Mount Holyoke College
Fall 2015 English Courses

English 200 Intro to Study of Literature (English 200 equivalent course)
Lecture 1: TuTh 10:00-11:15  Lecture 2: TTH 11:30AM-12:45PM  Instructor: Amy Martin
This course examines various strategies of literary representation through a variety of genres, including such traditional literary forms as the novel, lyric poetry, drama, and autobiography, as well as other cultural forms, such as film. Particular attention is given to student writing; students are expected to write a variety of short essays on selected topics. Though the themes of specific sections may vary, all sections seek to introduce students to the terminology of literary and cultural discourse. Please note that this course is a requirement for all English majors.

English 201 Intro to Creative Writing (English 354 equivalent)(old and new requirements: 300+ elective)
Lecture 1: Wednesdays 1:15-4:05  Instructor: Corinne Demas
Lecture 2: Tuesdays 1:15-4:05  Instructor: Corinne Demas
Lecture 3: TuTh 1:15-2:30  Instructor: Valerie Martin
This course offers practice in writing various kinds of narrative. Assignments emphasize clarity, concision, and creativity. Exercises lead to longer work: sketches or short stories. Students hone critical as well as writing skills. Student papers are duplicated and discussed in class, along with selected works by published authors.

English 203 Short Story Writing I (English 354 equivalent course)(old and new requirements: 300+ elective)
Thursdays 1:15-4:05  Instructor: Andrea Lawlor
This workshop will introduce students to the short story form as practiced by contemporary and canonical writers. Students will learn to read fiction actively, as writers developing their craft. We will focus on understanding the elements of fiction with an eye toward eventual mastery. Writing short stories will comprise the main work of this course, and students will work specifically on point of view, development of scenes, characterization, plot, and narration.

English 204 Verse Writing I (English 354 equivalent course)(old and new requirements: 300+ elective)
Wednesdays 1:15-4:05  Instructor: Katherine Singer
This course gives students practice in the basic elements of the poet's craft, emphasizing revision. It involves class criticism and conferences as well as collateral reading.

English 205 Playwriting (creative writing specialization elective)(old and new requirements: 300+ elective)
Fridays 1:15-4:05  Instructor: TBA
This course offers practice in the fundamentals of dramatic structure and technique. Weekly reading assignments will examine the unique nature of writing for the theatre, nuts and bolts of format, tools of the craft, and the playwright's process from formulating a dramatic idea to rewriting. Weekly writing
assignments will include scene work, adaptation, and journaling. The course will culminate in the writing of a one-act play. Each class meeting will incorporate reading student work aloud with feedback from the instructor and the class. Students will listen, critique, and develop the vocabulary to discuss plays, structure, story, and content.

**English 211 Shakespeare** (English 221 equivalent course) (old requirements: Shakespeare) (new requirements: early British period/English 221 equivalent or 200+ elective)

TuTh 10:00-11:15  Instructor: Sarah Sutherland

A study of some of Shakespeare's plays emphasizing the poetic and dramatic aspects of his art, with attention to the historical context and close, careful reading of the language. Eight or nine plays.

**English 213 Literature/Later Middle Ages** (old requirements: British literature pre-1700 or 300+ elective) (new requirements: 300+ elective)

MonWed 1:15-2:30  Instructor: Wesley Yu

This course will examine a variety of English works and genres written in the thirteenth through fifteenth centuries. Our concentration will be principally on the Gawain-poet, Chaucer, Langland, Margery Kempe, and Lydgate. Most of our readings are in Middle English.

**English 214LR Love Reason Medieval Romance** (old requirements: British literature pre-1700 or 300+ elective) (new requirements: 300+ elective)

MonWed 11:00-12:15  Instructor: Wesley Yu

Arthurian legend conjures enduring stereotypes of chivalry and romantic love, but how do we go about situating medieval romance in literary history? Where does it come from, why was it written, who read it, and how did it change over time? In this course, students will learn about romance's historical and social contexts, its form, tropes, and imagery. We will think about romance's contemplation of justice, loyalty, subjectivity, love, and shame, especially as this body of literature grapples with the conflicts that arise between the mortal and divine. Course readings will include works by Marie de France, Chrétien de Troyes, Chaucer, Lydgate, and Spenser. We will read in Middle English where possible.

**English 239WH Worthy Hearts and Saucy Wits** (old requirements: British literature 1700-1900 or 300+ non-writing elective) (new requirements: 300+ elective)

MonWed 11:00-12:15  Instructor: Katherine Singer

Eighteenth-century England witnessed the birth of the novel, a genre that in its formative years was both lauded for its originality and condemned as intellectually and morally dangerous, especially for young women. We will trace the numerous prose genres that influenced early novelists, including conduct manuals, epistolary writing, conversion narratives, travelogues, romance, and the gothic. In doing so, we will concomitantly examine the novel's immense formal experimentation alongside debates about developing notions of gender and class as well as the feeling, thinking individual. Authors may include Richardson, Fielding, Sterne, Walpole, Burney, and others.

**English 240 American Literature I** (old requirements: 2nd American) (new requirements: 300+ elective)

TuTh 8:30-9:50  Instructor: Christopher Benfey

A survey of American literature from the literature of exploration through the major authors of the mid-nineteenth century, with special attention to the formation of an American literary tradition, along with the political, social, and religious context that helped shape the imaginative response of American writers to their culture.
English 265ED Childrens Literature for Educators (old and new requirements: 300+ elective, non-writing)
Mon 1:15-4:05 Instructor: Catherine Swift
No course description listed.

English 267 Reading and Writing in the World (creative writing specialization elective)(old and new requirements: 300+ elective)
Wednesdays 1:15-4:05 Instructor: John Lemly and Lauret Savoy
Most people are on the world, not in it.' --John Muir. An introduction to reading and writing about nature, this seminar will attempt an exchange across distinct approaches to observing and describing the world around us. Do lenses of culture, discipline, and gender determine how we see and experience nature, environment, and place? Course work will include reading such authors as N. Scott Momaday, Henry David Thoreau, bell hooks, Leslie Marmon Silko, Mary Oliver, Terry Tempest Williams, Wendell Berry, and Annie Dillard; field trips; and writing assignments--weekly field notes and journals, analytical papers, and personal essays. Instructor Permission: Permission is required for interchange registration during all registration periods.

English 274 Introduction to Asian American Literature (old requirements: 2nd American or 300+ elective, non-writing)(new requirements: Anglophone/ethnic American or 300+ elective)
TuTh 1:15-2:30 Instructor: Iyko Day
This course introduces students to Asian American literature, considering its historical origins and evolution. Throughout the course we explore questions of identity, immigration and citizenship, generational conflict, war and migration, and mixed and cross-racial politics. Readings of primary texts will be supplemented by historical and critical source materials. Authors may include Nina Revoyr, Ruth Ozeki, Nam Le, Chang-rae Lee, Aimee Phan, Susan Choy, and Jhumpa Lahiri.

English 280 Literary and Cultural Theory (old and new requirements: 300+ elective, non-writing)
TuTh 11:30-12:45 Instructor: Amy Rodgers
An introduction to literary and cultural theory with an emphasis on twentieth century and contemporary thought. We will explore crucial questions that have focused, and continue to focus, critical debate. These questions may include representation, subjectivity, ideology, identity, difference, gender, sexuality, race, ethnicity, and nation. Throughout we will be particularly interested in the ways in which language and form mediate and construct social experience. Comments: Course limited to sophomores, juniors and seniors.

English 286 Sexuality and Women's Writing (old and new requirements: 300+ elective, non-writing)
MonWed 1:15-2:30 Instructor: Elizabeth Young
An examination of how U.S. women writers in the twentieth and twenty-first century represent sexuality in prose. Topics to include: lesbian, queer, homoerotic, and transgender possibilities; literary strategies for encoding sexuality, including modernist experiment and uses of genre; thematic interdependencies between sexuality and race; historical contexts, including the 'inversion' model of homosexuality and the Stonewall rebellion. Authors studied may include Barnes, Bechdel, Cather, Chopin, Feinberg, Highsmith, Jackson, Larsen, McCullers, Moraga, Nestle, Stein, and Truong; supplemental critical readings may include Butler, Lorde, Rich, and Sedgwick. Comments: Course limited to sophomores, juniors and seniors.
English 308 Contemporary Women's Short Fiction (old and new requirements: 300+ elective, non-writing)
Wednesdays 1:15-4:05    Instructor: Valerie Martin
In this course we will read and discuss stories written by living masters of the form. We will not speculate about the meaning of the work or the author's intent, rather we will read as writers, noting and comparing each author's decisions about voice, diction, syntax, image, metaphor, and tone which, within the narrow boundaries of this challenging and compressed form, bring a world into being. Authors will include Margaret Atwood, Alice Munro, Doris Lessing, Sabina Murray, and Jhumpa Lahiri.

English 313 Milton (old and new requirements: 300+ elective, non-writing)
MonWedFri 11:00-11:50    Instructor: Eugene Hill
Study of Milton's major works, both in poetry and prose, with particular attention to *Paradise Lost*.

English 317TR Trauma in the Premodern World (old and new requirements: 300+ elective, non-writing)
Thursdays 1:15-4:05    Instructor: Amy Rodgers
When told that his wife's madness cannot be cured, Macbeth asks: 'Canst thou not minister to a mind diseased?' Although the term 'trauma' was not used to describe a psychological state until the nineteenth century, Macbeth's query suggests that premodern subjects both understood and experienced the sorts of psychic injury the term denotes. This course will explore how trauma was discerned, expressed and represented in premodern European culture. Readings will include contemporary theoretical explorations of trauma, as well as works by Shakespeare, Marlowe, Aphra Behn, and Daniel Defoe. Prereq: English 200 and English 210 or 211.

English 321VN 19th Century Science and Victorian Novel (old requirements: British literature 1700-1900 or 300+ elective)(new requirements: 300+ elective)
Mondays 7:00-9:50 PM    Instructor: Jennifer Pyke
Explaining why we can't judge others' marriages, one Victorian narrator turns to science: 'Even with a microscope directed on a water-drop we find ourselves making interpretations which turn out to be rather coarse.' The microscope becomes a standard of seeing and simultaneously just one more mode of knowing. This course explores the ways science and the Victorian novel interact, in direct references but also in subtle shifts in theories of the senses, embodiment, self-creation, and what it means to 'see.' Nineteenth-century readings in neuroscience, physiology, aesthetics, and evolution with tangents to larger contexts. Novelists may include Eliot, Dickens, Bronte, Carroll, Verne, Trollope.

English 324BF 20th Century British Fiction (old and new requirements: 300+ elective, non-writing)
Mondays 1:15-4:05    Instructor: Amy Martin
No course description listed.

English 329 Multicultural London (old and new requirements: 300+ elective, non-writing)
TuTh 1:15-2:30    Instructor: Donald Weber
This course explores how London has emerged as a rich site of literature and popular culture, a multicultural contact zone drawing writers and filmmakers to the metropolitan center of the former imperial Empire. It focuses on Britain's more recent experience of migration, displacement, and transplantation. The course examines how contemporary writers investigate the meaning of 'Englishness,' along with their own vexed relation to British history and identity. Authors include Sam

**English 345SW Faulkner/Modern Southern Writing (old requirements: 2nd American or 300+ elective) (new requirements: 300+ elective)**

Tuesdays 1:15-4:05 Instructor: Robert Shaw

Studies of works, principally novels and short stories, by Southern writers from the late 1920s on. The main emphasis is on Faulkner; others to be read may include Tate, Welty, Hurston, O'Connor, Percy, and Martin. Comments: This course is open to Juniors and Seniors.