



to

ENGLISH & CREATIVE WRITING
MAJORS

and interested others

2026-2027 COURSES

April 13, 2026

HOLLINS
UNIVERSITY

www.hollins.edu

NOTES

The Department of English & Creative Writing has established the following prerequisites:

- **100-level courses:** open to entering first-year students. Students who receive a 4 or 5 on the AP English Literature Exam or a 5, 6, or 7 on the IB English Literature Exam can request that their test score replace the 100-level literature requirement for the English and Creative Writing major.
- **200-level literature courses:** at least one semester of college work or permission of the instructor. Students are strongly encouraged to take a 100-level literature course before enrolling in a 200-level course. We also recommend that majors complete their Methods requirement by the end of their sophomore year.
- **300-level courses:** The department recommends that English majors take a 100-level literature course and a 200-level literature course prior to taking a 300-level course.
- **Advanced courses** may have individual prerequisites as noted within their descriptions.
- **Creative Writing courses:** the prerequisite for ENG 207 and ENG 208: Advanced Creative Writing is ENG 142: Intermediate Creative Writing. The prerequisite for ENG 142 is ENG 141 or by multi-genre submission and permission of the Director of the Jackson Center for Creative Writing. The prerequisite for ENG 407: Advanced Creative Writing, Sr. Option is ENG 207 or 208 and senior standing.

Students are reminded that only 60 credits in one department can count toward the 128 credits required for graduation. If credits with the subject code ENG exceed 60, then extra credits must be taken outside of the major for graduation (more than 128 credits will be needed).

Minors: Students majoring in English and Creative Writing may not pursue a minor in the department. If a student majors in something other than English and Creative Writing, they may pursue two minors in the department.

Hollins Abroad Courses: Two pre-approved literature courses taken abroad can count as an elective at the 200-level. Neither may fulfill the Methods requirement.

Honors Thesis: During the spring semester of their junior year, some majors will be invited to undertake an honors thesis in their senior year. To be eligible for honors, juniors must have an overall GPA of 3.0 or above, a major GPA of 3.3 or above and be recommended by department faculty. Honors Theses qualify for the Experiential Learning Requirement (ELR) under the CORE curriculum.

Independent Study: Application for Independent Study must be made in the preceding semester. Approval of faculty director and chair of the department is required before registration.

Transfer Credit Toward the Majors: Once a student has transferred to Hollins and declared a major in English & Creative Writing, they may petition the Chair of the department for no more than two courses to be applied toward the major. The student must submit course descriptions and syllabi. Approvals are dependent on those courses being equivalent to 100- or 200-level courses offered at Hollins. Transfer credits are not approved for substitution at the 300-level.

Internship Opportunities: Internships pair the critical and creative skills gained through the English and Creative Writing major/minor with supervised work in a professional setting. Develop transferable skills, explore careers, and find your purpose by registering for a fall, spring, summer or January term internship experience. Internships can qualify for 2 or 4 credits hours, see below for breakdown.

Credit Options:

- Fall, Spring, and Summer Terms: Choose between 2 credits (70 hours of work) or 4 credits (140 hours of work).
- January Term: 4 credits only (35 hours a week for 4 weeks).

If you are interested in an internship, contact Meighan Sharp (msharp2@hollins.edu) for more information.

FALL 2026

Course & Number	Time	Instructor
English 117	TR 1:10-2:40	Pfeiffer
Childbirth and Women's Writing		
Department Attributes: 100-level literature seminar CORE and ESP Attributes: f, w, x		

An introduction to literary and interdisciplinary study as well as college writing. We will analyze birth stories as literary and cultural metaphors in the texts of authors such as Anne Bradstreet, Maggie Nelson, H  l  ne Cixous, Louise Erdrich, Julia Kristeva, Toni Morrison, Adrienne Rich, and Jazmina Barrera. Also listed as GWS 117. No prerequisite. Offered Term 1.

English 141	141-1: MW 11:30-1:00	Hutter
Fundamentals of Writing Poetry and Fiction	141-2: MW 1:10-2:40	Escobar
	141-3: TR 8:50-10:20	Kinder
	141-4: TR 2:50-4:20	Lex
Department Attributes: Creative writing course CORE and ESP Attributes: C&I, CRE, f, w, o		

Fundamentals of writing poetry and fiction; discussion of student work and of the creative process; readings in contemporary poems and short stories. Frequent conferences with the instructor. No prerequisite. Offered both terms.

English 142	142-1: TR 1:10-2:40	Sumra
Intermediate Creative Writing		
Department Attributes: Creative writing course CORE and ESP Attributes: CRE, f, w Prerequisite: ENG 141		

The writing of poetry, nonfiction, and fiction; intermediate level. Includes discussion of student work and work by classic and contemporary writers. Frequent conferences with the instructor. Offered both terms.

English 151	TR 8:50-10:20	Sumra
Close Reading, Critical Writing: Tourism in Literature & Film		
Department Attributes: 100-level literature seminar CORE and ESP attributes: INQ, AES, f, w, x		

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. However, to have a more nuanced and richer understanding of tourism, we can look to TV shows, such as the HBO series *The White Lotus*, and works of literature, such as 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. Using close reading, lively discussions, presentations, and short papers, we will try to understand what it means to be a tourist; how places exist in the imagination of foreigners as opposed to the lived experiences of locals or natives; and how these works bear witness to peoples and places, especially those marked by great periods of history. No prerequisite. Offered Term 1.

Course & Number	Time	Instructor
English 151	TR 2:50-4:20	Sharp
Close Reading, Critical Writing: Mixtape		
Department Attributes: 100-level literature seminar CORE and ESP attributes: INQ, AES, f, w, x		

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. No prerequisite. Offered Term 1.

English 207	207-1: W 6:00-8:00	Milan
Advanced Creative Writing	207-2: R 12:30-2:30	Guild
CORE and ESP Attributes: CRE, f, w Prerequisite: ENG 142.		

ENG 207-1: Fast Writing (2 Credits)

Milan

A novel in 90 days? Ten stories (or essays) in a semester? This experimental workshop is designed to practice writing quickly and well. By applying the techniques of prolific genre and literary artists, we seek to bypass paralysis of the "perfect" sentence to follow and trust the narrative heart of our work. Students will aim to produce a full draft of a manuscript and to develop the lifelong habits and skills of a literary artist. Offered Term 1.

ENG 207-2: Fiction Toolkit (2 Credits)

Guild

With a strong emphasis on lecture, outside reading and multiple rounds of workshoping, this course offers a deep dive into the fundamentals of fiction writing. Examining both overarching concerns (such as novel structure and character development) and sentence-level concerns (rhythm and syntax, etc.), this course is ideal for aspiring novelists currently working in either short- or long-form fiction. Offered Term 1.

English 231	MWF 10:20-11:20	Sunia
LGBTQ+ Literature		
Department Attributes: Historically Underrepresented Voices CORE and ESP Attributes: SMN Prerequisite: one semester of college work or permission.		

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. Also listed as GWS 231. Offered Term 1.

Course & Number	Time	Instructor
English 250	MW 2:50-4:20	Milan
Beyond Publish or Perish		
Prerequisite: Sophomore standing		

How do we get published, find an agent, feed ourselves with this hard-won, rare, and valuable skill of writing well? This course aims to not only equip students with the knowledge of the paths toward creative writing publication, but also how to articulate their writing skills into a portfolio appropriate for different fields and careers where the skills of writing well – and the liberal arts in general – are desirable. Ultimately, this course prepares students to answer that prosaic party question of, “So what are you going to do with that liberal arts degree?” Offered Term 1.

English 275	MWF 9:10-10:10	De Groot
Speculative Fiction and Its Literary Ancestors		
Department Attributes: 200-level methods course		
CORE and ESP Attributes: SMN, AES Prerequisite: one semester of college work or permission.		

“Speculative fiction” is a very recent term with very ancient roots. First proposed in the 1960s to differentiate “serious” science fiction from pulp, these days you most often see it used in publishing circles as a way to describe any genre that imagines a world that works according to different rules from our own, whether fantasy, horror, science fiction, or magical realism. The category of “speculative fiction,” young as it is, uncovers a kinship among these anti-realist genres that goes back much further in history than the 60s, and it becomes clear that rules about genre are made to be broken. In this course, we’ll see how contemporary zombie stories owe a lot to Frankenstein, which owes a lot in turn to medieval golem tales and even the Roman Pygmalion myth; how a millennial Afrofuturist novel repurposes Afro-Caribbean folklore, the brothers Grimm, and Shakespeare; and how a hero in a post-apocalyptic wasteland needs a Grail as badly as King Arthur. As we reconsider generic boundaries and realize how very old many of our contemporary stories are, we will see how the practices and methods of literary studies can help us to remove ourselves from the center of history and come to see the intellectual opportunities and the artistic possibilities involved in thinking speculatively and writing fantastically. Offered Term 1.

English 282	MW 2:50-4:20	Larios
US Literature from 1860 to the Present		
Department Attributes: 200-level methods course		
CORE and ESP Attributes: SMN Prerequisite: one semester of college work or permission.		

The development of prose and poetry in the United States from the Civil War to the present, including the schools of regionalism, realism, and naturalism in fiction, the emerging African-American literary tradition, and the growing multicultural nature of U.S. literature in the 20th century, along with the development of Modernism and post-Modernism. Offered Term 1.

Course & Number	Time	Instructor
English 329	TR 10:30-12:00	De Groot
Reimagining the Middle Ages		
Department Attributes: 300-level literature course 1700-1950 Prerequisite: sophomore standing or permission.		

Why won't we let the Middle Ages die? "Modernity" defines itself in large part by negating, rejecting, and in some cases literally destroying its own past. The ongoing fascination of the Middle Ages from Shakespeare to sci-fi, however, suggests that the ghosts of the past are not easily laid to rest. Sometimes those ghosts are friendly, reminding us to complicate our views of good and evil, of racial or religious politics, and of story-telling. At other times, those ghosts are profoundly malignant, as we see in the contemporary white supremacist fascination with their version of the Middle Ages. We will pair medieval texts with later re-fashionings to examine the ways in which "modern" literature sometimes rejects and sometimes rewrites the idea of "the medieval." Possible medieval authors include Dante, Chrétien de Troyes, Thomas Malory, the Beowulf poet, and the authors of the York mystery plays. Possible modern authors include Shakespeare, Tolkien, Tony Harrison, Anne Radcliffe, T.S. Eliot, Derek Walcott, John Crowley, Mark Twain, and Gloria Naylor. Offered Term 1.

English 332	MW 1:10-2:40	De Groot
Shakespeare and the Theatre		
Department Attributes: 300-level literature course before 1700 CORE and ESP Attributes: PRE Prerequisite: sophomore standing or permission.		

Plays that reflect on their own artfulness, characters that examine their thoughts and behavior as acting, or plays-within-the-play that reflect/refract the action of the main play are considered metadrama. In this course we will examine theatrical self-awareness in select plays of Shakespeare (*Hamlet* and *Henry IV Part I* among others) and related metadramatic works, including Tom Stoppard's *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead*. We will also view some films. Offered Term 1.

English 335	TR 2:50-4:20	Pfeiffer
Milton		
Department Attributes: 300-level literature course before 1700 CORE and ESP Attributes: w, x, o Prerequisite: junior standing or permission.		

An analysis of *Paradise Lost*. We will use close readings of the poem's language, structure, and themes to understand Milton's epic as a literary masterpiece; we will consider literary responses to the poem as a means of determining the epic's cultural significance. Also listed as REL 335. Offered Term 1

Course & Number	Time	Instructor
English 350	TR 1:10-2:40	Sunia
Special Topics: Toni Morrison		
Department Attributes: Historically Underrepresented Voices CORE and ESP Attributes: DJP Prerequisite: sophomore standing or permission.		

We will read Toni Morrison’s novels, short story, and critical writing alongside major writers such as Harriet Jacobs, William Faulkner, and James Baldwin to examine the crucial ways Morrison has transformed our understanding of American literature. We will consider how Morrison’s work imagines what scholar Saidiya Hartman calls the “afterlife of slavery.” Offered Term 1.

English 350	M 6:00-9:00	Larios
Special Topics: American Modernism		
Department Attributes: 300-level literature course 1700-1950 CORE and ESP Attributes: SMN Prerequisite: sophomore standing or permission.		

This course explores this major literary and cultural movement in the United States from the early to mid-20th century. Students will examine experimental poetry, fiction, and drama that reflect modernist concerns such as fragmentation, alienation, disillusionment, and the search for new forms of expression. Key figures include T. S. Eliot, Ezra Pound, William Faulkner, Ernest Hemingway, F. Scott Fitzgerald, and writers of the Harlem Renaissance. Through close reading and discussion, the course considers how American modernist literature responds to social, technological, and artistic change. Offered Term 1.

English 375	MW 11:30-1:00	Kaldas
Writing out of the Multicultural Experience		
Department Attributes: Historically Underrepresented Voices, Creative Writing Course CORE and ESP Attributes: CRE, DIV Prerequisite: junior standing or permission.		

This is a literature and creative writing course. Readings will focus attention on particular issues, such as perception and stereotypes, gender expectations, and cultural conflicts. Assignments will be creative, encouraging students to bring the issues raised in the literature into their own work. Students can write from their specific background, paying particular attention to ethnic, national, and regional identity, economic class, sexual orientation, etc. Offered Term 1.

English 399	TBD	Sharp
Internship		
CORE Attribute: ELR		

Pair the critical and creative skills gained through the English and Creative Writing major/minor with supervised internships in a professional setting. Develop transferable skills, explore careers, and find your purpose by registering for a fall, spring, summer or January term internship experience. Fall, Spring and Summer Terms: Choose between 2 credits (70 hours of work) or 4 credits (140 hours of work). January Term: 4 credits only (35 hours a week for 4 weeks). Contact Meighan Sharp (msharp2@hollins.edu) for more information.

Course & Number	Time	Instructor
English 407	407-1: W 6:00-8:00	Sharp
Advanced Creative Writing	407-2: W 6:00-8:00	Sumra
CORE and ESP Attributes: CRE, w, ELR Prerequisites: ENG 207 or ENG 208, or permission		

A four-credit, mixed-genre seminar in creative writing for seniors only. Offered Term 1.

*In 26-27 AY, only 407 will be offered this fall. 408 will NOT be offered in Spring.

English 482	T 6:00-9:00	Sunia
Advanced Studies in English Literature Senior Seminar		
CORE and ESP Attributes: ELR Prerequisite: senior standing AND permission of the instructor.		

What is the purpose of literary criticism? The pleasure? Why write about what we read? This seminar for senior English and Creative Writing majors builds on the skills you have developed as careful readers and thoughtful writers and guides you through the process of writing an extended essay. Students will be introduced to a variety of advanced research techniques, write a major essay in an area of English literature of their choosing, and reflect on post-graduate plans.

Contact suniap@hollins.edu for more information. Offered Term 1.

English 486	MW 2:50-4:20	van Eerden
Advanced Studies in Creative Nonfiction		
Prerequisite: Senior English and Creative Writing major with permission of instructor		

This is a course on the literary form that has come to be known as “Creative Nonfiction.” We will read and discuss various modes of writing about personal experience and the aesthetic and ethical issues raised by such writing. Written assignments will include discursive prose, as well as students’ original creative nonfiction. Open to creative writing M.F.A. students, and to senior English and Creative Writing majors with permission of instructor. Contact

vaneerdenjh@hollins.edu for more information. Offered Term 1.

SPRING 2027

Course & Number	Time	Instructor
English 132	MWF 10:20-11:20	Burnside
Folk & Fairy Tales		
Department Attributes: 100-level literature seminar CORE and ESP Attributes: f, w, x, AES		

Fairy tales provide a rich treasure-trove for critical and creative exploration. In this course, we will examine stories with their roots in oral tradition, as well as the literary tales inspired by and entwined with them. We will also examine different critical approaches to analyzing these tales, the interplay of oral and literary traditions, and modern creative work in a variety of genres. No prerequisite. Offered Term 2.

English 141	141-1: MW 11:30-1:00	Hutter
Fundamentals of Writing Poetry and Fiction	141-2: MW 1:10-2:40	Escobar
	141-3: TR 8:50-10:20	Kinder
	141-4: TR 2:50-4:20	Lex
Department Attributes: Creative writing course CORE and ESP Attributes: C&I, CRE, f, w, o		

Fundamentals of writing poetry and fiction; discussion of student work and of the creative process; readings in contemporary poems and short stories. Frequent conferences with the instructor. No prerequisite. Offered both terms.

English 142	TR 10:30-12:00	Sharp
Intermediate Creative Writing		
Department Attributes: Creative writing course CORE and ESP Attributes: CRE, f, w Prerequisite: ENG 141.		

The writing of poetry, nonfiction, and fiction; intermediate level. Includes discussion of student work and work by classic and contemporary writers. Frequent conferences with the instructor. Offered both terms.

English 150	MW 1:10-2:40	Larios
Existentialism & Literature		
Department Attributes: 100-level literature seminar CORE Attributes: INQ (pending)		

This course provides an introduction to the 20th century philosophical movement of existentialism and its relationship to literature. Through reading a selection of short philosophical texts, short stories, and novels we will explore key themes such as death, absurdity, faith, freedom, and responsibility. Guiding our inquiry will be the question of why existentialism is so occupied with literature. We will be looking at canonical authors such as Nietzsche, Camus, and Kierkegaard, but will also be using existentialism as a framework to analyze literature outside its traditional scope which shares some of its concerns, exploring works by Ellison, Welch, and Woolf. Also listed as PHIL 150. No prerequisites. Offered Term 2.

Course & Number	Time	Instructor
English 151	TR 1:10-2:40	Sunia
Close Reading, Critical Writing: Fever!		
Department Attributes: 100-level literature seminar CORE and ESP attributes: INQ, AES, f, w, x		

This course examines the literature of the 1790s when the major cities of the new American nation such as Philadelphia and New York were ravaged by recurring yellow fever epidemics. Some tensions to be discussed are those between medicine and faith and race and citizenship. No prerequisites. Offered Term 2.

English 151	MWF: 9:10-10:10	De Groot
Close Reading, Critical Writing: Four by Shakespeare		
Department Attributes: 100-level literature seminar CORE and ESP attributes: INQ, AES, f, w, x		

Close examination of four plays by Shakespeare that diverge and intersect thematically. Shakespeare's plays have had enormous staying power in part because they are endlessly mutable, subject to reinvention, reinterpretation, and rediscovery under new circumstances. That makes them ideal subjects for a classroom community thinking about what exactly it is we do when we read and interpret books both old and new together, across time and cultural change. No prerequisites. Offered Term 2.

English 208	208-1: W 6:00-8:00	Moeckel
Advanced Creative Writing	208-2: W 6:00-8:00	Sumra
CORE and ESP Attributes: CRE, f, w Prerequisite: ENG 142.		

ENG 208-1: Poetic Forms

Moeckel

Part workshop, part an exploration of writing in established, evolving and invented forms. Through close reading, workshop, and prompts, we will finesse (while attending to how others have finessed) language through the nooks and knuckles of the haiku, sonnet, prose poem, ghazal, haibun, and many other forms. We will aim to move fluidly between iambic pentameter and the lipogram (in which one is restricted from using a particular letter of the alphabet in the poem). We will each invent, ourselves, a new form, and aim to complicate notions of what "a poem in form" is. Offered Term 2.

ENG 208-2: Worldbuilding

Sumra

World-building—the series of decisions that go into depicting time and place in both “real” and imagined worlds—has serious implications for plot progression and character development. This seminar includes workshops, exercises, and discussions that will help us intentionally design setting in a work of prose to heighten tension, convey mood, and more. Assigned readings will cover several genres, including fantasy, science-fiction, historical fiction, and experimental memoir, among others. Offered Term 2.

Course & Number	Time	Instructor
English 224	TR 1:10 – 2:40	Pfeiffer
Madness and Virtue in British Literature (Major British Writers II)		
Department Attributes: 200-level methods course		
CORE and ESP Attributes: w, x, MOD Prerequisite: one semester of college work or permission.		

This course fulfills the methods requirement for the major. This course gives students an introduction to British poetry and fiction of the Romantic, Victorian, Modern and Post-Modern periods. Thematically, the course focuses on the contrast between order and chaos, civilization and madness, and asks us to consider what monsters lurk within the orderly confines of nineteenth-, twentieth-, and twenty-first-century British literature. Offered Term 2.

English 250	TR 2:50-4:20	De Groot
Special Topics: History of the Book		
Prerequisite: one semester of college work or permission.		

A book is more than the disembodied ideas it contains. This class traces the history of writing as a technology with a focus on the codex and its role in literary history. Using both theoretical and archival resources, we will explore how the material object of the book makes meaning and where our changing reading practices may be taking us next. Offered Term 2.

English 250	MW 11:30-1:00	Larios
Special Topics: Environmental Rhetorics		
Prerequisite: one semester of college work or permission.		

This course examines how the environment is imagined, defined, and debated across diverse discursive contexts. Students explore the rhetorical strategies used by organizations, advocates, policymakers, and communities to construct different meanings of the environment and how this shapes public understanding. Through critical reading, discussion, writing, and oral communication, students analyze how environmental narratives influence attitudes, values, and actions. Through engagement with community partners who work on environmental issues, students also consider how environmental rhetoric is deployed to advance different missions. In the process, students develop stronger analytical skills and a deeper understanding of how environmental ideas circulate in public life. Offered Term 2.

English 250	TR 10:30-12:00	Sumra
Special Topics: Caribbean Literature		
Department Attributes: Historically Underrepresented Voices		
Prerequisite: one semester of college work or permission.		

The present-day Caribbean is an archipelago home to a diverse population. This course also considers the region's diaspora as an extension of the Caribbean. We will consider novels, short stories, and poems that have chronicled the region's rich history, as early as the era of chattel slavery; the mixing of languages, customs, and religions that birthed its unique and hybrid culture; and the intervention of new perspectives, primarily from women, queer people, and those living in diaspora, that continuously reshape Caribbean identity and culture. Offered Term 2.

Course & Number	Time	Instructor
English 281	MW 2:50-4:20	Sunia
American Literature to 1860		
Department Attributes: 200-level methods course Prerequisite: one semester of college work or permission.		

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. Offered Term 2.

English 310	MWF 10:20-11:20	De Groot
Chaucer		
Department Attributes: 300-level literature course before 1700		
CORE and ESP Attributes: w, x, AES, PRE Prerequisite: sophomore standing or permission.		

In this course, we'll take a deep dive; into one of the most famous works of the Middle Ages, Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*. This compendium of stories, set within the frame of a story-telling competition to pass the time on a pilgrimage to Canterbury, offers a pastiche of medieval genres and voices and a cross-section of medieval English society. By turns serious and bawdy, heartfelt and wry, *The Canterbury Tales* is justly considered one of the most important artistic creations of English literature. Themes it raises include ideas of character and community; gender (Chaucer was once called "all women's friend," but is it true?); genre; religion and nascent Western secularity. We will read the poem in Chaucer's dialect of Middle English, which you will find is very easy to pick up with a little bit of guidance. No prior knowledge of the Middle Ages or Middle English is expected. Offered Term 2.

English 350	M 6:00-9:00	Larios
Before and After (Film) Noir		
Department Attributes: 300-level literature course 1700-1950		
CORE and ESP Attributes: SMN (Pending) Prerequisite: sophomore standing or permission.		

This course examines the origins, conventions, and ongoing influence of noir across literature and film. The course begins with early detective fiction by Edgar Allan Poe before turning to classic film noir and its defining themes of crime, ambiguity, and moral complexity. Students then explore neo-noir works that reinterpret the genre through new perspectives on gender, race, and sexuality. Readings may include authors such as Paul Auster and William Faulkner alongside film screenings. Through discussion and analytical writing, students investigate how noir evolves across media while shaping cultural narratives about justice, identity, and the darker aspects of modern life. Offered Term 2.

Course & Number	Time	Instructor
English 350	TR 2:50-4:20	Pfeiffer
Special Topics: Children's Literature of Disability		
Department Attributes: Historically Underrepresented Voices, 300-level literature course 1700-1950 Prerequisite: sophomore standing or permission.		

This course investigates the links between children's literature, disability studies, and identity. We will use Lennard Davis's idea of "normalcy," Rosemary Garland-Thompson's concept of the "misfit," and Abby Meyer's work on the "freak" character as frameworks for reading children's and adolescent literature from the nineteenth century to the present. The course is designed to develop your skills as analytic readers, public speakers, writers, and researchers as a way of augmenting the pleasure to be found in these engaging books. Offered Term 2.

English 351	TR 2:50-4:20	Wilkinson
Writer-in-Residence: Writing Fractured Beauty		
Prerequisite: ENG 207/208 and junior standing or permission.		

This is a course examining the cycle or fragment as a narrative strategy across genres. The mosaic structure and its many forms (lyric essays, novel in verse, poetry cycles, etc) has emerged as a primary genre for expressing and exploring an individual (self or character) and their place in a larger society. We will begin by laying the groundwork by taking a look at a few early authors and then quickly move forward to more recent works and examine how these writers appropriate the form. You will have an opportunity to discuss a narrative linked strategy in your own work through generative exercises and in a "big picture" workshop format. Offered Term 2.

English 382	MW 1:10-2:40	Sunia
Queering Nature in American Literature (Advanced Studies in American Literature)		
Department Attributes: Historically Underrepresented Voices, 300-level literature course 1700-1950 CORE and ESP Attributes: w, x, AES, DIV Prerequisite: sophomore standing or permission of instructor.		

This course engages the understanding that American discourse on nature naturalizes heteronormative national identities. Through the lenses of queer and environmental studies, we will examine how American writers from the 19th century to the present have dramatized the link between nature and sexuality through queer ecologies that challenge gender binaries and human exceptionalism. Also listed as GWS 382. Offered Term 2.

English 399	TBD	Sharp
Internship		
CORE Attributes: ELR		

Pair the critical and creative skills gained through the English and Creative Writing major/minor with supervised internships in a professional setting. Develop transferable skills, explore careers, and find your purpose by registering for a fall, spring, summer or January term internship experience. Fall, Spring and Summer Terms: Choose between 2 credits (70 hours of work) or 4 credits (140 hours of work). January Term: 4 credits only (35 hours a week for 4 weeks). Contact Meghan Sharp (msharp2@hollins.edu) for more information.

Course & Number	Time	Instructor
English 487	MW 2:50-4:20	Milan
Advanced Studies in Short Fiction		
Prerequisite: Senior English and Creative Writing major with permission of instructor		

This seminar focuses on the Western traditions we (U.S.) have inherited and internalized in our sense of contemporary, ‘artful,’ short stories that rings true today. With close study of influential work, writing techniques, and structures we aim to gain insight into questions like what makes a ‘good story’? How can we write ‘well’ and/or choose to broaden/subvert/rebel against the tradition? Open to creative writing M.F.A. students, and to senior English and Creative Writing majors with permission of instructor. Contact milanjm@hollins.edu for more information. Offered Term 2.

Requirements for a Major in ENGLISH & CREATIVE WRITING

Starting Catalog Year 2026-2027

9-10 courses (36-40 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
- 8 elective credits; must be at the 300- or 400-level. 100-level courses, except for ENG 142, cannot count.
- One senior capstone course (4 or 8 Credits), which may be fulfilled by ENG 407, ENG 482, OR a year-long Honors Thesis (ENG 490).

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

Starting Catalog Year 2026-2027

11-12 courses (44-48 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
- 16 credits focused into a self-designed concentration; at least four must be at the 300- or 400-level. 100-level courses, except for ENG 142, cannot count toward a concentration.
- One senior capstone course (4 or 8 Credits), which may be fulfilled by ENG 407, ENG 482, OR a year-long Honors Thesis (ENG 490) and should involve a project thematically appropriate to the concentration.

Requirements for a Major in ENGLISH & CREATIVE WRITING

Prior to Catalog Year 2026-2027

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

Prior to Catalog Year 2026-2027

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.

How to Major in ENGLISH & CREATIVE WRITING with a Concentration

Students have the option to work with their advisor to design a concentration in an area of their choosing. Concentrations are designed and named in consultation with the academic advisor and must be approved by the chair of the department. If you are interested in designing your own concentration, you should write “concentration TBA” on your major declaration form and then submit a concentration planning form to the Chair and Programs Coordinator of the Department of English & Creative Writing for approval. Concentration planning forms can be found with the programs coordinator in Swannanoa 110.

- 100-level courses (except for ENG 142) cannot count toward concentrations.
- One concentration course may be an internship or be taken outside the department, provided it contributes to the concentration.
- In the case of a comparative literature concentration, up to two literature courses outside the department can count toward the concentration.

Possible Concentration Models – 2023-2024 and forward

Please note: these are hypothetical models only.

Selected ENG 250 and ENG 350 Special Topics courses could count toward some concentrations.

Children’s Literature

ENG 242: Introduction to Children’s Literature

ENG 342: Advanced Studies in Children’s Literature

ENG 490: Senior Honors Thesis in area of concentration (eight credits)

PSY 144: Child Psychology

Environmental Writing & Literature *[this student has a bonus two credits]*

ENG 142: Intermediate Creative Writing

ENG 207, 208: Advanced Creative Writing

ENG 210: Creative Nonfiction

ENG 382: Adv. Studies in American Literature – Queer Ecologies in American Environmental Writing

ENG 482: Advanced Seminar in English Literature

ES 207: Ecology

Medieval and Early Modern Studies

ENG 313: Literature of the Renaissance

ENG 317: Medieval Literature

ENG 335: Milton

ENG 482: Advanced Seminar in English Literature

ART 262: Medieval Art

Multicultural Literature *[this student has a bonus four credits]*

ENG 211: Multicultural Women Writers

ENG 318: Imagining Race in American Letters

ENG 358: Literature of the African Diaspora

ENG 490: Senior Honors Thesis in area of concentration (eight credits)

SPAN 251: Survey of Spanish Literature (language pre-req would be met in gen ed)

Poetry *[this student has a bonus two credits]*

ENG 142: Intermediate Creative Writing

ENG 207, 208: Advanced Creative Writing

ENG 356: Contemporary U.S. Poetry

ENG 484: Advanced Studies in Poetry

ENG 490: Senior Honors Thesis in area of concentration (eight credits)

Queer Writing and Literature

ENG 142: Intermediate Creative Writing

ENG 230: Textual Construction of Gender

ENG 308: Reading and Writing Memoir

ENG 382: Adv. Studies in American Literature – Queer Ecologies in American Environmental Writing

GWS: appropriate course, ideally beyond “Intro”

Speculative Fiction *[this student has a bonus two credits]*

ENG 142: Intermediate Creative Writing

ENG 207, 208: Advanced Creative Writing

ENG 275: Speculative Fiction and Its Literary Ancestors

ENG 329: Reimagining the Middle Ages

ENG 367: Cross-Genre and Experimental Writing

FILM 233: Horror Films

Additional possible concentrations:

- Animal Studies
- British Literature
- Comparative Literature
- Creative Nonfiction
- Digital Humanities
- Fantasy
- Film and Literary Studies
- Spiritual Writing and Literature

Courses Meeting Distribution Requirements

ENGLISH & CREATIVE WRITING Major – 2023-2024 and forward

(F) = Offered Fall

(S) = Offered Spring

= Not offered 2026-2027

Methods Courses

ENG 205: History of the English Language

ENG 217: Shakespeare's Kings and Clowns

ENG 219: Latinx Literature

ENG 220: Early African-American Literature: Race and Resistance, Slavery and Song

ENG 224: Major British Writers II (S)

ENG 242: Introduction to Children's Literature

ENG 275: Speculative Fiction and its Literary Ancestors (F)

ENG 281: American Literature to 1860 (S)

ENG 282: American Literature from 1860 to the Present (F)

Historically Underrepresented Voices

ENG 211: Multicultural Women Writers

ENG 220: Early African-American Literature: Race and Resistance, Slavery and Song

ENG 219: Latinx Literature

ENG 221: African American Literature

ENG 231: LGBTQ+ Literature (F)

ENG 250: Caribbean Literature (S)

ENG 263: Literature of the Holocaust

ENG 284: The Beat Generation

ENG 308: Reading and Writing Memoir

ENG 319: The Jazz Aesthetic in American Literature

ENG 320: Immigrant Literature

ENG 324: Poetry in Performance

ENG 342: Adv. Studies in Children's Literature: Multicultural Children's Literature

ENG 345: Arab Women Writers

ENG 346: Arab American Literature

ENG 350: Toni Morrison (F)

ENG 350: Children's Literature of Disability (S)

ENG 358: Literature of the African Diaspora

ENG 373: Black Aesthetic Movement in Literature

ENG 375: Writing Out of the Multicultural Experience (F)

ENG 382: Queering Nature in American Literature (S)

Pre-1700

ENG 310: Chaucer (S)

ENG 313: Literature of the Renaissance

ENG 315: Dante

ENG 317: Medieval Literature

ENG 331: Shakespeare's Rome

ENG 332: Shakespeare and the Theatre (F)

ENG 333: Shakespeare's Women

ENG 335: Milton (F)

ENG 337: 17th-Century Poetry

ENG 348: Madness in Shakespeare

1700-1950

- # ENG 314: Seminar in Jane Austen
- # ENG 325: Romantic Poetry
- # ENG 328: 19th-Century Women Writers
 - ENG 329: Reimagining the Middle Ages (F)
- # ENG 330: 17th-and 18th-Century Literature
- # ENG 339: 18th-Century British Novel
- # ENG 342: Adv. Studies in Children's Literature: American Girls' Fiction
 - ENG 350: American Modernism (F)
 - ENG 350: Before and After (Film) Noir (S)
 - ENG 350: Children's Literature of Disability (S)
- # ENG 355: Modern British & American Poetry
 - ENG 382: Queering Nature in American Literature (S)
- # ENG 385: Victorian Literature

Past Special Topics Courses that Fulfill Requirements

ENGLISH & CREATIVE WRITING Major – 2023-2024 and forward

Methods Courses

- ENG 250: Critical Methods (2023-2024)
- ENG 250: Moby Dick (2025-2026)

Historically Underrepresented Voices

- ENG 250: LGBTQ Literature (2023-2024, 2024-2025)
- ENG 250: *Empowered*: Science Fiction Written by Latinx/Latine Women (2024-2025)
- ENG 350: Native American Literature and Decolonization (2023-2024)
- ENG 350: Roots and Routes: Navigating Global Indigenous Literatures (2024-2025)
- ENG 350: America's Asia, Asia's America (2025-2026)

1700-1950

- ENG 350: Milton and His Literary Afterlife (2021-2022, 2023-2024)
- ENG 350: Native American Literature and Decolonization (2023-2024)
- ENG 350: Talking Animals (2022-2023, 2024-2025)
- ENG 350: Roots and Routes: Navigating Global Indigenous Literatures (2024-2025)

Requirements for a Minor in English – all catalog years

5 courses (20 credits)

- Two 200-level literature courses
- Two 300-level literature courses
- One additional literature course at any level

Requirements for a Minor in Creative Writing – Starting Catalog Year 2026-2027

20 credits total:

10 credits, including:

- ENG 141: Fundamentals of Writing Poetry and Fiction
- ENG 142: Intermediate Creative Writing
- ENG 207 or 208: Advanced Creative Writing (2-credit course; may be repeated for credit)

10 additional credits from among:

- ENG 210: Creative Nonfiction
- ENG 250: Beyond Publish or Perish
- ENG 306: How Writing is Written
- ENG 308: Reading and Writing Memoir
- ENG/FILM 321: Screenwriting I
- ENG/FILM 322: Screenwriting II
- ENG 324: Poetry in Performance
- ENG 351: Writer-in-Residence courses (offered each Spring; may be repeated for credit)
- THEA 364: Playwriting
- ENG 367: Cross-Genre and Experimental Writing
- ENG 375: Writing Out of the Multicultural Experience
- ENG 399: Internship (2 or 4 credits, as approved by advisor and Director of the Jackson Center)
- ENG 407: Advanced Creative Writing (senior option)
- THEA 364: Playwriting

*If ENG 141 is waived by the Director of the Jackson Center after review of a student's submitted multi-genre portfolio, the student will need to add an additional 4 credits from this approved course list to meet the 20-credit requirement.

Requirements for a Minor in Creative Writing – Prior to Catalog Year 2026-2027

20 credits, including:

- ENG 141: Fundamentals of Writing Poetry and Fiction
- 16 additional credits from among:
 - ENG 142: Intermediate Creative Writing
 - ENG 207, 208: Advanced Creative Writing (may be repeated for credit)
 - ENG 210: Creative Nonfiction
 - ENG 304: Advanced Expository Writing
 - ENG 306: How Writing is Written
 - ENG 308: Reading and Writing Memoir
 - ENG 321: Screenwriting I
 - ENG 322: Screenwriting II
 - ENG 323: Cinematic Adaptation
 - ENG 324: Poetry in Performance
 - ENG 350: Advanced Seminar in Fiction Technique (2013-14, 2017-18)
 - ENG 351: Writer-in-Residence courses (offered each Spring; may be repeated for credit)
 - ENG 367: Cross-Genre and Experimental Writing
 - ENG 375: Writing Out of the Multicultural Experience
 - ENG 407, 408: Advanced Creative Writing (senior option)
 - THEA 364: Playwriting