

Department of English
Winter Session
2017



January 4 - January 24



English Department News



- ◆ UB English is on Twitter!! Follow us: @UB_English
- ◆ Look for us on Facebook at: [University at Buffalo English Department](#)
- ◆ Flip to the back of the catalog to see sections dedicated to the Creative Writing Certificate, as well as the Journalism Certificate Program.
- ◆ Keep an eye out for our Fireside Chats Series. These are talks hosted by our faculty, with free lunch provided.
- ◆ Don't forget about the annual End of the Semester/Holiday Party! This is held during the last week of classes in our main office, Clemens 306.
- ◆ For much more information, please visit our website at: English.buffalo.edu



Visit Career Services to look at potential career paths and to help plan your future!

UB Career Services is the place on campus to help you explore how your English major connects to various career paths. Meeting with a career counselor allows you to explore your interests and career options while helping you take the necessary steps to reach your goal. You can also make a same-day appointment for a resume critique, cover letter assistance, or quick question on your job or internship search.

Call 645-2231 or stop by 259 Capen Hall to make an appointment.



In all your work, strive for: Clarity, Accuracy, Generosity, Rigor

Clarity: Write lucidly, articulately, well. Your essays should have clear aims and ask substantive questions. Constantly try to improve your style and enlarge your powers of expression. Remember – you aim to communicate, so give your reader room to follow. Aspire to nuance, but avoid complexity for complexity's sake.

Accuracy: In your language, in your research, in your citational practices, in your transcriptions and note-keeping. Inaccuracy proliferates from the point of your first mistake. Constantly check and revise your work to eliminate errors.

Generosity: You participate in a community of scholars. Nurture that community by sharing your thoughts, sharing your passions, and sharing your sources. Speak to each other. Intellectual work is for the common good. We are humanists, after all.

Rigor: Learn your field, read deeply and widely, never cut corners. Aim to serve the principles that first brought you to academia, and never try to mimic somebody else.



This January, embrace winter in Buffalo and earn UB credit for it! Explore UB's new winter session opportunities, talk with your advisor about how winter session can help you improve your skills, stay on track to graduate and pursue special educational enrichment opportunities.

Winter Session offers courses that connect students and faculty in an intimate, intensive, creative atmosphere. The three week period, beginning in January, will be highly flexible, allowing course formats which support traditional courses as well as immersion-style courses and study abroad opportunities. Students are encouraged to use these study opportunities to improve skills, take courses to stay on track to graduate and to pursue special enrichment opportunities.

The English Department is offering the following courses this Winter:

ENG 254 Science Fiction	ONLINE	Miller, S.	3 Credit Hours
ENG 256 Film	M-F 9:00-11:45	Schmid	3 Credit Hours
ENG 258 Mysteries	M-F 10:00-12:45	Solomon	3 Credit Hours
ENG 357 Contemporary Literature	ONLINE	Conte	3 Credit Hours
ENG 379 Film Genres	ONLINE	Shilina-Conte	3 Credit Hours

Registration for winter session campus-based and on-line courses begins on **October 1, 2016.**

For information on enrolling in classes, Study Abroad info, tuition/fees/financial aid, drop/add/resign dates etc... please go to: **ubthiswinter.buffalo.edu**





254 Science Fiction

Professor Steven Miller

ONLINE

Reg. No. 10276

This course will introduce students to the art of reading and writing on science fiction as a prose genre. We will focus on novels and stories that speculate upon scientific, artistic, and historical transformations of the human body, gender, and sexuality. Likely readings include H. G. Wells, James Tiptree, Jr. (Alice Sheldon), Octavia Butler, Kazuo Ishiguro, J.G. Ballard, Ursula K. LeGuin, Samuel Delany, and Margaret Atwood.

256 Film

Professor David Schmid

M-F 9:00-11:45

Reg. No. 10277

Monsters, Slashers, and Demons: The World of the Horror Film

Horror film is one of the most enduring, varied, and complex of all popular cultural genres. This class is designed to give students a sense of what horror film is, what it does, and how it does it in all the genre's bloody glory. Beginning with its roots in German Expressionism, we'll watch many of the greatest horror movies ever made and look at all the major subgenres: the monster movie, the psycho thriller, the slasher movie, stories of demonic possession, the haunted house movie, found footage films, and feminist horror. Along the way, we'll also discuss such subjects as directing, casting, lighting, camera technique, stardom, special effects, and the emotions of fear, disgust, and desire. In other words, the class is designed to appeal to anyone who loves film in general as well as horror film in particular.

- Robert Wiene, *The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari* (1920)
- F.W. Murnau, *Nosferatu* (1922)
- James Whale, *Frankenstein* (1931)/*Bride of Frankenstein* (1935)
- Don Siegel, *Invasion of the Body Snatchers* (1956)
- Alfred Hitchcock, *Psycho* (1960)
- George Romero, *Night of the Living Dead* (1968)
- William Friedkin, *The Exorcist* (1973)
- Tobe Hooper, *The Texas Chainsaw Massacre* (1974)
- Dario Argento, *Deep Red* (1975)
- John Carpenter, *Halloween* (1978)
- Stanley Kubrick, *The Shining* (1980)
- Takashi Miike, *Audition* (1999)
- Daniel Myrick and Eduardo Sanchez, *The Blair Witch Project* (1999)
- Danny Boyle, *28 Days Later* (2002)
- Jennifer Kent, *The Babadook* (2014)





258 Mysteries

Professor William Solomon

M-F 10:00-12:45

Reg. No. 10278

Noir in Fiction and Film

This course will be a critical survey of crime narratives in U.S. fiction and film from the 1920s through the 1950s. One of the most enduring of Hollywood's principal genres, noir has historically been a main point of intersection between literature and cinema. Predominantly set in urban locales, the texts in question gave shape to violent tendencies which have come to be seen as typical of existence in Cold War America. Moreover, the recurrent figure of the femme fatale has been taken as an indication of the anxious state of masculinity in the era.

We will also examine towards the end of the course ironic appropriations of this "paranoid" style of filmmaking (and writing) by French New Wave directors such as Godard and Truffaut. Authors we will read will include Dashiell Hammett, James Cain, Raymond Chandler, Patricia Highsmith, William Faulkner, and Chester Himes. Films will include classics such as *The Maltese Falcon*, *The Big Sleep*, *Double Indemnity*, *Touch of Evil*, *Breathless*, and *Please Shoot the Piano Player*.

357 Contemporary Literature: **Cyberpunk Literature and Virtual Reality**

Professor Joseph Conte

ONLINE

Reg. No. 10133

During the 1980s and into the 1990s an almost imperceptible and underground transformation in our cultural imagination took place, as our dependence on the analogue media of print, broadcast television and celluloid film slowly gave way to a digital information culture that William Gibson termed "cyberspace" in his novel, *Neuromancer* (1984). While the public waited for Tim Berners-Lee to fashion a hypertext transfer protocol (HTTP) and Marc Andreessen to code the first widely used Web browser, enabling a boringly commercial hypermedia known as the World Wide Web, the legacy media of the science fiction novel and cinema took it upon themselves to imagine a dynamic, immersive, resistant and culturally diverse virtual reality. It's not exactly what we got by the millennium, but that is the world of Cyberpunk, populated by techno-adept hackers and socially marginalized types, combining the grunge aesthetic of Punk music, the gritty realism of Film Noir, and the postmodern theory of a Simulacral society. In this condensed, three-week

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Winter session, we will read three classics of the cyberpunk genre: the aforementioned *Neuromancer*, whose antihero Case “jacks into” the Matrix of cybernetic war and trolls the dystopian Sprawl; Pat Cadigan’s *Synners* (1991), in which the map of the mind becomes the territory of real space; and Neal Stephenson’s *Snow Crash* (1993), featuring Hiro Protagonist, whose digital avatar pursues a virus capable of infecting the cerebral cortex. We will complement these three works of fiction with three popular films in which virtual space overwhelms our Euclidean world: the millennial apocalypse of Kathryn Bigelow’s *Strange Days* (1995); an alternate world in which reality is a deceptive digital representation in the Wachowskis’s *The Matrix* (1999); and David Cronenberg’s *eXistenZ* (1999), in which computer gaming becomes all too real. This course will be conducted online through UB Learns, with digital streaming of the films. Students will be required to participate in weekly graded discussion boards and writing assignments on both novels and films.

379 Film Genres

Tanya Shilina-Conte

ONLINE

Reg. No. 10283

This intensive course will introduce students to the history of cinematic movements and traditions, focusing on the emergence and development of various film genres as stylistic and narrative devices. We will examine early motion pictures, pre-code Hollywood, German Expressionism, French Impressionism and Surrealism, Soviet Montage, Neorealism, the French New Wave, Post-colonial filmmaking, 1970s Hollywood, as well as digital and large-format filmmaking. The course will expose students to such film genres as comedy, horror, melodrama, action, science fiction, musicals, film noir, westerns, and docufiction, among others.



Since the course will be taught online, students will be expected either to be Netflix subscribers or to rent / purchase the films that we will be analyzing during the winter semester.





The Creative Writing Certificate

Creative Writing Certificate Program for undergraduates.

Creative Writing students have a wealth of writing related opportunities to draw on in the English Department: *NAME*, the recently revived student-run poetry and fiction magazine, as well as the vibrant Poetics Plus reading series and the Exhibit X Fiction Series, which bring nationally regarded poets and fiction writers to Buffalo to meet with students.

For more information about the new Creative Writing Certificate Program, please contact Dimitri Anastasopoulos, at danastas@buffalo.edu or join the Facebook page at: www.facebook.com/UBCWF

Journalism Certificate Program

Today's media recruiters want candidates with more than solid reporting and story-writing skills. They want applicants with specialized knowledge in complicated subject areas – plus the ability to delve into those areas and provide meaningful contexts for news events, for readers and viewers.

The journalism certificate program at UB provides students with an educational foundation in writing and reporting for publication, emphasizing hands-on workshops and internships designed to transition students into the professional world. Classes concentrate on journalistic skills including feature writing, news reporting, and opinion writing.

In addition, the program fosters an understanding of U.S. and global media, journalism ethics and integrity standards associated with the journalism profession. It's an interdisciplinary course of study comprised of coursework offered by the Departments of English, Communication, and Media Study.

The certificate should be viewed as an accompaniment to a student's major course of studies. Concentrating on subjects such as business, law, history or political science for the core of undergraduate studies will give students a foundation to draw on in pursuing a journalism career.

The journalism certificate is not a baccalaureate degree program. It is designed to help students master the tools of journalism while offering the freedom to concentrate on core knowledge areas – putting students on the right track to succeed in the professional media world and must be earned concurrently with their undergraduate degree.

The Journalism Certificate provides students with a formal educational foundation in writing and reporting for publication as well as an understanding of the U.S. and global media. In addition, the program fosters an understanding of journalism ethics and integrity standards associated with the journalism profession. The courses are taught by UB faculty and professional reporters and editors working for local media. Having professional reporters and editors in the classroom provides students with practical educational experiences including writing, editing, research, interviewing skills development, and understanding the expectations of editors.

For more information, please contact Jody Kleinberg-Biehl at jkbiehl@buffalo.edu, or visit online at journalism.buffalo.edu.



What Does an English Major Do?

Students choose from a variety of courses within every area of the English major and may develop concentrations in a number of fields, including historical periods, cultural studies, popular culture, ethnic literatures, film studies, creative writing, and critical theory. In any given semester, we offer courses like Medieval Epic, Love in the Western World, Mythology, Revenge in Renaissance Drama, 18th-Century Fiction, American Travel Writing, The Bible as Literature, Crime Fiction, Comedy, The Modern American Novel, and National Cinemas. The department offers both a concentration in Creative Writing, staffed by five published poets and fiction writers, and an interdisciplinary Journalism Certificate, staffed largely by working journalists and offering multiple internship possibilities.

Students enjoy a rich array of extracurricular offerings. There are multiple fiction and poetry readings every semester, bringing a range of emerging and established writers to Buffalo. The Buffalo Film Seminar (a course open to the public in a downtown theater) screens great films weekly in the context of discussion led by practicing film makers. Scholarly lectures abound, as do literary events in the city of Buffalo - from poetry slams to opportunities to meet world-famous writers. Students produce their own literary magazine, host their own readings, and form undergraduate clubs on the subjects that most interest them - including, recently, a Shakespeare Club and an Old and Middle English Club.

Students work with faculty on scholarly research projects - for example, on Whitman's Civil War poetry, on popular fiction in the UK, or on the nineteenth-century literature of politeness. In 2007-08, an English major won an international United Nations writing contest and was flown to Paris as part of her prize; another English major received honorable mention in a national essay contest.

The English Minor easily complements multiple areas of study and assists students wanting to hone writing and analytical skills in their major areas of study.

The English Honors program enables students who have a high GPA or who are nominated by faculty to work even more closely with faculty in seminar-style courses and on senior thesis projects. Honors students are especially likely to participate with faculty on research projects or as research assistants. In the last few semesters, for example, students have worked with faculty members on projects about Irish literature, Italian horror movies, American short stories, and American film.

For more information about our courses, check out The Whole English Catalog online at:
<http://www.buffalo.edu/cas/english/undergraduate-programs/courses.html>.





Looking for something different this year?

Check out UB's

Alternative Break Programs

Alternative break programs engage students in experiential learning through community service and volunteerism during their fall (Thanksgiving), winter or spring break. The projects the students participate with address issues such as poverty, homelessness, hunger, literacy, HIV/AIDS, education and the environment. The objective of the Alternative Breaks program is to involve students in service projects to learn about a community they would typically not know about. The goal is for students to take the intensity of the program/experience and transfer the lessons learned to their own community upon their return. We hope students learn how they can become agents of change, make a difference in their community and lead a life of active citizenship.

Each Alternative Break trip will have between 8 and 15 participants, 2 student Team Leaders and 2 Staff Advisers. The cost for the trips range widely depending on the trip and the transportation costs. Students will travel as a group to their specified destination with the Staff Advisers.

2016-2017 destinations and applications are now available on:

<https://buffalo.collegiatelink.net/organization/OES>

Once on the Student Engagement organization page, click on Forms, then 2016-17 Alternative Break Application Form.

For information about the Alternative Break program, please email our office at: <https://www.student-affairs.buffalo.edu/genemail?email=Lead>



