

# Graduate Course Descriptions Booklet Spring 2023



Northern Illinois  
University

**Department of English**  
Northern Illinois University

# Northern Illinois University

## Department of English

### Graduate Schedule Spring 2023

Course	Sect	Class #	Title	Day	Time	Faculty	Room
602C	0001	7150	Literary Theory, Interpretation of Literary Text	M	6:00-8:40	Gorman	RH 207
607 707 WGSS620	0Y01/PY01	5106/5115	Global LGBTQ+ Drama	T	6:00-8:40	Bennett	Online
611	0001	4109	History of the Language	W	6:00-8:40	Clifton	RH 206
617	0Y01	7151	Phonology	M	6:00-8:40	Aygen	Online
629/700	0Y01/PY01	7152/7163	Outcomes & Assessment in Written Composition	Th	6:00-8:40	Peters	Online
633	0Y01	7153	Pragmatics and Discourse			Birner	Online
645/482	P001	5110	Practicum	T	5:00-5:50	McFarland- Wilson	RH 206
646/479	P001	5110	Theory & Research in Literature for English Language Arts	Th	6:00-8:40	Albamonte	RH 206
647/404A	P001	2237	Theory & Research in Written Composition in English Language Arts	Th	3:30-4:45	Bowers	RH 202
648/480A	P001	1779	Materials & Methods of Teaching English Language Arts	T	6:00-8:40	Kahn	RH 206

649	P001	5111	Student Teaching in Secondary English LA			Bennett	Online
663	0Y01	7159	19 <sup>th</sup> Century British Literature	M	6:00-8:40	May	Online
677	0Y01	7306	American Literature: 1830- 1865			Einboden	Online
682	0001	7161	American Literature Since 1960	Th	6:00-8:40	Gomez-Vega	Online
692/704	0Y01/PY01	7162/7164	Publication & Professionalization in English Studies	W	6:00-8:40	L. Crowley	Online
696	P001	5113	Practicum in the Teaching of College English			Bennett	
697	P001	5114	English Institute			Bennett	
698	P001	3425	Independent Reading			Staff	
698	P002	3480	Independent Reading			Staff	
699	P001	2868	Master's Thesis			Bennett	
799	P001		Doctoral Dissertation			Bennett	

NOTE: Classes that indicate a time and day(s) for meeting will meet synchronously. All others meet asynchronously.

## 602C – Literary Theory and Criticism

Section	Day and Time	Faculty	Room
Section 0001	M 6:00-8:40 pm	Gorman	RH 207

### Description

An introduction to literary theory through a consideration of some major topics, with particular attention to how a critic can make use of theoretical concerns in writing interpretive commentary on literary works. Literary forms to

be considered include poetry, drama, and nonfiction narrative.

### Requirements

Class presentation; two shorter essays (5 pp. minimum) and a longer essay (15 pp. minimum); final exam.

### Texts (all required)

Elizabeth Bishop, *Poems* (FS&G); Stephen Bonnycastle, *In Search of Authority*, 3rd ed. (Broadview); Jonathan Culler, *Theory of the Lyric* (Harvard); Rita Felski, *The Limits of Critique* (U of Chicago P); Edward FitzGerald, *Rubáiyát of Omar Khayyám*, ed. Daniel Karlin (Oxford World's Classics); Thomas Pavel, *Fictional Worlds* (Harvard UP); W. G. Sebald, *The Rings of Saturn* (New Directions); John Webster, *The Duchess of Malfi*, ed. Michael Neill (Norton Critical Edition).

## 607/707 – Global LBGTQ+ Drama

Section	Day and Time	Faculty	Room
Section 0Y01/PY01	T 6:00-8:40 pm	Bennett	Online

[Permission Number Required for 707] Please contact Dawn Sibley at [dsibley@niu.edu](mailto:dsibley@niu.edu)  
[Combined with WGSS 620-0001]

### Description

In this course we will focus on plays written by, and about, members of the LGBTQ+ community from around the world, focusing primarily but not exclusively on writers of diverse backgrounds from the UK and North America. What stories do they tell about what it means to be human in these rapidly changing times? What purposes does the genre of “drama” serve? What does it mean to “queer” the content, form, and/or contexts of theatrical works? We will explore a wide range of dramatic texts from a broad range of geographical, social, and cultural contexts to unpack some of the questions and issues that playwrights engage with in both writing and performance. The class will follow a discussion-based format through synchronous classes online as well as asynchronous discussion boards.

**Requirements:** Students will complete weekly 2-page papers, one oral presentation, one formal response to a classmate’s presentation, a research essay, and a conference-style presentation of the research essay for this course. Attendance and participation in our ongoing discussions will be essential.

**Texts:** TBA: texts on the syllabus will be required.

## 611 – History of the Language

Section	Day and Time	Faculty	Room
Section 0001	W 6:00-8:40 pm	Clifton	RH 206

### Description

This course will focus on the uses of English in the British Isles, from the Old English period (roughly 600-1100) to the Early Modern period (around 1600), with emphasis on the role of Middle English (1100-1500) in a multi-lingual context. How did English take over from competing languages? What influences assisted its changes from Old to Middle to Early Modern versions?

Classes will combine lecture, discussion, and presentations by students.

**Requirements:** Regular attendance and participation (both in-class and on discussion boards); three or four shorter written assignments (750–1000 words each) and one longer paper or project (3000–4250 words); several quizzes on linguistic terms and concepts.

**Required Texts:**

Baugh and Cable, *A History of the English Language*, 6<sup>th</sup> edition, ISBN 978-0415655965  
Various required readings will be posted to Blackboard.

**Recommended:**

Michael Clanchy, *From Memory to Written Record*, 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> edition  
Shakespeare, *Henry V*, ed. Gary Taylor (Oxford World Classics or [only if you can get it used] the Oxford scholarly edition)

## 617 – Phonology

Section	Day and Time	Faculty	Room
Section 0Y01	M 6:00-8:40 pm	Aygen	Online

**Description**

Since this is a general introduction to phonology and there are no formal prerequisites. It is expected, however, that students will bring with them a working knowledge of at least one system of phonetic transcription (IPA or other).

Phonology deals with how sounds pattern and change in the course of language use, synchronically and diachronically. The course is universal in nature; that is, we will consider sound patterns as characteristic of language in general rather than of particular languages. The approach is that developed by Noam Chomsky and known as Generative Phonology. Although phonology has developed and branched into what is called Extended Standard Theory, Natural Generative Phonology, Non-Linear Phonology and several such others, all such approaches derive from and rely upon principles and practices developed by Chomsky. Thus we will be developing rules to describe phonological phenomena. We will also study a more recent theory, namely, Optimality Theory and try to apply it to the problem sets we work on. Examples will be drawn from many and varied languages, but one need not know other languages to be successful in this course. One component of the course will be devoted to "accent and discrimination," and students will give a presentation or submit a response paper on the topic.

Upon successful completion of the course, students will have acquired an appreciation of the general ways in which sounds pattern and change in language, and will be able to read and interpret more advanced works and tackle more advanced problems in phonology.

**Requirements:**

Phonology is a hands-on analysis course. Even though there are specific things to be learned, the emphasis is on applications. Therefore, we will have many exercises involving phonological data from many different languages. There will be a number of assignments and a midterm or small tests consisting of phonology problems and a final exam. There is no term paper, project, or report, though volunteers may give presentations on different theoretical approaches for extra credit.

**Required Text:** 2020. Davenport, Mike and S.J. Hannahs. *Introducing Phonetics and Phonology 4<sup>th</sup> Edition*, Hodder Education.

## 629/700 – Outcomes and Assessment in Written Composition

Section	Day and Time	Faculty	Room
Section 0Y01/0YP1	Th 6:00-8:40 pm	Peters	Online

## 633 – Pragmatics and Discourse

Section	Day and Time	Faculty	Room
Section 0Y01	N/A	Birner	Online

### Description

This course will introduce students to the theory, methods, and applications of linguistic pragmatics, the study of meaning in context. We will discuss how communication occurs; the basics of semantics and pragmatics, including implicature, reference, presupposition, and speech acts; information structure; and inference and interpretation. Familiarity with formal linguistics (phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax, and semantics, at roughly the level covered in English 615) is assumed. Format: Online, asynchronous.

### Requirements:

Students will select from a menu of options for earning their desired grade, including exams, papers, and presentations.

**Texts:** All readings will be made available online.

## 645 – Practicum

Section	Day and Time	Faculty	Room
Section 00P1	T 5:00 – 5:50 pm	McFarland-Wilson	

**[Permission Number Required]** Please contact Dr. McFarland-Wilson at [bmcwilson@niu.edu](mailto:bmcwilson@niu.edu)

**[Combined with ENGL 482-00P1]**

### Description

Discipline-based clinical experience for students seeking educator licensure in English Language Arts. Practicum in teaching methods, assessment, problem solving, and on-site research. Minimum of 50 clock hours of supervised and formally evaluated experiences in the setting likely for student teaching. CRQ: ENGL648; PRQ: Consent of department.

**Prerequisites and Notes:** PRQ: Consent of department.

**Requirements and Text (Required):** TBA

## 646 – Theory & Research in Literature for English Language Arts

Section	Day and Time	Faculty	Room
Section 00P1	T 5:00 – 5:50 pm	McFarland-Wilson	RH 206

**[Permission Number Required]** Please contact Dr. McFarland-Wilson at [bmcwilson@niu.edu](mailto:bmcwilson@niu.edu)

**[Combined with ENGL 479]**

## 647 – Theory & Research in Written Composition in English Language Arts

Section	Day and Time	Faculty	Room
Section P001	Th 3:30-4:45	Bowers	RH 202

**[Permission Number Required]** Please contact Dr. McFarland-Wilson at [bmcwilson@niu.edu](mailto:bmcwilson@niu.edu)  
**[Combined with ENGL 404A]**

## 648 – Materials & Methods of Teaching English Language Arts

Section	Day and Time	Faculty	Room
Section P001	T 6:00-8:40 pm	Kahn	RH 206

**[Permission Number Required]** Please contact Dr. McFarland-Wilson at [bmcwilson@niu.edu](mailto:bmcwilson@niu.edu)  
**[Combined with ENGL 480A-00P2]**

### Description

English 648 prepares prospective teachers of middle and high school students for the contemporary English language arts classroom. The class draws from current theory, research, and practice related to the teaching of English. Students will have several opportunities to apply theory and research in practical, concrete ways. English 648 serves prospective teachers in two general ways: to assist candidates in continuing the transformation from student to professional English language arts teacher and to develop the knowledge base that will serve as the foundation for successful application of pedagogical knowledge and skills. In addition, candidates will become familiar with the academic language and expectations of the Stanford/Pearson Teacher Performance Assessment (edTPA).

### Requirements

The course requires regular attendance, readings from the required texts, reflective statements about the readings and discussions, collaboration on instructional activities and assessments, thorough instructional unit plans, appropriate progress on the teacher licensure portfolio, and the completion of the final examination.

**Required Texts:** Smagorinsky, Peter. *Teaching English by Design (2<sup>nd</sup> Edition)*, Portsmouth, NH: Heinemann, 2019. Additional articles and materials posted on Blackboard.

## 649 – Student Teaching in Secondary English Language Arts

Section	Day and Time	Faculty	Room
Section P001	N/A	Bennett	N/A

Please contact Dr. McFarland-Wilson at [bmcwilson@niu.edu](mailto:bmcwilson@niu.edu) for the permit number.

Student teaching for one semester. Assignments arranged through the office of clinical experiences in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, in consultation with the coordinator of teacher licensure in English Language Arts. Ongoing assessment of candidate's development. Candidates must satisfactorily complete a formal teacher performance assessment. Monthly on-campus seminars. S/U grading.

## 663 – 19<sup>th</sup> Century British Literature

Section	Day and Time	Faculty	Room
Section 0Y01	M 6:00-8:40 pm	May	Online

**Realism?** OED. 3. a. Close resemblance to what is real; fidelity of representation, rendering the precise details of the real thing or scene. (In reference to art and literature, sometimes used as a term of commendation, when precision and vividness of detail are regarded as a merit, and sometimes unfavourably contrasted with idealized description or representation. It has often been used with implication that the details are of an unpleasant or sordid character.

1856 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* IV. viii. §8 (1883) III. 103 To try by startling realism to enforce the monstrosity that has no terror in itself. 1863 D. G. MITCHELL *Sev. Stor.*, *My Farm of Edgewood* 236 Let me illustrate by a little talk, which I think will have the twang of realism about it. 1878 GLADSTONE *Prim. Homer* 27 There is a curious realism in the difficulties which beset the re-establishment of Odysseus in his dominions. 1880 SWINBURNE *Stud. Shak.* 136 The one is a typical example of prosaic realism, the other of poetic reality. 1894 C. L. MORGAN *Psychol. for Teachers* ix. 203 Realism... involves the introduction of such details as shall assimilate the representation to actual fact, and the incorporation of the results of generalisation in individual persons or concrete things. 1912 LARAN & GASTON-DREYFUS *Courbet* 51 Gautier was astonished at seeing Realism in a shed. ...

### **Description**

We will study Victorian fiction (plus Austen) in its variety (for example, we'll read a "social novel" as well as an adventure tale), materiality (we may look at facsimiles of Victorian serials, sites of many Victorian novels' original publication), philosophy (we'll examine some of the philosophical foundations of 19th-century British conceptions of "the real"), history (we'll explore several of the 19<sup>th</sup>-century social and cultural contexts out of [and into] which this fiction came), ideology (we'll be looking at some of these texts as imperial documents doing, or trying to undo, the home-work of empire), and so on. We will seek to distinguish important themes and techniques and trends on display in these complex and often lengthy fictions and try to understand how and why this Victorian slice of "the novel," the larger genre, developed as it did. The format will be discussion initiated and punctuated by brief monologues, some of which you will be providing. With respect to your professionalization, my ambition will be to encourage you to speak cogently, if in an academic register, to give good oral reports, and to write good and proper papers.

### **Coursework:**

1. (10%) Reports: two five- to seven-minute monologues that, if constructed appropriately, will lead to good discussion.
2. (20%) Squib: a five-page "close" analysis of some significant episode in one of our texts (I have an elastic sense of "episode").
3. (20%) Essay-exams: an after-mid-term take-home essay-exam in two parts (two two-page essays; see the schedule for due dates).
4. (50%) Paper: still a close reading but a more substantial investigation— ten or more pages.

### **Texts (a tentative list):**

Ann Radcliffe, The Italian. 1797. Oxford.  
Jane Austen, Emma. 1816. Oxford/Norton.  
Charlotte Bronte, Jane Eyre. 1847. Norton.  
Emily Bronte, Wuthering Heights. 1847. Norton.  
Elizabeth Gaskell, Mary Barton. 1848. Norton.  
William Makepeace Thackeray, Vanity Fair. 1848. Penguin.  
Charles Dickens, Great Expectations. 1861. Penguin.  
George Eliot, The Mill on the Floss. 1860. Penguin.  
Ryder Haggard, King Solomon's Mines. 1885. Oxford.  
Thomas Hardy, The Mayor of Casterbridge. 1886. Norton.  
Oscar Wilde, The Picture of Dorian Gray. 1891. Oxford



## 677 – American Literature: 1830-1865

Section	Day and Time	Faculty	Room
Section 0001	N/A	Einboden	Online

### Description

Although celebrated as the nation’s iconic era of cultural formation, the “American Renaissance” was also a period of unrivaled influence from abroad, with languages and literatures from the Middle East, West Africa and India impacting the very genesis of the U.S. canon. During the Spring 2023 semester, our course will explore the transatlantic sources for influential U.S. authors – from H.D. Thoreau to Herman Melville – while also examining the pivotal role played by Indigenous texts and traditions in the formation of 1830-1865 American Literature, with students offered optional enrichment lectures concerning Iroquoian languages in particular.

### Evaluation

- i) *Reading Responses*: 20%
- ii) *Final Paper*: 50%
- iii) *Final Examination*: 30%

**Texts:** All assigned texts for ENGL 677 will be provided to students without any cost, via PDF handouts and/or online links.

## 682 – American Literature Since 1960

Section	Day and Time	Faculty	Room
Section 0Y01	Th 6:00-8:40 pm	Gomez-Vega	Online

### Description

This class will cover representative texts from every decade, but it will also address the multiplicity of theories that have emerged since the 1960s.

### Requirements:

An analytical essay (15+ pages) typed using the MLA style.

Or

A research paper (20+ pages) typed using the MLA Style

<b>Texts:</b>	Edward Albee's <i>Zoo Story</i> (1960)	pdf
	Walker Percy's <i>The Moviegoer</i> (1960)	
	Joan Didion's <i>Play It As It Lays</i> (1970)	pdf
	Tomás Rivera's . . . <i>And the Earth Did Not Devour Him</i> (1971)	pdf
	Neil Simon's <i>The Prisoner of Second Avenue</i> (1972)	pdf
	Dorothy Bryant's <i>Ella Price's Journal</i> (1972)	
	Anne Tyler's <i>Dinner at the Homesick Restaurant</i> (1982)	
	Paule Marshall's <i>Praisesong for the Widow</i> (1983)	
	Sandra Cisneros's <i>The House on Mango Street</i> (1984)	pdf
	Don DeLillo's <i>White Noise</i> (1985)	
	Louise Erdrich's <i>Tracks</i> (1988)	
	August Wilson's <i>Fences</i> (1986)	pdf

Philip Kan Gotanda's *The Wash* (1987) pdf  
 Luis Santeiro's *Our Lady of the Tortilla* (1987) pdf

Tony Kushner's *Angels in America: Millennium Approaches* (1992) pdf  
 Tony Kushner's *Angels in America: Perestroika* (1993) pdf  
 Thomas King's *Green Grass, Running Water* (1993)

Yusseff El Guindi's *Back of the Throat* (2005) pdf  
 Frances Khirallah Noble's *The New Belly Dancer of the Galaxy* (2007)  
 David Rhodes's *Driftless* (2008)  
 Ana Castillo's *The Guardians* (2008)

Wendy Faris's "The Question of the Other: Cultural Critiques of Magical Realism" (pdf)  
 Shadi Neimneh's "The Anti-Hero in Modernist Fiction" (pdf)  
 R. W. B. Lewis's *The American Adam* (pdf)  
 Sally Robinson's *Marked Men* (pdf)  
 Daniel Joseph Singal's "Towards a Definition of American Modernism" (pdf)

### 692/704 – Publication & Professionalization in English Studies

Section	Day and Time	Faculty	Room
Section 0Y01/PY01	W 6:00-8:40 pm	L. Crowley	Online

#### Description

This course focuses on the process of preparing an essay for submission to a peer-reviewed journal in English. Students begin with a previously prepared essay to revise over the course of the semester. They present a conference-length version of this research, and they participate in peer-editing workshops and consider appropriate journals for their essays. They also learn how to write cover letters and abstracts, to publish book reviews, and to develop book proposals. Although this course takes a practical approach to scholarly publication, we also consider throughout the semester how one might define scholarly success in this field. Students develop their professional skills and a research agenda that will encourage future success.

**Requirements:** A variety of brief assignments, a conference-style presentation, and multiple revisions of a previously written essay.

**Texts:** Will be provided via Blackboard.

### 696 – Practicum in the Teaching of College English

Section	Day and Time	Faculty	Room
Section P001	TBD	Bennett	N/A

**[Permission Number Required]** Contact Dawn Sibley at [dsibley@niu.edu](mailto:dsibley@niu.edu)

#### Description

3 hours. May be repeated to a maximum of 15 semester hours; however, only 3 hours may be applied toward a graduate degree in English. S/U grading.

## 697 – English Institute

Section	Day and Time	Faculty	Room
Section P001	TBD	Bennett	N/A

**[Permission Number Required]** Please contact Dawn Sibley at dsibley@niu.edu

### Description

1-6 hours. May be repeated to a maximum of 12 semester hours as the topic changes. S/U grading.

## 698– Independent Readings

Sections	Day and Time	Faculty	Room
Section P001/P002	TBD	Staff	N/A

**[Permission Number Required]** Please contact Dawn Sibley at dsibley@niu.edu

### Description

Normally open only to students who have completed 30 semester hours in an M.A. program. May be repeated to a maximum of 6 semester hours when topic varies.

## 699 – Master’s Thesis

Section	Day and Time	Faculty	Room
Section P001	TBD	Bennett	N/A

**[Permission Number Required]** Please contact Dawn Sibley at dsibley@niu.edu

### Description

This course may be taken upon selection of a thesis director, appointment of a committee of two additional readers, and approval of a prospectus. Selection of a thesis director is made by the thesis writer, based upon the faculty member’s expert knowledge in the thesis field. The other two readers, typically a subject specialist and a general reader, are selected by the Director of Graduate Studies in consultation with the thesis writer and thesis director.

**Approval of the thesis prospectus by all committee members should be obtained at least one semester in advance of enrollment in 699.** A student writing a thesis must register in 699 in the semester in which he or she plans to defend the thesis. Once enrolled in 699, continuous enrollment is required, including summers, until the thesis is submitted to and formally approved by the Graduate School.

## 799 – Doctoral Dissertation

Section	Day and Time	Faculty	Room
Section P001	TBD	Bennett	N/A

**[Permission Number Required]** Please contact Dawn Sibley at dsibley@niu.edu

### Description

Dissertators will be enrolled in ENGL 799 when they have entered into candidacy: after their director has been selected, their committee approved, and dissertation proposal defended. **Once enrolled in 799, continuous enrollment is required, including summers, until the dissertation is submitted to and formally approved by the Graduate School.**