

BGSU English
SUMMER 2023 Graduate Courses
 May 15 - August 4

Instructor	Department	Course	Section	Class	Description	Course Restriction
Session 1 (six weeks): May 15 – June 23						
Kimberly Spallinger	ENG	6040	501W	41505	Graduate Writing	Required for MA, Specialization in ENG teaching and College Writing Theory and Practice Certificate; Elective for all other English programs
Frank Dan Rzicznek	ENG	6320 – Poetry	501W	41504	Graduate Writers Workshop	Required option for CW-Certificate Students; Elective for all English programs
Piya Lapinski	ENG	6090	501W	42131	Teaching Literature	Required for MA, Specialization in ENG teaching; Elective for all other English programs
Lee Nickoson	ENG	6200	501W	41506	Teaching of Writing	Required for MA, Specialization in English teaching and College Writing Theory and Practice Certificate; Elective for all other English programs
Session 2 (six weeks): June 26-August 4						
Reema Rajbanshi	ENG	6320 – Fiction	502W	41890	Graduate Writers Workshop	Required option for CW-Certificate Students; Elective for all English programs
Rachel Walsh	ENG	6800	502W	41508	Seminar in English Studies	Elective for all English Programs
Heath Diehl	ENG	6800	501W	41507	Seminar in English Studies	Elective for all English Programs
Session 3 (8 weeks): May 15-July 7						
Heath Diehl	ENG	6070	501W	42435	Theory and Methods of Literary Criticism	Required for MA, Individualized Track and MA, Specialization in ENG teaching; Elective for all other English programs
Lee Nickoson	ENG	6910	5001	40346	Master's Portfolio	Required for all online MA programs
Lee Nickoson	ENG	6910	5002	41394	Master's Portfolio	Required for all online MA programs

OPEN ENROLLMENT BEGINS FEBRUARY 13th

A Course Rotation Schedule is also available which shows when classes are expected to be offered. This will help you with planning purposes, especially for classes that are offered every other year. The Rotation is here:

[Online MA Course Rotation \(bgsu.edu\)](https://www.bgsu.edu/online/ma-course-rotation)

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, or Graduate Coordinator Dr. Kimberly Spallinger, at spallkk@bgsu.edu.

PROGRAM DIRECTORS:

MA Online, English Teaching/Individualized Track: Kimberly Spallinger, spallkk@bgsu.edu

MA Online, Professional Writing and Rhetoric/Technical Writing Certificate: Ms. Jennifer Warnke, jkwarnke@bgsu.edu

Creative Writing Certificate: Dr. Lawrence Coates, coatesl@bgsu.edu

College Writing Certificate: Dr. Sue Carter Wood, carters@bgsu.edu

SESSION 1: May 15 – June 23

ENG 6040: Graduate Writing (#41505)

Required for MA specialization in English Teaching and College Writing certificate. Open to any graduate student as an elective; priority given to students fulfilling a degree/certificate requirement.

Kimberly Spallinger
ciwertz@bgsu.edu

Description: **English 6040: Graduate Writing** is an online, 3-credit hour, graduate course in the English Department offered for those who all want to become more effective academic writers. This course is designed for students early in graduate studies in English and invites participants to engage in the concept of scholarly writing from both theoretical and practical viewpoints. Participants will consider their writing practices; explore academic genre conventions; cultivate rhetorical awareness; and engage in contemporary scholarly writing practices. The 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 in the English fields. Thus, the course also serves as a writer's workshop.

ENG 6320: Graduate Writers Workshop: Poetry (#41504)

Open to any English graduate student as an elective; priority given to students fulfilling a degree/certificate requirement. Students from outside English wishing to enroll in the course should contact the instructor for permission. Can fulfill requirements for Creative Writing Certificate.

Frank Daniel Rzicznek
frzicz@bgsu.edu

This graduate-level class is designed for both experienced writers of poetry as well as newcomers to the art. ENG 6320 focuses on developing or enhancing a daily writing practice, reading and responding to *The Poet's Companion* by Kim Addonizio and Dorianne Laux (W.W. Norton, 1997), critiquing the work of your peers, receiving feedback from the course instructor, and creating a portfolio of finished work to complete the course. All course assignments, activities, conferences, and other matters will be handled through Canvas and BGSU email.

ENG 6090: Teaching Literature (#42131)

Required for MA specialization in English Teaching. Open to any interested graduate student.

Dr. Piya Lapinski

piyapl@bgsu.edu

This course will cover a range of approaches to teaching literary texts—with a focus on fiction, (both novels and shorter works) and some dramatic works. We'll look at primary texts and a few secondary scholarly articles which will introduce us to diverse teaching methods. Our core texts will include essays from the series *MLA Guides to Teaching*, along with theoretical essays on individual texts. We'll also focus on the interdisciplinary aspects of teaching literature and how to include film and the visual arts, for instance. We'll look at ways to present major works of literature to high school and entering college students. Some of these texts are challenging, and we will explore ways to make them more accessible to students without sacrificing intellectual complexity. These will include major works in the American, British and Continental traditions, as well as film. We will also explore why certain texts have become “iconic” and the culture industry built up around them (including the way social media—especially Facebook, Instagram and Twitter are being used to approach these texts).

ENG 6200: Teaching of Writing (#41506)

Required for MA in English Teaching, MA in Professional Writing and Rhetoric, and College Writing: Theory and Practice Certificate. Open to any graduate student as an elective; priority given to students fulfilling a degree/certificate requirement.

Dr. Lee Nickoson

leenick@bgsu.edu

What do you remember about learning to write—learning to write as a student or outside of any formal classroom setting? How do you remember understanding writing—the purpose of it? What are your memories of and experiences with teaching writing? Researching writing? In what ways might our experiences as learners influence how we identify both as teachers of writing and as writers ourselves? We will spend our time together this summer semester reading, writing, researching, and talking about approaches to teaching writing—or writing pedagogy: what makes for effective writing pedagogy? (There's debate about that) and what doesn't? (Yes, there's also debate about that.) How might various theories of writing pedagogy translate to specific classroom policies and practices in support of creating an inclusive, student-driven learning experience? We will also work as a group to identify additional questions that are of interest to us as members of English 6200, and those questions you identify as worthy of exploration given your experience, professional context, and goals.

SESSION 2: July 27 - August 5

ENG 6320: Graduate Writers Workshop: Fiction (#41890)

Open to any English graduate student as an elective; priority given to students fulfilling a degree/certificate requirement. Students from outside English wishing to enroll in the course should contact the instructor for permission. Can fulfill requirements for Creative Writing Certificate.

Dr. Reema Rajbanshi
rjban@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 workshoped during the semester.

ENG 6800 Seminar: From Baldwin to Black Lives Matter: Reading James Baldwin During the Fires of These Times (#41508)

Open to any interested graduate student.

Dr. Rachel Walsh
walshyr@bgsu.edu

As numerous scholars, writers, and filmmakers have pointed out, Baldwin *IS* a contemporary of the Black Lives Matter movement. In the aftermath of the 2014 Ferguson uprising, novelist Jesmyn Ward publishes a tribute to Baldwin, *The Fire This Time: A New Generation Speaks About Race* (2016) that same year, Raoul Peck releases his acclaimed documentary on James Baldwin, *I Am Not Your Negro* (2016). In the summer of 2020 in the midst of the national and international BLM uprisings, activist Reverend Jesse James devotes a series of podcasts to "James Baldwin's America." In our readings, we will situate Baldwin within his historical moment by reading his debut novel, *Go Tell It On the Mountain*, his essay collections, *Notes from a Native Son*, *The Fire Next Time*, as well as his novels that depict queer sexualities, *Giovanni's Room* and *Another Country*. As we explore Baldwin's body of work, we will examine his deeply cosmopolitan career---Baldwin produces much of his work while living outside of the U.S.---and his contributions to Black, Queer tradition. To these braided ends, we will also examine texts by his contemporaries, Lorraine Hansberry, and how both authors responded to decolonial movements within Africa and the emergent Black Power movement.

ENG 6800 Seminar: The Embattled Academy: Representing the Culture Wars in Twenty-First-Century Academic Plays (#41507)

Open to any graduate student as an elective.

Dr. Heath Diehl
williad@bgsu.edu

In *Faculty Towers: The Academic Novel and Its Discontents* (2005), Elaine Showalter suggests that “the daily life of a professor is not good narrative material” (121), yet the academy has, for over a century, served as a popular setting and subject for U.S. fiction as diverse as Alison Lurie’s *Love and Friendship* (1962), Philip Roth’s *The Professor of Desire* (1977), Don DeLillo’s *White Noise* (1985), D. J. H. Jones’ *Murder at the MLA* (1993), Brandon Taylor’s *Real Life* (2020), and Teddy Wayne’s *The Great Man Theory* (2022). While much attention has been paid to the academic novel—what Showalter terms the *Professorroman*—significantly less attention has been devoted to the study of the academic play.

In this seminar, we will examine representations of the academy in select works of twenty-first-century U.S. drama. Specifically, we will focus our attention on plays in which the academy is cast as a microcosm of broader U.S. political culture and within which the playwrights interrogate the culture wars—what Morris P. Fiorina in *Culture War?: The Myth of a Polarized America* (2006) describes as “new [political] divisions based on sexuality, morality, and religion, divisions so deep as to justify fears of violence and talk of war in describing them” (7). The plays included in the required reading list for this seminar are principally focused on institutional and systemic racism and the myriad ways that those forces have shaped not only the culture wars, but also the institution of higher education and the nature and purpose of civil discourse in U.S. political and academic life.

Plays discussed in this seminar will include: Lydia R. Diamond’s *Smart People* (2014); Julia Cho’s *Office Hour* (2016); Idris Goodwin’s *Blackademics* (2018); Will Arbery’s *Heroes of the Fourth Turning* (2019); and Eleanor Burgess’s *The Niceties* (2019). Using these plays as a jumping off point, we will in our discussions and our assignments consider and pose responses to the following guiding questions: Why might the academy provide a fruitful site at which to examine U.S. political culture broadly and the culture wars specifically? How do the playwrights frame conversations around systemic and institutional racism and use the theatrical apparatus as a means of intervening into these ongoing conversations? And what do these plays reveal about the operations of whiteness and white privilege in twenty-first-century academic and political culture in the U.S.?

8-WEEK SESSION: May 15 - July 7

ENG 6070: Theory and Methods of Literary Criticism (#42435)

Required for Individualized Track and English Teaching. Open to any graduate student as an elective.

Dr. Heath Diehl
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This course will examine different movements within critical theory and literary criticism that continue to inform the ways in which we read literary and cultural texts as well as how we perform and conceptualize our own identities. These movements will include readings from New Criticism/Formalism, Post-Colonialism, Postmodernism, New Historicism/Cultural Studies, Critical Race Studies, and Gender and Queer Theory. As we read representative texts from these movements, we will consider their animating questions (for example, how does power operate within society?) and the historical and sociopolitical context of these movements as well as how they shape, and in some cases, attempt to decolonize the Humanities. Throughout the term, we also will labor to apply these theories and their animating questions to a common literary text—that is, Claudia Rankine’s *The White Card*.

ENG 6910: Master's Portfolio (#40346 and 41394)

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

Dr. Lee Nickoson

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>