Welcome to the first edition of The SAB Blab! This is a student-run newsletter brought to you by our very own English Student Advisory Board here at UMass. We're here to provide some helpful information and a sense of community in the English department as we all navigate through the labyrinthine halls of South College and beyond. Bon Appetit!

There's something you should know...

- **Event**: Orientation for English 200 students on 3/27 and 3/30
- **Incoming**: Registration is close, need a peer advisor? We can help!
- **Course Shoutout**: English 221-Shakespeare. Comedies, tragedies, histories, romances, he’s written all! Take this course to learn more!
- **Event**: Love history and literature? Not sure where to see both at once? Join us at the Feinberg Series: The Poetry of War and Resistance on Zoom on April 3 at 7 pm

**Hot take- The Oxford Comma**

In 1905 at the Oxford University Press, Horace Hart started requiring his employees to put a comma before the last item in a series, creating what is now named the Oxford Comma. The use of the Oxford Comma is something highly debated in the world of writing. If you were working for Horace Hart in 1905, the disuse of this comma could lead to unemployment, but in modern times it will only result in a few possible docked points from a paper or a small sigh from the reader of your published writing. Tell us your thoughts by answering our poll!

**Recommendation Station**

**Homesick for Another World: Ottessa Moshfegh**

Those familiar with some of her other works like *My Year of Rest and Relaxation* or *Eileen*, might recognize Moshfegh’s signature cynicism as she tackles deeply personal issues. Since this is a short story collection, it is an accessible length to fit a pleasurable read amongst course load. Nevertheless, its length does not limit its ability to jerk a tear or solicit a laugh-out-loud, or at the very least, a smirk and a nose exhale!

**Tip of the Week!**

You can fulfill some English specializations using courses already required for the major!

They don’t know that they have partially completed a specialization or certification within the English major.

**Faculty Spotlight Presents: Jenny Adams**

Office location: South College E453
Classes taught this semester: Arthurian Legends (English 300) and Why Medieval? (English 791)
Favorite book or book you are currently reading: I recently re-read Karen Russell’s short story collection *Orange World*, which was great. You should read it. But my favorite book is still *Moby Dick*.
Favorite thing about teaching at UMass: It’s a total cliche to say this, but our students are at the top of my list. They bring energy and insight to class, and that inspires me. I also have to give a shout-out to our library. The building? Okay, yes, it’s terrible. But the librarians are passionate and dynamic, and they make sure that we have the resources we need to teach and research. Plus Mutant Ninja statues. Plus the DuBois Collection. Plus Falcon Cam.
One item on your bucket list: Just one? Okay fine. Here’s the most immediate and attainable: I want to finish section-hiking the Long Trail. (I’m currently half-way there.)