

FALL 2007 GRADUATE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

531 Shakespeare I (3CR)

Balakier, J.

Synonym: 53854 **Section:** U015 MWF 02:00 - 02:50

Plays from all four periods of Shakespearean comedy will be covered: the Early Comedies, the Middle Comedies, the "Problem" Plays, and the Late Comedies/Romances. Social, philosophical, and literary developments of Shakespeare's period will provide the background for reading the plays. Special attention will be given to critical issues raised by his comedies. TEXT: *Riverside Shakespeare* (Second Edition). Also THEA 513.

551 African American Literature Dudley, J. (3CR)

Synonym: 87710 **Section:** U025 Tues./Thurs. 12:30 - 01:45

This course traces the development of African-American literature from the eighteenth century through the modern era, with particular emphasis on the social, historical, and cultural forces that have informed the tradition. We will explore conventional literary genres, including autobiographical narratives, novels, poetry, and drama, as well as other forms of cultural production, from the oral tradition to musical performance, in an effort to understand both the unifying characteristics and the rich complexity of African-American literature and culture.

568 Contemporary Fiction Willman, C. (3CR)

Synonym: 87702 **Section:** U025 MWF 10:00 - 10:50

This course will examine contemporary American fictions of trauma that have emerged in the wake of events from the Holocaust to 9/11. Trauma "defies and demands our witness" (Caruth, *Unclaimed Experience* 5), thereby making the representation of trauma simultaneously impossible and necessary. Our investigation will begin with psychoanalysis and Sigmund Freud's attempts to theorize the nature of trauma, then extend into the work of Cathy Caruth, Kaja Silverman, Kirby Farrell, and Dominick LaCapra. Texts that we will examine include Art Spiegelman's *Maus I & II*, D.M. Thomas's *The White Hotel*, Tim O'Brien's *The Things They Carried*, and Toni Morrison's *Beloved*. In addition, we will view several films that deal with trauma: *Schindler's List*, *JFK*, and *The Sweet Hereafter*.

583 Advanced Creative Writing Allen, E. (3CR)

Synonym: 89291 **Section:** U015 Tues./Thurs. 02:00 - 03:15

This class is for people who want to build on their previous creative writing experience. It will be structured as a workshop: students will write in the genre of their choice—poetry, fiction, creative nonfiction, or drama—and will share work with the rest of the class. Texts will be individually agreed on for each student, based on what models and examples each individual student would benefit from studying. Grading will reflect class participation, overall quality of writing, overall improvement, and quality of final portfolio.

585 Contemporary Criticism (3CR)

Willman, C.

Synonym: 87734 **Section:** U025 Wed. 07:00 - 09:45

This course aspires to offer a genealogy of cultural studies, tracing one thread of its development through western Marxism. Our investigation will focus on three concepts that are crucial to both critical endeavors: ideology, hegemony, and culture. The development of these concepts will be studied in the work of various theorists working in the Marxist tradition, including Karl Marx, Antonio Gramsci, Georg Lukacs, Theodor Adorno, Louis Althusser, Fredric Jameson, and Slavoj Žižek. We will then move to the work of the key figures responsible for the emergence of cultural studies at the Centre for Contemporary Cultural Studies at Birmingham, most notably Raymond Williams and Stuart Hall. The final section of the course will explore how cultural studies is practiced today.

592 Topics: Icarus Generation Poets Roripaugh, L. (3CR)

Synonym: 87719 **Section:** U025 Tues./Thurs. 11:00 - 12:15

Ravaged by alcoholism, drug abuse, mental illness, and suicide, the so-called "Icarus Generation" of writers nonetheless redefined the landscape of 20th-Century American poetry at mid-century. Including Robert Lowell, Elizabeth Bishop, John Berryman, Delmore Schwartz, Randall Jarrell, Elizabeth Hardwick, Jean Stafford, and subsequently leading directly into the confessional poetry of W.D. Snodgrass, Anne Sexton, and Sylvia Plath, the "Icarus" writers were unusually close to one another -- with intertwining lives and work, correspondences, critical commentaries, and exchange of stylistic influences. This course will examine and analyze these stylistic exchanges and influences among the "Icarus" poets through close readings of their work, as well as attempt to place these poets within the larger social, political, and cultural context of what Robert Lowell referred to as "the tranquilized Fifties." Works by the "Icarus" writers will also be supplemented with secondary critical/theoretical materials. Course requirements include a seminar-length paper (15-20 pages), periodic short assignments, and a final written exam.

592 Topics: MA Research Methods Haddad, E. (1CR)

Synonym: 64328 **Section:** U035 Mon. 04:00 - 06:45

This intensive one-credit course provides an overview of research methods and skills at an advanced level appropriate to MA students. Topics covered include the identification of sources (including database use), abstracting, bibliography, documentation, and proposal development. A brief survey of critical approaches may be incorporated as well. To provide a basis for their work in the class, students may choose to begin research on their thesis project, on a term paper for another course, or on another project of their choice. The course is open only to MA students in English. It is required of new MA TAs in English and is especially recommended for students considering a scholarly thesis, but it will help MA students in any specialization enhance their research skills. This class meets six times: 9/24, 10/1, 10/15, 10/29, 11/5, and 11/19.

FALL 2007 GRADUATE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

592 Top: Writing Center Theory Practice Ervin, J. (3CR)

Synonym: 64329 **Section:** U045 Mon. 04:00 - 06:45

Students interested in joining the staff of the University Writing Center and those who plan on teaching high school or college English/writing will find this course beneficial. We will explore the history of writing centers and the theoretical foundations and best practices for individualized writing instruction. Students will complete research or administrative projects based on either empirical or library research or a combination of the two. The course also helps students develop their advanced academic writing and research skills: We write at least three short papers and a research paper. Areas we will focus on include tutoring non-native speakers of English; ethics in the Writing Center; tutoring proofreading and grammar; online writing consultation (distance learning); educational research methods; writing center assessment; and other topics. As part of this course, students complete a 15 hour practicum in the UWC.

727 Sem: 18th-Cent. Stds: The Novel Balakier, J. (3CR)

Synonym: 87728 **Section:** U025 Tues. 04:00 - 06:45

The course will examine the origins of the English novel as described by Ian Watt, Terry Eagleton, Michael McKeon, and other scholars. Special emphasis will be placed on the narrative art of a collection of groundbreaking eighteenth-century novelists such as Daniel Defoe, Samuel Richardson, Henry Fielding, Laurence Sterne, and Fanny Burney. The course will also include Jane Austen's *Emma*. Requirements: seminar paper; final exam.

733 Sem: 19th-Cent. Stds: Brit. Trav. Haddad, E. (3CR)

Synonym: 87723 **Section:** U025 Wed. 04:00 - 06:45

With the advent of steam-powered transportation and the solidification of the British Empire, Britons traveled more during the nineteenth century than ever before. Most limited their travel to the British Isles and western Europe, but many traveled also to more distant places. This course will survey British travel writing in the nineteenth century, with a focus on documentary narratives by men and women who journeyed in Africa and the Middle East. For the sake of comparison, we will also examine a fictional narrative as well as (briefly) a few accounts of travel within Britain itself. Supplementary critical readings will suggest further directions for inquiry.

783 Seminar: Writing Poetry Roripaugh, L. (3CR)

Synonym: 87724 **Section:** U025 Tues. 07:00 - 09:45

This seminar is a graduate-level workshop in poetry writing designed to provide the serious writer with an intellectual and artistic forum in which to hone his/her poetic technique and craft, receive constructive audience feedback on his/ her poems, and discuss contemporary poetry and/or issues pertaining to poetics in general. Readings will consist of workshop poems,

essays on contemporary poetry/poetics, and volumes of contemporary poetry. Students will be asked to write a minimum of 10 new poems, submit a portfolio of final revisions, lead class discussions, and provide substantive written and oral feedback on workshopped poems. *Consent of instructor required.*

792 Topics: Graduate ESL Sjolie, D. (3CR)

Synonym: 64595 **Section:** U025 Days/Times TBA

This is a course for graduate students who are not native speakers of English and who wish to develop further writing skills in English while working on special advanced academic writing projects such as papers for conference presentation, professional articles for publication, theses, or dissertations. *Consent of instructor required.*

FALL 2007 GRADUATE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

792 Topics: Fitzgerald and Hemingway Wolfe, S.
(3CR)

Synonym: 87848 **Section:** U045 Thurs. 04:00 -
06:45
[Description to be announced.]

795 Composition Practicum Ervin, E.
(2CR)

Synonym: 53882 **Section:** U015 WF 09:00 –
09:50

Required of all incoming MA teaching assistants, English 795 challenges new teaching assistants to theorize their practices as they develop a repertoire of teaching strategies for the first-year writing courses English 101 and English 210. The course is the primary support for TAs during their first semester of classroom teaching at USD. To that end, course activities, readings, and assignments are intended to facilitate reflective practice and successful classroom instruction. *Consent of instructor required.*

LINGUISTICS

LING 543 Hist. of English Lang Wolfe, S.
(3CR)

Synonym: 60237 **Section:** U015 Tues./Thurs. 9:30-10:45
[Description to be announced.]

**See WebAdvisor for synonym, section, time,
and date for the following courses:**

594 Internship
596 Field Experience
788 Directed Research in English (MA)
791 Independent Study (MA)
798 Thesis in English
888 Directed Research in English (PhD)
891 Independent Study (PhD)
898 Dissertation in English



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