BGSU English
Fall 2021 Graduate Courses
August 26 – Dec 17, 2021

All students will now self-enroll during Open Enrollment (first-come, first-serve).
The department will only assist for late-adds after Open Enrollment ends.


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

PROGRAM DIRECTORS:
MA Online, English Teaching/Individualized Track: Ms. Kimberly Spallinger
MA Online, Professional Writing and Rhetoric/Technical Writing Certificate: Dr. Gary Heba, gheba@bgsu.edu and Jennifer Warnke, jkwarnke@bgsu.edu
MFA in Creative Writing/Creative Writing Certificate: Dr. Lawrence Coates, coatesl@bgsu.edu
MA in Literary and Textual Studies: Dr. Stephannie Gearhart, stphsg@bgsu.edu
PhD in Rhetoric and Writing/College Writing Certificate: Dr. Dan Bommarito, dbommar@bgsu.edu
TESOL Certificate: Ms. Amy C. Cook, amycok@bgsu.edu

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ENG 6040: Graduate Writing (#72079 and 74418)
Required for MA in English (with a specialization in English Teaching and College Writing: Theory and Practice; Elective open for all programs

Dr. Ethan T. Jordan
ethanj@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.

ENG 6070: Theory and Methods of Literary Criticism: Aesthetics and Politics (#72584)
Required for MA in English (with a specialization in English Teaching), MA in English (Individualized), and elective for all other programs

Dr. Piyal Lapinski
piyapl@bgsu.edu

This course will introduce you to some major poststructuralist and postmodern theorists-- from Derrida and Foucault, psychoanalytic, feminist, gender, and postcolonial theory, to more current voices such as Zizek and Agamben. Since we cannot possibly cover every aspect of literary theory, and engage with every major theorist, we will focus on some of the theoretical ideas which have had the most significant impact on the ways in which we have come to think about literature and culture. The course will take aesthetics and politics as two of literary theory’s major preoccupations, and we will explore how these two concepts converge and diverge. Critical theory is both intellectually demanding and exciting. It situates literature against the background of psychoanalysis, history, culture, aesthetics, politics, pop culture, philosophy and asks that we see the intersections between literature and these other areas. It asks us to read and perceive differently. We will also use theory to read film at different points in the semester.

ENG 6220: Teaching Grammar in the Construct of Writing (#72585)
Required for College Writing: Theory and Practice; Elective open for all programs

Dr. Sue Carter Wood
carters@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.
ENG 6220: Teaching Grammar in the Construct of Writing (#72585)
Required for College Writing: Theory and Practice; Elective open for all programs

Dr. Cheryl Hoy
cchoy@bgsu.edu

This online graduate course in the English Department offers those who want to be more effective teachers of writing, a space for scholarly study of the relationships between grammar instruction and writing ability. Students will learn about and develop appropriate strategies for teaching grammar in the context of writing. This course assumes students have a working knowledge of the basics of English grammar and of academic writing conventions. Course materials provide some review of these basics, though this is not the focus of the course. Course work will include weekly readings and online discussions that may include reading responses, collaborations, reflections, or activities based on the readings. The final capstone project options include a seminar paper based on a topic drawn from our readings or a focused grammar in the context of writing pedagogical unit that can be used for current or future teaching, in administrative environments, or for the Master’s program completion ePortfolio.

ENG 6320: Graduate Writers Workshop: Fiction (#77313)
ONLINE
Option for CW Certificate; Elective open for all programs

Joe Celizic
cjoseph@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, over the semester. The course will also spend time discussing technique and theory, and utilize prompts to generate new work. During finals week, you will be required to turn in one revision of a story we’ve workshoped during the semester.

ENG 6400: Professional/Technical Editing (#76959)
Required for Professional Writing and Rhetoric and Technical Writing Certificate; Elective open for all other programs

Dr. Heather Jordan
hjorda@bgsu.edu

This course is designed to help you learn the necessary skills for becoming a technical communicator. The skills you will learn in this class are foundational, and they will be used whether you are employed by a company, or are working as an independent contractor, including:

- Problem-solving strategies
- 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
- Presenting technical information in oral, written, and electronic forms
ENG 6400 Continued

- To learn and work independently
- To work comfortably and effectively as a team member
- To create one or more professional-quality technical writing samples for use in your portfolio
- To research and present a literature review on one topic in Technical Communication

ENG 6430: Ethics in Professional/Technical Editing (#76959)

Required for Professional Writing and Rhetoric and Technical Writing Certificate; Elective open for all other programs

Dr. Heather Jordan
hljorda@bgsu.edu

We make ethical decisions every day, and in many instances, we are not even aware that we are making them. The terms "ethics," "morals," and "values" often get lumped together to further muddy what is really at the heart of making an ethical decision when communicating technical information to consumers or users.

The major functions of Technical Communication are to inform, explain, instruct, caution or warn, and also to include, vis-a-vis accessibility across ages and abilities, gender-neutral language and cross-cultural awareness and sensitivity. Each of these functions carries with it a responsibility for the writer to make every effort to ensure that the information provided is complete, accurate, safe, appropriate and accessible. The question of ethics arises when we inquire about the frameworks used to define and describe how and why our communicative actions are considered ethical, or otherwise. The purpose of the class is to review the historical development of ethical thought, and to look at the various approaches used to theorize, research and apply ethics in the technical communication field.

ENG 6800s: Indigenous Literature & Film (#72698)

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

Dr. Khani Begum
khani@bgsu.edu

The image of the American Indian or of the Aboriginal and Indigenous peoples in other parts of the world are often misrepresented and misunderstood in most popular cultural representations of them. These narratives of ‘native-ness’ have been constructed mostly in the colonial era, yet its vestiges still linger in most popular culture, and filmic and literary representations of indigenous peoples. This course, using select works of indigenous and world cinema theory examines representations of Native American, Aboriginal, Maori, and Canadian First Nations in films and Television made by Native people as well as some Hollywood representations. These are dialogued with indigenous oral histories, stories, autobiographical writings, fiction, poetry, and nonfiction. The course takes a global, comparative approach to historical and cultural contexts of these materials by addressing major themes and issues in contemporary world Indigenous film, literature, literary forms and techniques.
ENG 6800: Teaching Writing Online (#77314)
Elective open to all programs. ENG 6800s can be repeated if topics differ.

Dr. Dan Bommarito
dbommar@bgsu.edu

This course theorizes the teaching and learning of writing in online spaces. Designed for teacher-scholars in secondary and tertiary educational settings, ENG 6800 Teaching Writing Online explores ways in which online environments shape writing practices and pedagogies, while also presenting unique opportunities for engagements with ideas and audiences. Students enrolled in the class will read current scholarship about online writing instruction, practice using a variety of digital writing tools, collaborate with peers, and develop digital projects that apply insights from current research and prior experience for practical use. Topics also include accessibility, assessment, collaborative writing, equity, and learning transfer.

ENG 6910: Master’s Portfolio (#71562 and #75192)
Required capstone for online MA specializations (English Teaching, Professional Writing and Rhetoric, Individualized)

Dr. Ethan T. Jordan
ethanj@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

LING 6150: Introduction to Linguistics (#72443 and #74957)
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

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”.