

BGSU Department of English Spring 2025 Online Graduate Course Offerings

WORDS CHANGE WORLDS

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 Amorak Huey at ahuey@bgsu.edu

PROGRAM DIRECTORS:

MA Online, English Teaching/Individualized Track: Amorak Huey, ahuey@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. Lee Nickoson, leenick@bgsu.edu

ENG 6020 501W 13479 Composition Instructor's Workshop

Lee Nickoson

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English 6020 invites students to deepen their experience developing a range of course materials that support responsive, impactful writing pedagogy. Structured as a workshop, we will explore a wide range of assignments, activities, and course designs. Students produce a portfolio of self-selected documents with the goal of incorporating those materials in a future course of their choosing.

ENG 6050 501W 16940 Visual Rhetoric/Prac Writing

Ethan Jordan

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ENG 6050 is designed to offer a variety of interdisciplinary perspectives on visual discourse and the rhetorical use of images in contemporary media and visual environments. Although the term “visual rhetoric” is widely used, definitions of the term and the ways in which rhetoric is used visually are varied. Thus, a large portion of the class will be devoted to:

- defining and describing visual rhetorics
 - developing a vocabulary for discussing the visual and the rhetorical
 - using methodological frameworks for analyzing visual rhetoric
 - practicing visual rhetorical strategies
 - developing connections between visual rhetoric and multimodal composition
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ENG 6090 501W 12706 – Teaching of Literature

Piya Lapinski

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This course will cover a range of approaches to teaching literary texts. We'll look at primary texts and some theoretical and scholarly essays which will introduce us to different ways of approaching the text(s). We'll also focus on the interdisciplinary aspects of teaching literature and how to include film, and visual media, for instance. We'll look at ways to present major works of literature to high school and entering college students--how to make them relevant and fun. Some of these texts are challenging because of their historical/cultural difference, and we will explore ways to make them more accessible to students without sacrificing intellectual complexity. We will also explore how these texts inhabit the contemporary cultural moment and social media— Tik Tok, Instagram and Twitter frame the discussions of these texts. The course will include some canonical texts in different genres, some contemporary fiction, and film.

ENG 6200 501W 13014 – Teaching of Writing

Heather Jordan

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In this class, we'll be exploring many theories and ways of thinking that exist about the Teaching of Writing, or writing pedagogy. This course will help you not only to identify and understand current theoretical approaches to writing instruction, but also to reflect critically upon those approaches as well. We will develop and try out new strategies for representing your engagement with the various approaches to writing pedagogy, along with conceptualizing how we might translate the theories we are learning into classroom policies and practices. Upon the completion of this course, you should feel confident understanding writing and writing pedagogy as social, political, and rhetorical acts.

ENG 6300 501W 16939 – Technique of Poetry

Dan Rzicznek

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Our goals for the semester will be to read and write poems (inhale/exhale), while also writing and reading about poems, and to arrive at a deeper and richer understanding of poetic craft, form, and technique through discussion, critique, and revision. The best way to learn about poetry is to read it. The second best way to learn about poetry is to write it. This semester we will read and discuss a number of poetic texts, with short reading responses assigned for each. We will also write a total of eight poems, five of which (“formal” poems) must be in the following received/historical forms: sonnet, sestina, villanelle, pantoum, and prose poem. The remaining three poems (“free” poems) can be in any form you wish, i.e. free verse, other forms, or a repeat of a form listed above. During Finals Week, you will hand in a final portfolio presenting revisions of all eight poems, along with a critical essay tying your writing practice to readings covered over the course of the semester.

ENG 6420 501W 16936 – Professional and Technical Editing

Heather Jordan

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Editing is a complicated and tangled process, as hard to define and describe as it is to practice. It involves knowledge of numerous types of edits, styles, and registers as well as a mastery of grammar and punctuation. Editing also involves knowing how to communicate changes to authors so they can understand and be persuaded to incorporate suggestions that will improve their final product. We will consider the elements of writing style and how they affect the writing and editing process along with varying approaches to teaching editing, which will help you develop your own editing process throughout the semester.

ENG 6800 501W 15112 – Seminar in English Studies: Empowering Multilingual Writers

Kimberly Spallinger

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This course is designed for language professionals who hope to enhance their support of multilingual English writers. Whether you are a current or prospective teacher, writing center consultant, tutor, or editor, this class will help you develop effective strategies and build confidence in working with writers for whom English is a second or additional language.

Throughout the course, we will explore both theoretical and pedagogical perspectives by engaging the following topics:

- The diversity of multilingual writers
- Theories of second language acquisition
- Translingualism
- Strategies to foster inclusive writing environments
- Pedagogical grammar
- Strategies for responding to students' writing

By the end of the semester, students will have developed strategies to foster inclusive environments and assist multilingual writers in meeting their academic and professional goals. They will also be encouraged to apply course content to their pedagogical and professional contexts in their final project.

ENG 6910 5001 11369 – Master's Portfolio

Lee Nickoson

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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.

[Portfolio Guidelines](#)