical Writing – four offerings:
	+ Books on the Beach: Tourism in Literature and Film: Tourism can radically transform a place, both its physical landscape and the culture of the people. Often, these changes lead to negative consequences for locals and natives. This class will look to TV shows like The White Lotus, and works of literature, like Jamaica Kincaid’s A Small Place. In this class, we will think through how these and many other works present us with multiple narratives of this growing industry.
	+ Conceptions of the Hero?: This course explores contemporary global society by reading “foundational texts” (and other media) from antiquity to the present day through society’s “conceptions of the hero.” We will start by defining our culture’s current interpretation of the hero and the famous “hero’s journey.” Then, we’ll dive into texts from antiquity whose traditions we inherit and compare their heroes with the heroes of contemporary popular texts from the U.S. and abroad.
	+ Mixtape: In this course, we’ll use literary studies as a portal to explore artistic intersections, the surprising and creative ways that various genres (poetry, fiction, nonfiction, music, and visual art) may combine to create something new. We’ll be open to exploring collaborations (our own and those of the texts we study), and we’ll think and write about the ways hybrid/composite/collaborative forms may open art to a larger and more diverse community.
	+ From *Walden* to Wildfires: Introduction to Environmental Literature: This course provides a broad overview of environmental literature from the 19th century to the present through looking at a variety of works of fiction and non-fiction including essays, memoirs, poetry, and novels to try to answer the question: what makes a piece of writing environmental? Beginning with the intellectual movement of Transcendentalism, we go on to consider different forms of environmental literature including nature writing, activist texts, and climate fiction as these address topics ranging from conservation to pollution to climate change.
* ENG 221: African American Literature: This survey course will focus on African American literature from the 1920s to the present. Topics include the Harlem Renaissance, the Black Arts Movement, and black women writers. We will examine the various ways the black experience has been depicted in poetry, fiction, and drama, as we discuss issues of aesthetics, community, and gender.
* ENG 242M: Introduction to Children’s Literature: Introduction to the critical study of children’s literature. Themes include ideas of childhood; the relationship between didacticism, folklore, and “high” art; text vs. image; and the gendering of children’s literature. Possible authors include the brothers Grimm, E. Nesbit, Virginia Hamilton, Zylpha Keatley Snyder, and David Almond.
* ENG 250: LGBTQ Literature: An Introduction: This course is an introduction to Anglophone LGBTQ literature from the late nineteenth century to the present. Our aim is to analyze the generic range and political messages of texts by queer writers during this period. Authors include Gertrude Stein, Patricia Highsmith, James Baldwin, Audre Lorde, Alison Bechdel, Carmen Maria Machado, Natalie Diaz, Ocean Vuong, and Danez Smith. We will be reading them on their own, and through the lens of queer theory by critics including Jack Halberstam, Eve Sedgwick, Judith Butler, Gayle Salomon, and José Esteban Muñoz.
* ENG 281M: American Literature to 1860: This class fulfills the “Methods” requirement for the English major. Questions of identity have long dominated the thoughts and discourse of those who live on this continent. In this course, we will explore the roles of race, gender, class, and ethnicity in the development of American literature and how various visions of America have complemented, cohered, and competed with each other from the oral traditions of Native Americans up to 1860.

**General Contact Information**

Department office: Willard Ramsey, english@hollins.edu, Swannanoa 110, x6317

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**Requirements for a Major in ENGLISH & CREATIVE WRITING**

**2023-2024 and forward**

9 courses (36 credits)

* One 100-level literature seminar (ENG 141 and 142 do not fulfill this requirement)
* One creative writing course from among 141, 142, 210, or 375, and other courses by permission
* One 200-level methods course (designated “M” in the catalog)
* One 200- or 300-level course in “Historically Underrepresented Voices”
* One 300-level literature course before 1700
* One 300-level literature course, 1700-1950
* Three elective courses (12 credits); two must be at the 300- or 400-level. 100-level courses, except for ENG 142, cannot count.

**Requirements for a Major in ENGLISH & CREATIVE WRITING WITH A CONCENTRATION**

**2023-2024 and forward**

11-12 courses (44 credits)

* One 100-level literature seminar (ENG 141 and 142 do not fulfill this requirement)
* One creative writing course from among 141, 142, 210, or 375, and other courses by permission
* One 200-level methods course (designated “M” in the catalog)
* One 200- or 300-level course in “Historically Underrepresented Voices”
* One 300-level literature course before 1700
* One 300-level literature course, 1700-1950
* Five or Six Courses (20 credits), focused into a self-designed concentration; at least two must be at the 300- or 400-level. 100-level courses, except for ENG 142, cannot count toward a concentration.

**Talk to your advisor to possibly plan a concentration. Possible concentrations could be: Children’s Literature, Environmental Writing, Medieval and Early Modern Studies, Multicultural Literature, Poetry, Queer Writing and Literature, Speculative Fiction, amongst many others.**