

**SPND 580B Practicum Experience:
Supervisor/Director (S-1,2)**

8 sem. hrs.

Each student is assigned administrative responsibilities, under supervision, with a supervisor/director. Each student must document a minimum of 300 clock hours of direct administrative responsibilities. Heimbecker.

Graduate Program in English

Pamela Bromberg, *Director and Professor of English*

J. Douglas Perry, Jr., *Chair and Associate Professor*

Renee Bergland, *Professor*

David Gullette, *Professor*

Cathryn Mercier, *Associate Dean of the College, Professor of English, and Director of the Graduate Program in Children's Literature*

Lowry Pei, *Professor*

Afaa Michael Weaver, *Alumnae Professor*

Kelly Hager, *Associate Professor of English and Women's and Gender Studies*

Richard Wollman, *Associate Professor*

Sheldon George, *Assistant Professor*

Suzanne Leonard, *Assistant Professor*

Erin Nichols, *Administrative Assistant*

The Master of Arts

The Master of Arts in English program provides a strong foundation in English and American literature and in literary theory and analysis. The curriculum is designed to provide study to supplement and consolidate the student's undergraduate work in literature and writing and to allow some further specialization.

Admission: Admission requires a baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university and a superior undergraduate record. Students are admitted to the program on either a full- or part-time basis. The applicant for admission must submit an official transcript of the undergraduate record, a statement of purpose in seeking the degree, a critical writing sample, and recommendations from two former teachers. An interview is optional. Students are admitted to this program in fall, spring, and summer. Inquiries should be addressed to the program director, Department of English, Simmons College, 300 The Fenway, Boston, MA, 02115-5898.

Degree Requirements: The program of study is individually prescribed; the student is permitted

F = Fall
S = Spring
U = Summer
TC = Travel Course
1 = Academic
Year 2008-2009
2 = Academic
Year 2009-2010
* = Schedule t.b.a.

to take certain courses in subjects closely adjacent to English provided these courses are directly relevant to a coherent plan of graduate work. The MA candidate is expected to demonstrate reading knowledge in a language other than English before receiving the degree. A master's thesis is optional. The master's degree requires the satisfactory completion of 32 semester hours. No more than eight semester hours of transfer credit for graduate study elsewhere may be allowed toward the master's degree. Each student entering the MA program is required to take ENGL 405 Contemporary Critical Theory unless he/she has had the equivalent. The remainder of the program is elected from courses best adapted to the student's needs and interests as determined in consultation with the program director. The length of time allowed for completion of coursework and the language requirement is seven years.

Other Programs

The program offers a writing option. Appropriate courses include ENGL 402 Seminar in the Teaching of Writing, ENGL 505 Advanced Creative Writing: Non-Fiction, and ENGL 510 Advanced Poetry Workshop.

COURSES

ENGL 400 Directed Study: Graduate Level (F-1,2; S-1,2)

4 sem. hrs.

Offers an opportunity for students to study a topic of their choosing. Requires the consent of a supervising faculty member; approval of the program director; and a brief proposal outlining the focus, purpose, and projected outcome, to be submitted to the program director during the semester prior to registration. Staff.

ENGL 402 Seminar in the Teaching of Writing (S-1,2)

4 sem. hrs.

Serves graduate students interested in the theory and practice of teaching writing at the undergraduate and secondary school level. Focuses on reading of research and texts in the field, regular writing assignments, and classroom observation

and simulation. Pei.

ENGL 405 Contemporary Critical Theory (F-1,2)

4 sem. hrs.

Introduces graduate students to the concepts and practices of contemporary literary and cultural criticism. Surveys poststructuralist, psychoanalytic, Marxist, new-historicist, postcolonial, feminist, and gender theory, bringing these perspectives to bear on key literary and historical texts. (Also listed as GCS 405 and SPAN 405.) Bromberg, Bergland.

ENGL/GCS 406 Feminism and Literature (S-1,2)

4 sem. hrs.

Surveys feminist approaches to literary analysis and production, examining poetry and fiction that engages with sex, gender, and sexuality, while also studying feminist literary criticism, literary history, feminist theory, gender theory, and queer theory in literary context. Bergland.

[ENGL 410 History of the Book

4 sem. hrs. Not offered in 2008–2010.]

Covers a wide variety of topics concerned with the history and development of the book, both as a physical object and as the bearer of intellectual content. Berger.

ENGL/CHL 411 Victorian Children's Literature (F-2)

4 sem. hrs. Prereq.: ENGL 210.

Examines the wide variety of Victorian literature written for children, from fairy tales and nonsense verse to didactic fiction and classic examples of the Victorian bildungsroman. Authors studied may include Lewis Carroll, Charles Kingsley, Frances Hodgson Burnett, Dinah Mulock Craik, Christina Rossetti, Robert Louis Stevenson, Charlotte Mary Yonge, and Rudyard Kipling. Hager.

ENGL/GCS 412 Special Topics: Theoretical Approaches to Cultural Narratives (S-1)

4 sem. hrs.

Studies a recent work in critical or cultural theory in depth and applies it to the analysis of multicultural and popular cultural narratives (to novels and stories by writers working within and outside Anglo-American tradition, to television and film

series). Examples of theoretical approaches include aesthetic theory, post-colonialism, and new historicism. Hager.

ENGL/CHL 423 19th-Century American Children's Literature (F-1)

4 sem. hrs.

Reading writers including Hawthorne, Alcott, Twain, Susan Warner, Thomas Bailey, Aldrich, and Margaret Sidney, this class will consider the role of religion, the classed and gendered nature of writing for children, and the way the family is depicted and disciplined. We'll also take up the question of slavery, women's suffrage, and industrialization in the children's literature of the period. Hager.

ENGL 455 Graduate Thesis (F-1,2, S-1,2)

4 sem. hrs.

Involves a semester-long research and writing project culminating in a paper of approximately 30 pages of publishable quality under the supervision of a faculty member with expertise in the subject area. Requires permission from the program director and a proposal approved by the program director and by the thesis advisor during the semester before the course is taken. Staff.

[ENGL 504 Problems in Romantic Literature: The Romantic Rebel

4 sem. hrs. Not offered in 2008–2010.]

Begins with Milton's *Paradise Lost*, the subtext for all Romantic rebellion, and moves to Blake, its great theorist and visual artist, to the poetry of Wordsworth and works by women Romantic poets. Concludes with the female perspective on Romantic rebellion in the novels of the Brontë sisters and in Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*. Bromberg.

ENGL 505 Advanced Creative Writing: Non-Fiction (F-1,2)

4 sem. hrs.

Concentrates on the writing of memoir. Encourages structural and stylistic experimentation, imitation of models, and testing of one's limits as a writer. Requires short critical exercises to sharpen consciousness of form and technique in non-fiction. Pei.

ENGL 506 Victorian Literature and Culture (F-1)

4 sem. hrs.

Surveys British poets, prose writers, and novelists from the 1840s to the turn of the century. Studies writers who may include Tennyson, Robert and Elizabeth Browning, Matthew Arnold, Florence Nightingale, Queen Victoria, Darwin, Ruskin, Mill, Newman, and Carlyle. Hager.

ENGL 507 Jane Austen and Virginia Woolf (F-1)

4 sem. hrs.

Studies the two major English women novelists of the 19th and 20th centuries in relation to their major works and current critical debates. Bromberg.

ENGL 508 The Postcolonial Novel (S-1)

4 sem. hrs.

Studies the novels of such writers as Joseph Conrad, Jean Rhys, V.S. Naipul, Nadine Gordimer, Tayeb Salih, Chinua Achebe, Buchi Emecheta, Jamaica Kincaid, and Anita Desai in the context of contemporary post-colonial theory. Bromberg.

ENGL 510 Advanced Poetry Workshop (S-1,2)

4 sem. hrs.

Serves as an advanced-level workshop for poets seeking a space in which to concentrate on their craft and participate in sophisticated discussions of poetry. Requires completion of a manuscript of 20 poems worthy of being submitted for publication as a chapbook, and an essay on poetics. Weaver, Wollman.

ENGL 512 Classic American Writers (S-1,2)

4 sem. hrs.

Studies in depth, with critical readings, the major 19th-century writers Hawthorne, Dickinson, and Melville, with attention to their contributions to the development of a distinctively American literature. Perry.

ENGL 513 Survey of Literature for Children and Young Adults (F-1-2; S-1,2)

4 sem. hrs.

Provides a broad overview of the field of children's and young adult literature, including historical and contemporary considerations, criticism, and repre-

F = Fall
S = Spring
U = Summer
TC = Travel Course
1 = Academic Year 2008-2009
2 = Academic Year 2009-2010
* = Schedule t.b.a.

sentative works from major genres. Staff.

ENGL 514 The Invented Self in Modern American Fiction (F-1,2)

4 sem. hrs.

Looks at Americans as authors of themselves and creators of their own personae in the modern American novel. Examines both the literary and societal implications of such self-fabrications in works by F. Scott Fitzgerald, William Faulkner, Philip Roth, James Baldwin, Ralph Ellison, and Toni Morrison. Perry.

ENGL 516 Native American Literature (F-1)

4 sem. hrs.

Considers sermons, memoirs, poetry, short stories, and novels by Samson Occom, William Apess, Jane Johnston, Schoolcraft, Ella Deloria, N. Scott Momaday, Leslis Marmon Silko, Simon Ortiz, Louise Erdrich, Gerald Vizenor, Sherman Alexie, and others in the context of Native American history and particular tribal and familial oral cultures. Also covers critical essays and studies by Native and non-Native scholars including Paula Gunn Allen, David Moore, Elaine Jahner, Arnold Krupat, Karl Kroeber, David Murray, and Phil Deloria. Bergland.

ENGL 517 Toni Morrison and American Literature (S-1)

4 sem. hrs.

Studies most of the novels and short works of Toni Morrison, viewing them both as involved in thematic conversations with other writers of the American literary canon and as presenting critical evaluations of the racial history that Morrison believes continually haunts this canon. George.

ENGL 518 The Dramatic Imagination in America (F-2)

4 sem. hrs.

Focuses on 20th-century American plays by writers like Susan Glaspell, Eugene O'Neill, Clifford Odets, Tennessee Williams, Arthur Miller, Lorraine Hansberry, Edward Albee, and August Wilson. Reads plays as literature and enacts them in class — as far as possible — as theater. Staff.

ENGL 520 American Women's Poetry (S-2)

4 sem. hrs.

Focuses on Emily Dickinson and Adrienne Rich alongside their influences and inheritors, from

Anne Bradstreet to Joy Harjo. Uses frameworks of textual, intertextual, and cultural analysis within a seminar format. Bergland.

ENGL 521 Studies in Shakespeare (S-1,2)

4 sem. hrs.

Closely analyzes a few major plays and varied critical approaches to them. Wollman.

[ENGL 522 The Postmodern Novel

4 sem. hrs. Not offered in 2008–2010.]

Explores an array of postmodern fiction and film, primarily from England and the Continent. Authors include Barnes, Kundera, Fowles, Calvino, Byatt, Atwood, and Swift. Designed for graduate students and advanced English majors. Bromberg.

ENGL 523 Special Topics in Literature

4 sem. hrs. Not offered in 2008–2010.]

Offers an intensive study of a particular genre of literature. Staff.

ENGL 524 James Joyce (F-2)

4 sem. hrs.

Examines *Dubliners*, *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*, *Ulysses*, and selections from *Finnegan's Wake*. Considers Joyce's transformation from fin-de-siecle ironist to high modernist comedian, as well as a broad selection of Joyce criticism, including the French feminists who have adopted him as one of their own. Staff.

ENGL 525 Modern Irish Literature (F-1)

4 sem. hrs.

Considers major works in verse, fiction, and drama by William Butler Yeats, James Joyce, John Millington Synge, Sean O'Casey, and some of the newer voices in Irish writing, such as Seamus Heaney and others, whose work has been influenced by the recent sectarian violence in Northern Ireland. Gullette.

[ENGL 526 Studies in Medieval and Renaissance Literature

4 sem. hrs. Not offered in 2008–2010.]

Studies topics including Milton, magic and fantasy in the Renaissance, and literary depictions of love in the 16th century. Wollman.

ENGL 527 Race and Gender in Psychoanalytic Discourse (S-2)

4 sem. hrs.

Investigates psychoanalysis as a theoretical discourse that has been forced continually to rewrite itself as it rethinks and makes room for the concepts of race and gender. Focuses upon Freud, Lacan, and more recent scholars and theorists who have used race and gender to redefine psychoanalysis. George.

[ENGL 530 Postcolonial Cinema

4 sem. hrs. Not offered in 2008–2010.]

Surveys postcolonial cinema with emphasis on films from Africa, the Middle East, and Latin America. Focuses especially on how these films address the cultural and political issues relevant to an understanding of postcolonial identity. Weekly screenings of films and reading in postcolonial theory and film criticism. Staff.

ENGL 542 Studies in 18th-Century Literature (S-1)

4 sem. hrs.

Examines the ways the poets, playwrights, journalists, and fiction writers of the period imitated, reworked, and finally rejected classical and Renaissance genres to forge new kinds of literary expression. Reading may include works by Aphra Behn, Dryden, Swift, Pope, Anne Finch, Lady Mary Wortley Montagu, Johnson, and Burney. Bromberg.

ENGL 598 Feminist Film Studies [S-1,2]

4 sem. hrs.

Analyzes how film form positions women and investigates how female audiences consume the medium. Topics include female directors and stars, gaze theory and psychoanalysis, melodrama and the “woman’s film,” feminist documentary, lesbian cinema, female spectatorship and reception theory, race studies and postcolonialism, and postfeminism. Leonard.

Gender/Cultural Studies Program

Jyoti Puri, *Program Director and Professor and Chair of Sociology*

Renee Bergland, *Professor of English*

Carole Biewener, *Professor of Economics and Women’s and Gender Studies*

Pamela Bromberg, *Professor of English and Director of the Graduate Program in English*

Cathryn Mercier, *Associate Dean of the College, Professor of English, and Director of the Graduate Program in Children’s Literature*

Theresa Perry, *Professor of Africana Studies and Education*

Diane Raymond, *Dean of the College and Professor of Philosophy and Women’s and Gender Studies*

Jill Taylor, *Professor of Education and Women’s and Gender Studies*

Becky Thompson, *Professor of Sociology*

Cheryl Welch, *Professor of Political Science and International Relations*

Kelly Hager, *Associate Professor of English and Women’s and Gender Studies*

Valerie Leiter, *Associate Professor of Sociology*

Laura Prieto, *Associate Professor of History and Women’s and Gender Studies*

Sheldon George, *Assistant Professor of English*

Sarah Leonard, *Assistant Professor of History*

Suzanne Leonard, *Assistant Professor of English*

Dawna Thomas, *Assistant Professor of Africana Studies and Women’s and Gender Studies*

Diane Hammer, *Director of Simmons Institute for Leadership and Change*

TBA, *Administrative Assistant*

The Master of Arts in Gender/Cultural Studies (GCS)

The Master’s in Gender/Cultural Studies is an interdisciplinary program across the humanities and social sciences that emphasizes the constructions of gender, and race, and examines them within the U.S. and in transnational

F = Fall
S = Spring
U = Summer
TC = Travel Course
1 = Academic Year 2008–2009
2 = Academic Year 2009–2010
* = Schedule t.b.a.