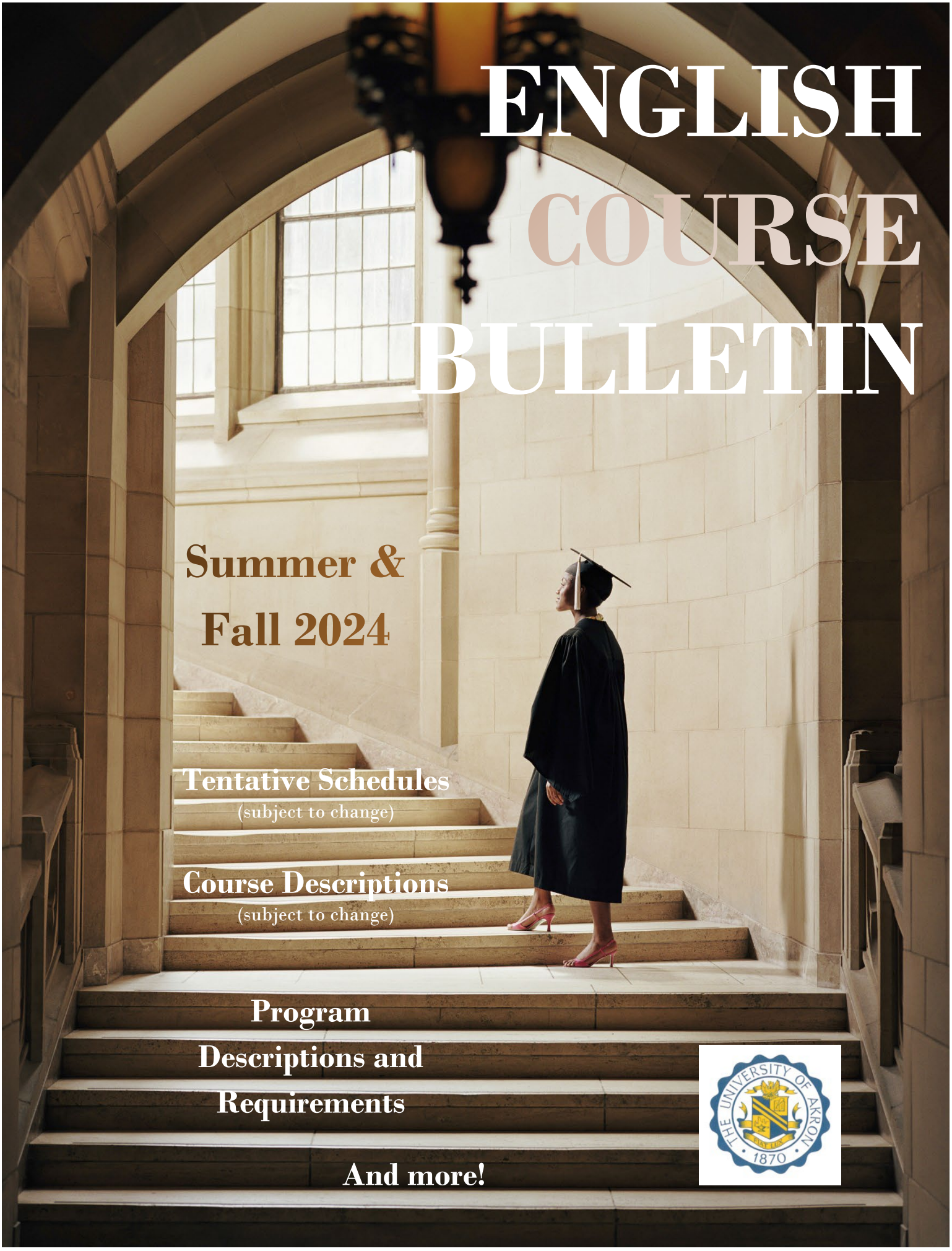

ENGLISH COURSE BULLETIN

Summer & Fall 2024

Tentative Schedules
(subject to change)

Course Descriptions
(subject to change)

Program Descriptions and Requirements

And more!

Statement of Purpose

This issue of The University of Akron English Department **Course Bulletin** reflects the efforts on the part of the Department faculty to enrich the Department curriculum.

In addition to courses in **Shakespeare, English literature, American literature,** and **world literature**, a wide range of writing and linguistics courses are offered for undergraduate and graduate students.

Prospective students will find upcoming courses described by the professors who will teach them. These descriptions provide the student with a clearer outline of **course content** and **requirements** than can be found in either The University of Akron's General Bulletin or the class schedule bulletin which is issued by the University.

Courses are arranged in this **Course Bulletin** in numerical order. Courses which satisfy the Shakespeare, linguistics, and world/multicultural literature requirements, as well as the minor requirements, are identified in the course descriptions.

The English faculty hopes this bulletin will be helpful to counselors and students in planning the best possible selection of **major courses** and **electives.**

The following courses DO NOT currently count toward the English major or minor degree requirements:

ENGL 110; ENGL 111; ENGL 112; ENGL 250; ENGL 252; and ENGL 281.

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Summer 2024 Tentative Course Schedule

INTERSESSION: May 20th-June 9th

COURSE	TITLE	DAYS	HOURS	INSTRUCTOR
ENGL 362-501	World Literatures	Online	Online	Ambrisco

SUMMER I: June 10th-July 14th

COURSE	TITLE	DAYS	HOURS	INSTRUCTOR
ENGL 222-501	Technical Report Writing	Online	Online	Rhoades
ENGL 673-501	Theories of Composition	Online	Online	Thelin

8W2: June 10th-August 4th

COURSE	TITLE	DAYS	HOURS	INSTRUCTOR
ENGL 466/566-501	Linguistics & Language Arts	Online	Online	Zhang

SUMMER II: July 15th-August 18th

COURSE	TITLE	DAYS	HOURS	INSTRUCTOR
ENGL 615-501	Shakespearean Drama	Online	Online	Nunn

Summer 2024 Course Descriptions

222 Technical Report Writing 3 credit hours

Prepares students to write the types of reports most often required in a variety of careers, including technicians, engineers, and scientists. Includes types of reports, memoranda, and letters; techniques of research, documentation, and oral presentations. *Prerequisites: ENGL 121, ENGL 111, or equivalent.*

362 World Literatures 3 credit hours

This course explores literatures of the non-western world through representative works. *Satisfies the English major World/Multicultural Literature requirement and the World Literature requirement for Education majors. Also fulfills the Tier 3 Global Diversity requirement for the General Education Program.*

466/566 Linguistics & Language Arts 3 credit hours

A foundation course in linguistics with a focus on pedagogical implications for second language (L2) learners. Fundamental concepts in the core of linguistics, including morphology, syntax, semantics, phonetics, phonology, and pragmatics as well as in other fields of linguistics, such as sociolinguistics are covered in lectures and structured linguistic exercises with both English and other languages for contrastive analyses. *Satisfies the requirement for graduate and undergraduate students pursuing the Certificate in TESL and the Undergraduate Certificate in Linguistic Studies.*

615 Shakespearean Drama 3 credit hours

This course focuses on the study and interpretation of Shakespearean plays, considering their importance today as well as in the early modern era. We will pay particular attention to the historical and cultural changes that people of the Renaissance faced, and we will examine the ways that the concepts present in Shakespearean drama have been addressed and written about by people then, today, and in the years in between. In doing so, we will also be tracing developments and variations in the dramatic genres of tragedy, comedy, and romance. This class will devote substantial attention to critical receptions and dramatic productions of Shakespearean plays. *Required for the Graduate Certificate in Dual Credit Preparation. May also be used to satisfy MA Elective requirement and the NEOMFA Elective requirement.*

673 Theories of Composition 3 credit hours

A fully online course designed to: 1) survey composition theory, 2) review its historical development, and 3) evaluate its competing schools of thought as they relate to both philosophy and classroom practice. Appropriate for teachers of post-secondary language arts, including CCP, those interested in pursuing a graduate degree in Composition Studies, and those seeking the theoretical foundation needed to teach first-year English Composition courses on high school and college campuses. *Required for the M.A. in English, Graduate Certificate in Composition Studies, and Graduate Certificate in Dual Credit Preparation. May also be used to satisfy the NEOMFA Elective requirement.*

Fall 2024 Tentative Course Schedule

August 26th-December 8th

***NEOMFA Students Only

COURSE	TITLE	DAYS	START	END	INSTRUCTOR
ENGL 276-001	Intro to Creative Nonfiction Writing	TTh	2:00 PM	3:15 PM	Giffels
ENGL 278-001	Intro to Fiction Writing	TTh	10:45 AM	12:00 PM	Biddinger
ENGL 279-001	Intro to Script Writing	MWF	9:40 AM	10:30 AM	Svehla
ENGL 300-001	Critical Reading & Writing	TTh	2:00 PM	3:15 PM	Nunn
ENGL 301-001	English Literature I	MWF	11:50 AM	12:40 PM	Ambrisco
ENGL 316-001	Shakespeare: The Mature Plays	TTh	10:45 AM	12:00 PM	Rhoades
ENGL 341-001	American Literature I	TTh	12:15 PM	1:30 PM	Miller
ENGL 350-001	Black American Literature	MWF	10:45 AM	11:35 AM	Bolton
ENGL 362-002	World Literatures	MWF	9:40 AM	10:30 AM	Dukes
ENGL 362-501	World Literatures	Online	Online	Online	Ambrisco
ENGL 371-501	Introduction to Linguistics	Online	Online	Online	Zhang
ENGL 389-001	Sem: Literary Ohio	TTh	12:15 PM	1:30 PM	Giffels
ENGL 389-002	Sem: Stephen King	MWF	12:55 PM	1:45 PM	Thelin
ENGL 477/577-501	Sociolinguistics	Online	Online	Online	Zhang
ENGL 489/589-001	Sem: Digital Projects in the Archives (LGBTQ)	MW	3:30 PM	4:45 PM	Nunn
ENGL 489/589-501	Sem: Harlem Renaissance	M	5:20 PM	7:50 PM	Bolton
ENGL 492-001	Senior Seminar	TTh	3:30 PM	4:45 PM	Nunn
ENGL 611-501	Argument and Research Writing	Online	Online	Online	Svehla
ENGL 689-801	Graduate Writing Seminar: Creative Nonfiction***	Th	5:20 PM	7:50 PM	Giffels
ENGL 689-802	Graduate Writing Seminar: Fiction (Flash Fiction)***	W	5:20 PM	7:50 PM	Biddinger

Fall 2024 Course Descriptions

(Subject to change)

276 Intro to Creative Nonfiction Writing 3 credit hours

This course introduces students to techniques of creative nonfiction through a series of writing exercises intended to give experience with the form. The main focus is on student writing, with extensive discussion in a workshop setting. *Prerequisite for Advanced Creative Nonfiction. Satisfies the Minor in Creative Writing requirement.*

278 Intro to Fiction Writing 3 credit hours

Students in this course will study and practice the craft of fiction in a supportive workshop environment. Class members will learn a variety of literary terms and techniques through readings and craft exercises, and will receive helpful feedback from peers and professor during discussion of original works of fiction. This section of Intro to Fiction Writing will focus on reading and writing both flash fiction and short stories. Writers with all levels of creative writing experience are welcome, including beginners. *Satisfies the Minor in Creative Writing requirement.*

279 Intro to Script Writing 3 credit hours

A course in developing the visual imagination. Craft scenes, create characters, write dialogue, construct plot arcs, and learn screenplay formatting. Class will be a small, informal group responding to each other's scripts. *Satisfies the Minor in Creative Writing requirement.*

300 Critical Reading & Writing 3 credit hours

An introduction to English studies, focusing on critical methods for reading and writing about literature, with attention to research skills and uses of computer technology. *Satisfies the English major requirement.*

301 English Literature I 3 credit hours

Studies in English Literature from Old English to 1800, with emphasis upon specific representative works and upon the cultural and intellectual backgrounds which produced them. Literature to be read will include both major and minor poetry, drama and prose. *Satisfies the English major requirement.*

316 Shakespeare: The Mature Plays 3 credit hours

The purpose of this course is not only to study and interpret early Shakespearean plays, but to help illuminate the era in which these works were written and performed. In addition, this class will devote substantial attention to critical receptions of Shakespearean plays. We will pay particular attention to the cultural atmospheres in which people of the Renaissance lived, and we will examine the ways that the issues present in Shakespearean writings have been addressed and written about by people then, today, and in the intervening years. In doing so, we will also be tracing developments and variations in the dramatic genres of tragedy, comedy, and romance. *Satisfies the English Major requirement.*

341 American Literature I 3 credit hours

Historical survey of major and minor American writers to 1865. *Satisfies the English major requirement.*

350 Black American Literature 3 credit hours

Survey of African-American literature beginning with the vernacular tradition—spirituals, folktales— and continuing with a chronological assessment of 18th, 19th, and 20th century prose, poetry, and drama written by Americans of African ancestry. We will pay particular attention to the role writers' intended audiences play in the storytelling process. *Satisfies the English major World/Multicultural Literature requirement, and the Domestic Diversity Gen Ed requirement.*

362 World Literatures 3 credit hours

This course explores literatures of the non-western world through representative works. *Satisfies the English major World/Multicultural Literature requirement and the World Literature requirement for Education majors. Also fulfills the Tier 3 Global Diversity requirement for the General Education Program.*

371 Introduction to Linguistics 3 credit hours

Scientific introduction to the study of written and spoken linguistic behavior in English. History of English, varieties of English, and acquisition of English are also introduced. *Satisfies the English major requirement and is required for the Undergraduate Certificate in TESL and the Undergraduate Certificate in Linguistic Studies parallel to ENGL 466 Linguistics and Language Arts.*

389 Literary Ohio 3 credit hours

In this course, we will explore the rich, varied, occasionally quirky tradition of Ohio literature. Our reading list will focus on writers who were born in Ohio or spent a significant part of their lives here, with particular emphasis on literature that uses the Buckeye State as a setting or theme. The texts will include fiction, nonfiction, poetry, graphic narrative, and film. *Fulfills the World/Multicultural Literature requirement.*

389 Stephen King 3 credit hours

After publishing for more than five decades and continuing to see many of his novels and short stories turned into movies, Stephen King has firmly established himself as an icon of American pop culture. No single course could do justice to his impact on the entertainment industry, so we will concentrate here on studying selected works of horror and suspense while analyzing film adaptations of varied genres. *Satisfies the Minor in English and the Minor in Popular Literature & Film.*

477/577 Sociolinguistics 3 credit hours

Major sociolinguistic concepts and methodology examined, as well as relationships between language, socio-cultural factors, and education. Issues of Standard English, power, and gender also examined. It is a core course in the Department of English's TESL Certificate Program as well as an elective in the undergraduate Certificate in Linguistic Studies and the M.A. Program in the Department of English. *Required for the Certificate in Teaching English as a Second Language.*

489/589 Unclass: Digital Projects in the Archives 3 credit hours

In this hands-on course, entitled " 'Out' of the Archives: Exploring Akron's LGBTQ+ History," students will learn about the nuances of LGBTQ+ historical research through an open-ended exploration of LGBTQ+ narratives in local archival repositories. Students will dive into the archives to identify relevant materials about LGBTQ+ figures, organizations, and events. Aided by contextual research and community outreach, they will share their findings publicly and work to ethically create resources for others seeking access to the Rubber City's queer stories. No special experience with archival or historical research required.

489/589 Harlem Renaissance 3 credit hours

With attention to the socio-political rumblings of the 1920s, this special topics course takes for study the ways in which select texts reveal shifting consciousness among people of African descent as it pertains to race, class, and issues of belonging both within and outside of the "black" community and both within and outside of the nation. We also will consider the "Renaissance" aspect of "Harlem Renaissance," as we study certain challenges faced by artists of the burgeoning, cultural scene of the North related to audience, freedom of expression, and securing sponsorship for their works. Finally, what might be said about any distinguishing features that identify a piece as belonging to the Harlem Renaissance period? We will look at this question as we consider how periodization factors in the classification of movements and bodies of work.

492 Senior Seminar: Revenge & Forgiveness 3 credit hours

This Senior Seminar focuses on literary depictions of revenge and forgiveness, as well as the cultural meaning and effects of these acts. Through our study of dramas, novels, short stories, and poems, we'll consider presentations of revenge—its perpetrators, victims, and witnesses—in different cultural settings; in addition, we will consider what factors inspire individuals and cultures to set aside vengeful impulses in favor of other forms of justice or even reconciliation. Since this is a senior seminar, we will round out the semester by sharing ideas about liberal arts education and the merits of the English degree. *Limited to senior English majors. Please contact the English Department Advisor, Prof. Lisa Rhoades, at rhoades@uakron.edu to get permission to register for the course.*

611 Argument and Research Writing 3 credit hours

This course explores the teaching, reading, and writing of argument and research. In it, we will attempt to both expand and refine the perception of what argument is, what research is, and what each can be. We will contemplate the value of argument and research not only for the academy but also for a democratic society and for personal growth. Students will create lesson plans, read a variety of classical and contemporary essays, and write on self-selected topics. *Required for the M.A. in English and the Graduate Certificate in Dual Credit Preparation. Elective for Certificate in Composition Studies. Also satisfies the NEOMFA Elective requirement.*

689 Creative Nonfiction Workshop 3 credit hours

In this MFA creative nonfiction writing workshop, students will propose a semester-long writing project tuned toward their own literary style, goals and writing background. Once the proposals are discussed and approved, each student will submit two to three pieces of original work to be read and discussed by the workshop participants. Individual readings will also be assigned, tailored to each writer's aesthetic and goals. *Limited to students in the NEOMFA program.*

689 Flash Fiction Workshop 3 credit hours

In this course students will write flash and micro fiction, and learn more about a genre that has gained popularity in recent years. We will read examples of recent and not so recent short short fiction, but the primary course text will be classmate work. We will also discuss publishing flash fiction and creating a series of interlinked stories. All NEOMFA students—including those without prior fiction writing experience—are very welcome in this workshop. Feedback will be tactful and abundant. *Limited to students in the NEOMFA program.*

Requirements for the BA in English (330000BA)

Our course of study of literature, language, rhetoric, and creative writing fosters the development of critical thinking, skilled communication, appreciation of cultural contexts, informed citizenship, and knowledge of the various literary texts representing human thought and inquiry through the centuries. Students majoring in English studies go on to become successful professionals in their chosen fields. Graduates have taken the department's reputation into the world outside the campus gates and hold careers ranging from positions in successful law practices, to jobs as published authors, technical writers, and journalists.

The Department of English urges all English majors to meet with the English Department Advisor at least once a year to discuss their progress toward the degree.

Please visit The University of Akron's Undergraduate Bulletin page for the English BA for the current degree requirements.

Minors in English

Minor in English (330000M)

1. 18 hours of courses in the English Department with at least 6 of those hours at the 300/400 level.

Minor in Creative Writing (330007M)

1. **Two** introductory creative writing courses (Min. Credits: 6) from:
    - ENGL 276 Introduction to Creative Nonfiction Writing
    - ENGL 277 Introduction to Poetry Writing
    - ENGL 278 Introduction to Fiction Writing
    - ENGL 279 Introduction to Script Writing

2. **At least one** advanced creative writing course (Min. Credits: 3) from:
    - ENGL 377 Advanced Poetry Writing
    - ENGL 378 Advanced Fiction Writing
    - ENGL 379 Advanced Script Writing
    - ENGL 381 Advanced Creative Nonfiction Writing

3. ENGL 457 **Writers on Writing**

4. **Two additional courses** in any form of creative writing or literature from Department offerings, 300 or 400 level.

Minor in Popular Literature and Film (330009M)

1. 12 hours of courses in popular literature or film at the 300/400 level in the English Department.

2. 6 hours of courses in any literature or film topics at any level in the English Department.

NOTE: The following courses taken to fulfill specific requirements in the English major **CANNOT** also be used to fulfill the 18 hours requirement in this minor: ENGL 300 Critical Reading & Writing; ENGL 301 English Literature 1; ENGL 315 Shakespeare: Early Plays; ENGL 316 Shakespeare: Mature Plays; ENGL 341 American Literature 1; one course in World or Multicultural literature.

Procedures for Minors

See the department advisor Prof. Lisa Rhoades for information and guidance. Take the required courses. Then, when applying for graduation, fill out an application for minor(s) form and turn it in with your graduation application. Your college record will document the minor(s) you have earned. Forms are available in the department.

Other Notes

- Students must achieve an overall GPA of at least 2.0 to earn the minor.
- If a student desires a minor from the same department/school as their major, there is a college requirement for a minimum of nine (9) non-overlapping credits between the minor and the major, as well as between the minor and other minor programs in the department/school.
- Courses ENGL 110, ENGL 111, ENGL 112, ENGL 250, ENGL 252, and ENGL 281 **DO NOT** count toward any minor degree requirements.

Undergraduate Certificate in Linguistic Studies (330008C)

Dr. Wei Zhang, Coordinator – wz23@uakron.edu

Completion of five linguistically oriented courses is required as follows: the foundation course, two core courses and at least two elective courses. Three or more of the courses must be at the 300/400 level. (Subject to approval by the program director, other theoretically oriented linguistics courses may substitute for core courses.)

To obtain the certificate, the student must have at least two semesters of a second language. A student entering the program should discuss plans with the director.

Foundation (Required)

ENGL 371 Introduction to Linguistics **OR**
ENGL 466 Linguistics and Language Arts

Core (Minimum of two of the following)

ENGL 470 History of the English Language
ENGL 477 Sociolinguistics
ENGL 478 Grammatical Structures of English
PHIL 481 Philosophy of Language
SLPA 230 Language Science and Acquisition **OR**
SLPA 430 Aspects of Normal Language Development

Note: Each course listed here is 3 credit hours.

Electives (Minimum of two of the following)

ENGL 400 Anglo Saxon
ENGL 473 Theoretical Foundations and Principles of ESL
ANTH 101 Human Cultures
ANTH 251 Human Diversity
CPSC 430 Theory of Programming Languages
CPSC 440 Compiler Design
CPSC 460 Artificial Intelligence and Heuristics Programming
SPAN 403 Advanced Grammar
PHIL 170 Introduction to Logic
PHIL 374 Symbolic Logic
PHIL 418 20th Century Analytic Philosophy
PHIL 471 Metaphysics
POLIT 402 Politics and the Media
POLIT 403 Media, Crime and Public Opinion
COMM 325 Intercultural Communication
SLPA 101 American Sign Language I
SLPA 210 Introduction to Clinical Phonetics

Undergraduate Certificate in Teaching English as a Second Language (330003C)

Dr. Wei Zhang, Coordinator – wz23@uakron.edu

This program is intended for both native and non-native speakers of English who seek training in the teaching of English as a second language (ESL) and wish to obtain an initial qualification to teach ESL/EFL (English as a Foreign Language) in educational settings other than public schools in Ohio and other states or in countries outside the United States. The program is designed to introduce the student to central issues in the theory and practice of teaching English to non-native speakers through courses in modern and applied linguistics, in second language pedagogy, and in related disciplines.

Students who do not have English as a native language must demonstrate adequate proficiency in English with a valid TOEFL score of 550 (paper based)/213 (computer based)/79 (Internet based/iBT) or higher, or a valid IELTS score of 6.0 or higher. The awarding of this certificate is not contingent upon completion of a degree program. Undergraduate certificate programs require a 2.00 grade point average.

PROCEDURES AND REQUIREMENTS

1. Students admitted with an undergraduate status are required to take ENGL 111 English Composition I and ENGL 112 English Composition II prior to applying for the certificate.
2. All students who wish to pursue the TESL certificate should meet with the program director to discuss the program and availability of courses.
3. To apply for the certificate, fill out the "ADD Certificate" form with the certificate advisor. After all requirements are completed, fill out the "Undergraduate Certificate Program Application" with the certificate advisor.

UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM

This certificate requires the completion of a minimum of 15 credit hours of course work, including four core courses and one elective course.

Core Courses (Min. Credits: 12)

ENGL 371 Introduction to Linguistics

OR

ENGL 466 Linguistics and Language Arts
ENGL 473 Theoretical Foundations and Principles of ESL*
ENGL 478 Grammatical Structures of English
ENGL 477 Sociolinguistics

OR

ENGL 470 History of the English Language

Note: Each course listed here is 3 credit hours.

Electives** (Min. Credits: 3)

ENGL 470 History of the English Language
ENGL 477 Sociolinguistics
ENGL 487 Field Experience: Teaching Second Language Learners
SPAN 403 Advanced Grammar
EDCI 456 Scaffolding Language and Content to Second Language Learners
EDCI 485 Teaching Language Literacy to Second Language Learners
EDCI 487 Techniques of Teaching English as a Second Language
COMM 325 Intercultural Communication
SLPA 230 Language Science & Acquisition
SLPA 430 Aspects of Normal Language Development

*Students should have successfully completed ENGL 371 or ENGL 466 prior to taking this course.

**Choice to be decided in consultation with the program director.

Department of English BA/MA Accelerated Degree Pathway (ADP)

ACCELERATED OPTION

You can earn your bachelor's and master's in less time and at a significant savings.

The Accelerated Degree Pathway (ADP) program is a 5-year bridge program between our undergraduate B. A. Degree in English and our graduate M. A. in English degrees. Selected students can complete up to 9 credits of graduate coursework during their fourth undergraduate year at the University of Akron. Students will then transition into our M. A. graduate program, pending satisfactory fulfillment of their undergraduate degree and graduate program admission requirements. Selected students have the potential to earn both an undergraduate and graduate degree from the University of Akron in 5 years.

The advantages to the accelerated program include:

- **Flexibility during graduate school.**
  Students can complete graduate classes while fulfilling undergraduate degree requirements.
- **Reduce time.**
  Students start fulfilling graduate school requirements sooner. The ADP Program engages students in graduate level courses before their peers and provides the opportunity to make connections with graduate instructors and other students in the program.
- **Save tuition costs.**
  Students can save tuition costs by completing up to 9 graduate credit hours at the undergraduate price. These same graduate credits will be applied to their graduate degree at The University of Akron.

Curriculum

The 5-Year Accelerated Degree Pathway (ADP) Program curriculum includes the same coursework offered in the English undergraduate and graduate programs.

Check out our handbook here.

Interested students should contact our Assistant Chair, Prof. Lisa Rhoades at rhoades@uakron.edu.

Graduate Programs in English

Admission Requirements

M.A. Program

To be accepted into the M.A. program, the English Department requires that applicants have a B.A. in English, a minor in English, or other suitable course preparation.

To qualify for full admission, a student must meet the Graduate School requirement of a minimum overall GPA of 2.75 for four years or 3.0 over the last two years.

Complete the online application through the Graduate School. Applicants must request that official transcripts of undergraduate and, if applicable, graduate work, be sent to the Graduate School. A nonrefundable application fee is also required. Applications should be received at least six weeks prior to registration, which may occur in the fall, spring, or summer terms.

To qualify for provisional admission, the Graduate School requires a minimum overall GPA of 2.5 over four years or 2.75 over the last two years. A student whose GPA falls below 2.75 or who lacks the B.A. in English may be granted deferred admission and given post-baccalaureate status, which is a probationary category.

NEOMFA Program

Applicants to the NEOMFA in Creative Writing must be accepted by the Graduate School at The University of Akron or one of the other three participating universities. They must also submit three letters of recommendation, transcripts, and a writing portfolio. The portfolio will be reviewed by an admissions committee of members from all three universities. Applicants using The University of Akron as a "gateway" school for the MFA must additionally satisfy the requirements for the M.A. program listed above.

For those students admitted to the NEOMFA program, up to nine credits from previously uncompleted graduate degrees may be accepted for transfer credit. Of the nine elective credits, up to six may be from Advisor-approved courses not solely restricted to graduates.

Financial Aid

Graduate Teaching Assistantships

Graduate Teaching Assistantships in the Department of English are awarded on a competitive basis to MFA students. Applications for fall appointments will be accepted until February 1.

Students may renew twice, for a total of three years of support.

Along with the application form, applicants for assistantships must submit a clean copy of a writing sample in the form of a typed essay completed in a college course (5-10 pages), a letter of application, and two letters of recommendation. Scores from the Graduate Record Examination are not required. Please email all materials directly to the Graduate Coordinator, Dr. Hillary Nunn, at nunn@uakron.edu.

The letter of application should address:

1. why you are interested in the position
2. what prepares you for the position both as far as your work history and academic preparation, and
3. how your experiences and interests would contribute to the program's academic atmosphere.

Requirements for the M.A. in English (330000MAT)

The MA in English provides students with a strong practical and theoretical grounding as they prepare to move forward into careers or into graduate and professional schools.

Students will learn

1. advanced methods for deeper study of literatures written in English,
2. the fundamentals of Composition as a discipline, and
3. practical writing skills through courses in professional and rhetorical writing.

Courses will place texts within wider cultural and multicultural debates. Through assigned writings, students will articulate informed viewpoints on real-world issues and practice various forms of professional and critical writing, learning to interpret texts in contexts ranging from academic debate to the contemporary classroom to a variety of professional settings.

A minimum of 30 credits is required.

Core classes for all MA Students consist of the following 18 credits at the 600 level:

- ENGL 611 Argumentation and Research Writing
- ENGL 673 Theories of Composition
- ENGL 665 Literary Criticism

  OR

  ENGL 690 Critical Approaches to Literature
- One additional 600-level literature course
- ENGL 689 Grant Writing

  OR

  ENGL 689 Professional Writing Theory and Practice
- ENGL 699 Master's Thesis/Capstone (3 credit hours)

  In consultation with a faculty member, students complete either a Capstone Project or a Thesis. In the **Capstone Option,** students complete a customized final project along with a Portfolio based on the revision and presentation of 3-6 course artifacts, at least one of which is an academic paper. In the **Thesis Option**, students complete a sustained, publishable 60-100 page scholarly treatment of a subject in Literature or Composition studies.

Students must take 12 additional credit hours in English, selecting from classes listed in the Course Bulletin that are offered at either the 500 or 600-level.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the graduate application and official transcripts, applicants must submit a statement of purpose by email to the Graduate Coordinator, Dr. Hillary Nunn, at nunn@uakron.edu.

APPLICATION DEADLINE

Applications to the master's degree program in English are accepted on a rolling basis.

FINANCIAL AID INFORMATION

Paying for college is a vital part of the education process! It is important to be informed of the many sources of aid available. Student loans are available to degree-seeking graduate students. Information on student loans can be found through the Office of Student Financial Aid. The Office of Student Financial Aid is located in Simmons Hall.

Requirements for the Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing (NEOMFA) (330007MFA)

The University of Akron, Cleveland State University, and Kent State University offer jointly the MFA in Creative Writing. This degree provides students with opportunities to develop their skills in writing fiction, poetry, drama, and creative nonfiction. The MFA is the terminal degree. Through extensive practice in workshops and craft and theory courses, students will develop their creative writing abilities while also studying literature and completing a relevant internship.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Students must be accepted by the Graduate School at The University of Akron or one of the other three participating universities. Applicants must also submit three letters of recommendation, transcripts, and a writing portfolio. The portfolio will be reviewed by an admissions committee of members from all three universities. Applications must be submitted by January 15.

The deadline for all assistantships in the Department of English is February 1.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

Students must complete the following courses among the participating universities:

Writing Workshops	15 credits
Craft and Theory Courses	9 credits
Literature Courses	6 credits
Internship	3 credits
Thesis	6 credits
Electives	9 credits

A total of 48 credit hours is required for the MFA in Creative Writing.

Up to nine credits from previously uncompleted graduate degrees may be accepted for transfer credit in the NEOMFA program. Email David Giffels with questions at dg36@uakron.edu. More information is available at https://neomfa.org/.

Graduate Certificate in Literature (330010GC)

Dr. Hillary Nunn, Coordinator - nunn@uakron.edu

To be eligible for the graduate certificate in literature, a person must be admitted to the University as a graduate student (with either full or provisional status). An eligible person interested in the program should contact the Certificate Coordinator.

REQUIREMENTS

Of the four required courses (12 credits), two must be core courses, ENGL 690: Critical Approaches to Literature and ENGL 615: Shakespearean Drama*; three of the four courses must be at the 600-level; and one must be in American literature.

*unless the student has passed a comparable course with a grade of B or better.

Note: Each course listed here is 3 credit hours.

Graduate students who are not enrolled in a University of Akron graduate degree program must apply for admission to the certificate program through the Graduate School. Students who are currently in a graduate program should contact the Certificate Coordinator to add certificate programs.

More information can be found at the Graduate School Website.

Graduate Certificate in Composition (330002GC)

Dr. Lance Svehla, Coordinator - lms3@uakron.edu

REQUIREMENTS

To be eligible for the certificate in Composition, a person must be admitted to the University as a graduate student (with either full or provisional status). An eligible person interested in the program should contact the certificate coordinator.

Required Courses

ENGL 673 Theories of Composition
ENGL 674 Research Methodologies in Composition
OR
ENGL 676 Theory and Teaching of Basic Composition

Electives* (9 credits from the following list chosen with the certificate director)

ENGL 600 Teaching Coll Comp Practicum
ENGL 625 Autobiographical Writing
ENGL 650 New Rhetorics
ENGL 651 The Pragmatists
ENGL 660 Cultural Studies
ENGL 670 Modern Linguistics
ENGL 679 Scholarly Writing
ENGL 574 African American English
ENGL 577 Sociolinguistics
ENGL 578 Grammatical Structures of English

Note: Each course listed here is 3 credit hours.

*Other courses may be considered in consultation with the director.

Graduate students who are not enrolled in a University of Akron graduate degree program must apply for admission to the certificate program through the Graduate School. Students who are currently in a graduate program should contact the Certificate Coordinator to add certificate programs.

Once the coursework for the certificate has been completed, students should apply for graduation in MyAkron.

Graduate Certificate in Teaching English as a Second Language (330003GC)

Dr. Wei Zhang, Coordinator - wz23@uakron.edu

This program is intended for both native and non-native speakers of English who seek training in the teaching of English as a second language (ESL) and wish to obtain an initial qualification to teach ESL/EFL (English as a foreign language) in educational settings other than public schools in Ohio and other states or in countries outside the United States. For Ohio qualification in teaching ESL in the Ohio public school system, see the TESOL Endorsement requirements in the School of Education. The program is designed to introduce students to the central issues in the theory and practice of teaching English to non-native speakers through courses in modern and applied linguistics, in second language pedagogy and in related disciplines.

Students who do not have English as a native language must demonstrate adequate proficiency in English with a valid TOEFL score of at least 550 (paper-based), 213 (computer-based), or 79 (internet-based) or a valid IELTS score of 6.5 or higher.

The awarding of this certificate is not contingent upon completion of a degree program. A minimum grade point average of 3.0 is required. Students who wish to pursue the TESL certificate should meet with the program director to discuss the program and course availability. The certificate requires the completion of a minimum of **15 credit hours** of course work, including **4 core courses** and **1 elective course**.

Graduate students who are not enrolled in a University of Akron graduate degree program must apply for admission to the certificate program through the Graduate School. Students who are currently in a graduate program should contact the Certificate Coordinator to add certificate programs.

Core Requirements (Min. Credits: 12)

ENGL 566 Linguistics and Language Arts
ENGL 573 Theoretical Foundations and Principles of ESL*
ENGL 578 Grammatical Structures of English
ENGL 577 Sociolinguistics **OR**
ENGL 570 History of the English Language

Note: Each course listed here is 3 credit hours.

Electives** (Min. Credits: 3)

ENGL 570 History of English Language
ENGL 577 Sociolinguistics
ENGL 587 Field Experience: Teaching Second Language Learners
EDCI 543 Techniques of Teaching English as a Second Language
EDCI 541 Teaching Language Literacy to Second Language Learners
EDCI 556 Scaffolding Language and Content for English Learners
SLPA 530 Aspects of Normal Language Development

*Students should have successfully completed ENGL 371 or ENGL 566 prior to taking this course.
**Choice to be decided in consultation with the program coordinator.

Graduate Certificate in English Dual Credit Preparation (530113GC)

Dr. Hillary Nunn, Coordinator - nunn@uakron.edu

The University of Akron's Graduate Certificate in English Dual Credit Preparation offers a cohesive set of coursework for high school English teachers who wish to meet the credentialing standard for dual-credit instructors in the state of Ohio. Our online Certificate forms a foundation for the teaching of general education courses in both Composition and Literature, providing 18 hours of coursework in the discipline for those teachers who already have or are working toward Master's degrees. Classes are offered through web-based instruction by experienced professors. No travel to campus is required.

REQUIREMENTS

Participants must have a Master's Degree in Education or other subject area, or they must be actively enrolled in an Education Master's program, in UA's MA in English program, or the NEOMFA.

Required Courses

ENGL 611 Argument and Research Writing
ENGL 629 Twentieth Century Literature
ENGL 610 New Directions in the Teaching of Writing
ENGL 690 Critical Approaches to Literature
ENGL 673 Theories of Composition
ENGL 615 Shakespearean Drama

Student Groups

The Upstart Crows

Upstart Crows is a group of graduate and undergraduate students from many majors who are interested in literature and share a common love for the written word. The Upstart Crows hosts "open mic" poetry nights, travels to see plays performed in Akron and Cleveland, and engages in a variety of other intellectual and social activities throughout the year. New members from all majors are always welcome.

Contact Dr. Hillary Nunn (nunn@uakron.edu) for more information.

Stay up to date on events! Go to our Facebook page: Upstart Crows UA

Society of Akron Graduate English Scholars (SAGES)

SAGES is a student organization open to all English graduate students that focuses on helping English graduate students of all tracks (Composition, Fine Arts, and Literature) develop professionally by providing members with tools to help them publish, present, and prepare for the future. SAGES also strives to promote unity among English graduate students by creating events, providing resources, and visiting places that benefit scholars of all three tracks.

Contact Dr. Hillary Nunn (nunn@uakron.edu) for more information.

Department Contacts

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English Department Program Codes

330000BA	English Major
330000M	Minor in English
330007M	Minor in Creative Writing
330009M	Minor in Popular Literature & Film
330011M	Minor in African American Lit & Lang
330000MAT	MA in English
330007MFA	Creative Writing - NEOMFA
330003C	Undergraduate Certificate in TESL
330008C	Undergraduate Certificate in Linguistic Studies
770008C	Undergraduate Certificate in Professional Communication
330002GC	Graduate Certificate in Composition
330003GC	Graduate Certificate in TESL
330010GC	Graduate Certificate in Literature

Additional Information

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https://www.uakron.edu/english/

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Social Media Pages
UA Department of English Facebook
Upstart Crows Facebook
Department of English Instagram

LinkedIn
English Dept U of A