Faculty

John Netland (2008). Professor and Department Chair, English. B.A., Biola University; M.A., California State Polytechnic University; Ph.D., University of California, Los Angeles.


Gene Fant (2002). Professor of English and Dean of Arts and Sciences. B.S., James Madison University; M.A., Old Dominion University; M.Div., New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary; M.Ed., and Ph.D., University of Southern Mississippi.

Patricia L. Hamilton (2001). Associate Professor of English. B.A., Biola University M.A., California State University, Fullerton; Ph.D., University of Georgia.

Scott Huelin (2009). Associate Professor of English and Director of the Honors Community. B.A. and M.A., University of North Carolina; Ph.D., University of Chicago.


Barbara Childers McMillin (1992). Professor of English, Associate Provost and Dean of Instruction. A.A., Northeast Mississippi Community College; B.A., Union University; M.A. and D.A., University of Mississippi. Additional study, Harvard University.

Gavin Richardson (1998). Associate Professor of English. B.A., Vanderbilt University; M.A. and Ph.D., University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.


Roger S. Stanley (1990). Assistant Professor of English. B.A., Appalachian State University; M.A., East Tennessee State University; Additional study, University of Mississippi.

Mission Statement

• To provide student-centered attention which facilitates effective communication.
• To offer courses in composition which require analytical reading, thinking, and writing.
• To offer courses that explore and analyze multicultural literature to broaden world views.
• To offer a range of English courses emphasizing genres, periods, major writers, history and structure of the language, composition, research, and critical analysis.

Curriculum

I. Major in English With Creative Writing Emphasis—34 hours

A. Core requirements for all majors—13 hours
1. ENG 318 and 410—6 hours
2. ENG 450 or 460—3 hours
3. ENG 300 and 490—4 hours
B. Writing Core: ENG 312, 425, and 426—9 hours
C. Genre Studies: Select 2 from 305, 310, 311, 320, 336, 337
D. Electives: Select 6 hours from any 300/400 level ENG courses

II. Major in English With Literature Emphasis—34 hours

A. Core requirements for all majors—13 hours
1. ENG 318 and 410—6 hours
2. ENG 450 or 460—3 hours
3. ENG 300 and 490—4 hours
B. Advanced Literature Studies—6 hours
1. ENG 340 or 342
2. ENG 334 or 335
C. Genre studies: Select 1 from 305, 310, 311, 320, 336, 337
D. Electives: Select 12 hours from any 300/400 level ENG courses

III. Teacher Licensure for English (Grades 7-12)

A. Major requirements as shown above for either concentration to include both ENG 450 and 460, reducing ENG Elective hours by 3 hours.
B. Professional Education: EDU 150, 250, 326, 420, 433; PSY 213, 318; SE 225.
C. The student must earn a 3.0 major GPA.
D. Completion of applicable portions of the Praxis II.
E. For additional information, see the Assistant Dean for Teacher Education and Accreditation.

IV. English Minor Requirements

Building on the 12 hours of ENG required in the General Core, the minor requires 15 ENG hours>299.

Assessment of Majors

Majors are required to take ENG 490 which is the culmination of the major in the completion and defense of a thesis.

Student Organization

Sigma Tau Delta, a national English Honor Society, recognizes students who have realized accomplishments in the English language and literature. The motto is “Sincerity, Truth, Design.” Union University’s chapter was organized in 1979. Officially declared English majors/minors who have completed at least 36 semester hours of college study,
with 6 hours in literature, meet the minimum eligibility requirements. Furthermore, the student must have at least a 3.0 GPA in English Department courses for membership.

Student Award

The Helen Blythe Creative Writing Award is given to the graduating senior who is deemed by the English Department faculty to be the best creative writer.

General Regulations

Students are required to complete the core curriculum requirements in composition and literature before enrolling in an upper-level English course.

Course Offerings in English (ENG)

( ) Hours Credit; F–Fall, W–Winter, S–Spring; Su–Summer

111. Written Composition I (3) F, S, Su
Includes a study of the principles of grammar, usage, and rhetoric, emphasizing the writing of clear, effective exposition.

112. Written Composition II (3) F, W, S
Prerequisite: ENG 111.
Includes library orientation and instruction in research methods. Students will write critical themes and a research paper.

201. World Literature I (3) F, W, S, Su
Prerequisites: ENG 111, 112.
Selected writers beginning with the Greeks and continuing through the 17th century.

202. World Literature II (3) F, W, S, Su
Prerequisites: ENG 111, 112.
Selected world writers from the 18th through the 20th century.

300. Literary Criticism and Analysis (3) F, S
Prerequisite: ENG 201 or 202. Corequisite: ENG 201 or 202 alternative.
Overview of methodologies and various schools of theory used in literary analyses with special attention to close reading techniques, coupled with mastery of MLA style guidelines.

Completion of ENG 111, 112, 201 and 202 is prerequisite to all the following:

305. Drama (3) F
Reciprocal credit: COM 305.
Representative dramas selected from literary, historic, or thematic types. Includes such writers as Ibsen, Chekhov, Shaw, Brecht, O’Neill, Ionesco, and Soyinka.

310. Poetry (3) Every Third Year*
Representative poetry selected from literary, historic, or thematic types. Includes the works of such writers as Sappho, Catullus, Petrarch, Goethe, Pushkin, Eliot, and Frost.

311. Literature and Film (3) Every Third Year*
An examination of the intersection of film and literary texts and the scholarly analyses of each narrative format. Discussion includes cultural and historical aspects, philosophical approaches to adaptation, and the technical analysis of film.

312. Creative Writing (3) F, S
Reciprocal credit: COM 312.
Emphasis is on the production of original writings, particularly in the genres of poetry, short story, drama, and essay.

318. Advanced Composition (3) S; As Needed
Reciprocal credit: COM 318.
Techniques of writing effective expository, argumentative, descriptive, and narrative nonfiction prose.

320. The Short Story (3) Every Third Year*
A study of representative short stories selected from literary, historic, or thematic types. Includes such writers as Maupassant, Chekhov, Poe, Joyce, Lawrence, Hurston, O’Connor, G Ordiner, Mahfouz, and Garcia Marquez.

334. Survey of American I (3) S–Even Years
A study of literature from the Colonial, Early National, and Romantic Periods.

335. Survey of American II (3) S–Odd Years
A study of literature from the Realistic Period through Post Modernism.

336. The Epic (3) Every Third Year*
Comparative study of oral/formuliac tales from around the world which have been recorded and of the literate creations intended to imitate those tales in some traditions. Includes such authors and works as Gilgamesh, Homeric epics, Virgil, Icelandic saga, Ariosto, Milton, the Ramayana, the Mwindo Epic, and Amos Tutuola.

337. The Novel (3) Every Third Year*
Representative novels from literary, historic, or thematic types. Includes such writers as Cervantes, Balzac, Dostoeyevsky, Hawthorne, Joyce, Faulkner, Soseki, and Achebe.

340. Survey of British Literature I (3) F—Odd Years
Survey of major works authors and themes of British literature from the Anglo-Saxon period through the Renaissance.

342. Survey of British Literature II (3) F—Even Years
Survey of major works authors and themes of British literature from the Restoration through the Post-Colonial period.

410. Representative Plays of Shakespeare (3) F
An in-depth study of approximately twelve selected comedies, tragedies, and histories of Shakespeare, with an emphasis on the Elizabethan Age.
425. Fiction Writing (3) F
Prerequisite: ENG 312.
A writing workshop in which advanced techniques of fiction writing are practiced, culminating in a manuscript of original work.

426. Poetry Writing (3) S
Prerequisite: ENG 312.
A writing workshop in which advanced techniques of poetry writing are practiced, culminating in a manuscript of original work.

430. Classical Antiquity (3) Every Third Year*
A close literary and historical analysis of one or more such authors as Homer, Plato, Thucydides, Sophocles, Virgil, and Horace.

431. The Middle Ages (3) Every Third Year*
A close literary and historical analysis of one or more such authors as Chaucer, Malory, Marie de France, Boccaccio, Petrarch, and Dante.

432. The Renaissance (3) Every Third Year*
A close literary and historical analysis of one or more such authors as Marlowe, Milton, Rabelais, Machiavelli, Calderon, and Cervantes.

433. Romanticism (3) Every Third Year*
A close literary and historical analysis of one or more such authors as Goethe, Rousseau, Hugo, Wordsworth, Pushkin, Hawthorne, and Melville.

434. Realism (3) Every Third Year*
A close literary and historical analysis of one or more such authors as Flaubert, Zola, Tolstoy, Dostoevsky, Chekhov, Ibsen, and Hardy.

435. Modernism/Postmodernism (3) Every Third Year*
A close literary and historical analysis of one or more such authors as Joyce, Eliot, Woolf, Sartre, Ionesco, Pirandello, Unamuno, Garcia Marquez, and Borges.

450. The History of the English Language (3) S
Study of the development of current forms of the English language, surveying issues of historical linguistics with attention to the roles of Old English and Middle English in the development of Anglophone language and literature.

460. Advanced Grammar (3) Fall
Study of the grammar of the English language, including study of the various approaches to grammar and its pedagogy.

490. Senior Thesis (1) S
Prerequisite: Permission of the Department Chair
The culmination of the major, the student will complete a thesis demonstrating an understanding of the principles of literary theory and criticism. The student will present and defend the work before a faculty panel.

179-279-379-479. External Domestic Study Programs (1-3) As Needed
All courses and their applications must be defined and approved prior to registering.

180-280-380-480. Study Abroad Programs (1-4)
All courses and their applications must be defined and approved prior to travel.

195-6-7. Special Studies (1-4)
Lower-level group studies which do not appear in the regular departmental offerings.

395-6-7. Special Studies (1-4)
Upper-level group studies which do not appear in the regular departmental offerings.

495-6-7. Independent Study (1-4)
Individual research under the guidance of a faculty member(s).

498-499. Seminar (1-3) On Demand
To be used at the discretion of the department for majors only.

*Consult the English Department for details.