

**BGSU English**  
**Fall 2023 Graduate Courses**  
 August 21 – Dec 9, 2023

Instructor	Department	Course	Section	Class	Description	Course Restriction
<b>15 Week Session: 8/ 21–12/ 1</b>						
Lee Nickoson	ENG	6040	501W	71876	Graduate Writing	Required for MA, Specialization in ENG teaching and College Writing Theory and Practice Certificate; Elective for all other English programs
Rachel Walsh	ENG	6070	501W	72275	Theory and Methods of Literary Criticism	Required for MA, Individualized Track and MA, Specialization in ENG teaching; Elective for all other English programs
Kimberly Spallinger	ENG	6220	502W	76228	Teaching Grammar in Context of Writing	Required for College Writing: Theory and Practice; Elective open for all Programs
Erin Labbie	ENG	6800	502W	75851	Seminar in English Studies	Elective for all English Programs
Lee Nickoson	ENG	6910	5001/5002	71436/74206	Master's Portfolio	Required for all online MA programs
<b>7 Week 1<sup>st</sup> Session: 8/21–10/ 6</b>						
Cheryl Hoy	ENG	6220	501W	72276	Teaching Grammar in Context of Writing	Required for College Writing: Theory and Practice; Elective open for all Programs
Dan Rzicznek	ENG	6320 - Poetry	501W	75289	Grad Writers Workshop	Required option for CW-Certificate Students; Elective for all English programs
Amy Cook	ENG	6800	501W	75738	Seminar in English Studies: Exploring Vocabulary Learning and Teaching	Elective for all English Programs
<b>Week 2<sup>nd</sup> Session: 10/16–12/ 1</b>						
Cheryl Hoy	ENG	6400	501W	76882	Topics in Professional/Technical Communication	Required for Professional Writing and Rhetoric and Technical Writing Certificate. Elective Open for all Programs.
Sheri Wells-Jensen	LING	6150	501W/502W	72170/76883	Introduction to Linguistics	Required for MA in English (Individualized), MA in English (English Teaching), and TESOL Certificate; Elective Open for all Programs

**OPEN ENROLLMENT BEGINS Monday, March 27, 2023**

Courses are listed above, with more detailed descriptions below. You can find the required courses for your degree program on your program's web page, listed here: [BGSU English Graduate Programs](#)

**Questions about a specific course?** Please email the course instructor at the address included below.

**Questions about scheduling in general, such as which courses to choose?** Please contact your program director, Graduate Secretary Danielle Burkin at [gradenglish@bgsu.edu](mailto:gradenglish@bgsu.edu), or Graduate Coordinator Dr. Neil Baird, [neilb@bgsu.edu](mailto:neilb@bgsu.edu)

**PROGRAM DIRECTORS:**

MA Online, English Teaching/Individualized Track: Kimberly Spallinger, [spallkk@bgsu.edu](mailto:spallkk@bgsu.edu)

MA Online, Professional Writing and Rhetoric/Technical Writing Certificate: Ms. Jennifer Warnke, [jkwarnke@bgsu.edu](mailto:jkwarnke@bgsu.edu)

Creative Writing Certificate: Dr. Lawrence Coates, [coatesl@bgsu.edu](mailto:coatesl@bgsu.edu)

College Writing Certificate: Dr. Lee Nickoson, [leenick@bgsu.edu](mailto:leenick@bgsu.edu)

TESOL Certificate: Ms. Anastasiia Kryzhanivska, [akryzh@bgsu.edu](mailto:akryzh@bgsu.edu)

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**ENG 6040: Graduate Writing**

*Required for MA in English (with a specialization in English Teaching and College Writing: Theory and Practice); Elective open for all programs*

**Dr. Lee Nickoson**

[leenick@bgsu.edu](mailto:leenick@bgsu.edu)

This course is designed for students entering graduate studies in English and invites participants to engage in scholarly writing from both theoretical and practical viewpoints. Participants will consider their writing practices and beliefs; explore a variety of genres, conventions, and audiences for academic writing; engage in contemporary scholarly writing practices; and critically consider debates relevant to the English Studies fields. One goal of the course is to help students succeed in the types of writing that will be expected in their graduate work and professional careers. Thus, the course will also serve as a writer's workshop. Participants will set their own writing goals and submit three formal writing projects throughout the semester, including one significant research project on a topic of their choosing.

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**ENG 6070: Theory and Methods of Literary Criticism**

*Required for MA in English (with a specialization in English Teaching), MA in English (Individualized), and elective for all other programs*

**Dr. Rachel Walsh**

[walshr@bgsu.edu](mailto:walshr@bgsu.edu)

Jacques Derrida and Slavoj Žižek separately have questioned whether the new Europe of today has gone beyond the programs of "Eurocentrism" and "anti-Eurocentrism." They ask whether a leftist appropriation is possible of the European political legacy and how Europeans can reinvent political space in today's conditions of globalization (Rosalind Galt, *The New European Cinema*, 3-4). In this course, we will read and explore their writings along with those of select modern and contemporary literary/textual and cultural theorists with the aim of exploring to what extent early and mid 20<sup>th</sup> century modern theorists continue to inspire and influence contemporary theoretical discourses of gender, race, multiculturalism, postcolonialism, transnationalism, and globalization.

This course introduces students to traditional contemporary literary and cultural theories and the new directions they are taking, while examining the impact of historical and political changes in recent decades. Students will engage with the interconnections as well as transvergence between different theoretical discourses and their metaphoric “border crossings.” Concepts of the global, the transnational, and the international are evolving terms in contemporary theory. The term ‘transnational’ signifies the permeability of borders and opens up new ways of exploring ideas that owe their genesis to more than one nation and that straddle more than one cultural tradition. Throughout the semester students will explore how these developments express an interactive relationship between different literary and cultural theories.

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**ENG 6220: Teaching Grammar in the Construct of Writing**

*Required for College Writing: Theory and Practice; Elective open for all programs*

**Chery Hoy**

[choy@bgsu.edu](mailto:choy@bgsu.edu)

**OR**

**Kimberly Spallinger**

[spallkk@bgsu.edu](mailto:spallkk@bgsu.edu)

This course examines the relationship between grammar instruction and writing ability and fosters development of appropriate strategies for teaching grammar in the context of writing. This course assumes a working knowledge of the basics of English grammar (sentence/non-sentence; subject/predicate/ modifier, etc.) and of academic writing conventions, i.e., Standard Written English.

Course materials provide some review of these basics, though this is not the focus of the course. This fully online course requires reading of scholarly texts, active participation in asynchronous discussions of those texts and in grammar-based writing activities, and the completion of a final project and presentation at the end of the course.

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**ENG 6320: Graduate Writers Workshop: Poetry**

*Option for CW Certificate; Elective open for all programs*

**Frank Daniel Rzicznek**

[fdrzicz@bgsu.edu](mailto:fdrzicz@bgsu.edu)

A graduate writer’s workshop focused on producing and discussing fiction, in which students present two original works, either short stories or novel chapters. The course will also spend time discussing technique and theory, and utilize prompts to generate new work. During finals week, students will be required to turn in one revision of a story we’ve workshopped during the semester.

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**ENG 6400s: Seminar in English Studies:**

*For MA in Literary and Textual Studies, Elective open to all programs*

**Dr. Cheryl Hoy**

[choy@bgsu.edu](mailto:choy@bgsu.edu)

This course is designed to help you learn foundational skills for becoming a technical communicator that will be used whether you are employed by a company or are working as an independent contractor. Topics in this course include:

- Proposing and budgeting projects
- Performing user, needs and task analyses
- Document planning
- Structuring large-scale documents
- Designing and formatting documents
- Creating graphics
- Usability testing and evaluation

Participants in this course will create one or more professional-quality technical writing samples for use in a portfolio and will research and present a literature review on one topic in Technical Communication

**ENG 6800s: Seminar in English Studies:**

*For MA in Literary and Textual Studies, Elective open to all programs ENG 6800s can be repeated if topics differ*

**Dr. Erin Labbie**

[labbie@bgsu.edu](mailto:labbie@bgsu.edu)

Medieval poetry, prose, vita, and hagiography present bodies that are multiply fantastic, disciplined, metamorphic, complex, and dynamic. These bodies include those of kings and queens, courtiers, ladies, peasants, laborers, monsters, saints, criminals, as well as maps of the political body and psyche. They are alternately and often simultaneously decent and obscene, healthy, diseased, abject, beautiful, magical, tortured and revered. Medieval bodies illustrate how food and medicine, pain and pleasure, truth and beauty, are objects of desire, repulsion, excess, and they function as locations of knowledge in Middle English texts. Medieval bodies are almost always queer and disruptive to ideological systems. They are marked and complicated by language, gender, class, and race.

In this graduate seminar we will focus on the ways that medieval subjects are represented in poetry and prose c. 1066-1475. Our readings will examine many anonymously written poems and Breton Lays, as well as poetry and prose written by authors including but not limited to Marie de France, Geoffrey Chaucer, Dante Alighieri, Margery Kempe, and Julian of Norwich. We will consider these literary texts in the context of literary and critical theories that inform ways that bodies are represented, interpreted, analyzed, and deployed to form an understanding of medieval identities and the politics of aesthetics. We will focus on different ways in which the body signifies, speaks, is read, is presented in poetry, is consumed, is subject to desire and disease, and is mobilized politically. Our readings will include poetry as well as medieval medical texts, images, and we will study cultural artifacts spanning from the Middle Ages to their uses to contemporary literature and culture. We will study a broad range of methodological approaches to reading the medieval body in terms of race, class, gender/sexuality, and different abilities (both physical and psychological). Ultimately, our engagement with texts will help us address questions about the differences among the everyday life of medieval subjects and the fantasies of those subjects that influence our retrospective assumptions about medieval identities, aesthetics, and politics.

Most texts will be provided in pdf forms or links.

Some full texts will be required for the course these include, but are not limited to:

Agamben, *The Use of Bodies* , Hartnell, *Medieval Bodies*, Kantorowicz, *The King's Two Bodies*  
 Kristeva, *The Powers of Horror* , Scarry, *On Beauty and Being Just*

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**ENG 6800: Seminar in English Studies - Exploring Vocabulary Learning and Teaching**

*Elective open to all programs. ENG 6800s can be repeated if topics differ.*

**Amy Cook**

[amycook@bgsu.edu](mailto:amycook@bgsu.edu)

As our department motto says, Words Change Worlds. Words are powerful, and they enable us to voice our thoughts and communicate with others. Vocabulary is also a key element of language learning. As such, English and content area teachers alike play an important role in facilitating learners' vocabulary development. This class explores key ideas from the research on vocabulary learning and teaching, with a particular focus on speakers of English as an additional language. We'll discover answers to foundational questions like "What does it mean to know a word?"; "How do we learn new vocabulary?"; "Which words should we teach?" Building on these topics, we'll explore various resources and strategies, including insights from the scholarship of teaching and learning. Throughout the semester, students will pursue their own interests related to vocabulary, applying their learning to their own experiences and teaching/learning contexts.

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**ENG 6910: Master's Portfolio**

*Required capstone for online MA specializations (English Teaching, Professional Writing and Rhetoric, Individualized)*

**Dr. Lee Nickoson**

[leenick@bgsu.edu](mailto:leenick@bgsu.edu)

This is the required course that serves as the capstone project for the online MA in English programs. Each student will produce a Master's Portfolio that includes four essays or projects from previous classes taken during the MA program (all significantly revised) along with an introductory essay. Ideally, you will take this course in the final semester in which you plan to graduate. The portfolio, including all revisions and new writing, must be completed, approved by the instructor, and submitted to the Graduate Coordinator by the final week of the semester.

<http://www.bgsu.edu/arts-and-sciences/english/graduate-programs/ma-english-online/portfolio.html>

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**LING 6150: Introduction to Linguistics**

*Required for MA in English (Individualized) MA in English (English Teaching), and TESOL Certificate; Elective open for all programs*

**Dr. Sheri Wells-Jensen**

[swellsj@bgsu.edu](mailto:swellsj@bgsu.edu)

This course will give you a whirlwind tour of what human language is like in all its marvelous complexity, beauty, and occasional weirdness. We'll focus a great deal of attention on how languages are structured and then move on to how they are spoken, how we learn them and how and why they die. It is the first course required for the BGSU Graduate TESOL Certificate.

By the time we are finished, you will know:

- how many languages there are;
- what makes one language different from another;
- a few handy tips that will make you a faster language learner;
- what's up with Klingon and Dothraki;
- and (yes) how many words (more or less) there are for "snow" in "Eskimo".