



**HANDBOOK for  
ENGLISH MAJORS:  
LITERARY STUDIES,  
CREATIVE WRITING, and  
MEDIA WRITING**

**WILSON COLLEGE  
2020-2021**



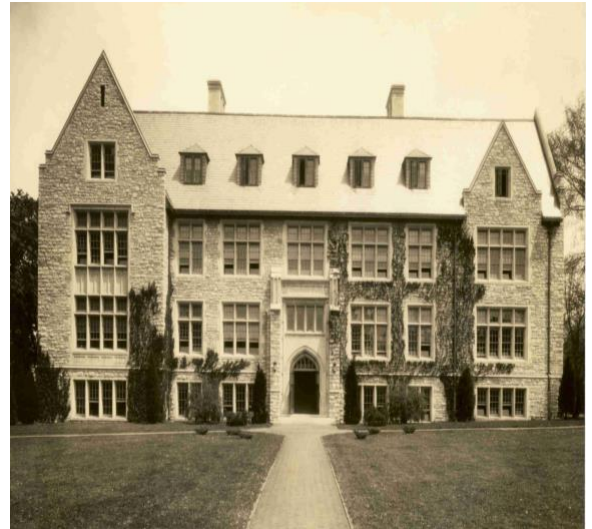
Dear Major or Potential Major:

Congratulations on choosing a major in English at Wilson College!

In these pages you can:

- learn all about the English concentrations and minors here at Wilson College,
- meet our current department faculty,
- and discover the various organizations and activities sponsored by the department.

Prospective students and parents can use these pages to explore the requirements of the program, get to know the faculty, and examine a few of the many different and wonderful places an English major can take you.



*Warfield Hall circa 1930*

Wilson College English majors get excellent jobs, compete for top internships, and attend some of the finest graduate institutions in the country.

Our programs allow for both breadth and depth within each field. **Students** will enjoy the flexibility they find in each concentration, allowing them to choose courses and areas of interest while still ensuring exposure to all necessary aspects of the field. **Parents** will appreciate our emphasis on both career and graduate school preparedness in each concentration. Our results speak for themselves. Our faculty work with each student to see her/his career and graduate school goals are fulfilled, and graduates from our department do exceptionally well in getting into graduate schools and professional programs (such as law school) or in entering the work force in positions beyond the entry-level.

**Our faculty**—which includes award-winning authors, published scholars respected in their fields, and several past Wilson College Teachers of the Year—remain dedicated to personal, intellectually intense courses in small class settings that provide great training for future teachers, writers, journalists, editors, literary agents, librarians, public relations experts, publishers, scholars, rhetoricians, lawyers, communications specialists, marketing and advertising designers, and copywriters. In our most recent departmental review, current students consistently rated the teaching in the department as “excellent.” Students were equally pleased with the advising and the rigorous way in which the department faculty prepared them for graduate school and the work force.

**Our graduates** do amazing things. During their time at Wilson, many of our students attend conferences, develop projects that have great meaning to them and their communities, complete exceptional theses, and even publish their work in national publications. You’ll hear from many of our students on subjects like internships, graduate school, program offerings and more and see a listing of what some of them accomplished while here.

Visit our website at [www.wilson.edu/English](http://www.wilson.edu/English) to learn about the department, our faculty, and our curriculum.

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## MEET OUR STUDENTS...

*We asked some of our recent and current majors to talk about various parts of the program they have been involved with; we'll share their thoughts and observations throughout this document in segments called "HEAR FROM A WILSON STUDENT."*

## The English Major

The major in English teaches students to better understand and write about the worlds in which they live. Students in the major gain skills in critical thinking, writing cleanly and provocatively, and communicating in a variety of professional settings.

Students majoring in English have three concentration options.

Students who concentrate in **Literary Studies** will read works that are 2000 years old and works published just last year. They will read the most important texts in the literary canon and works who challenge that same texts—and will learn to do the same thing themselves. Students learn to read critically and think for themselves; to write smartly and ably; and how to communicate in any situation. The concentration prepares students for careers in teaching (including in secondary and higher education), communications and writing, public service, and other jobs that require analytical ability.

The concentration in **Creative Writing** is for students who have an interest in developing their talent as novelists, short fiction or creative nonfiction writers, poets and dramatists. It also emphasizes general and technical writing skills, preparing students for lives as working writers. By the end of the program, students will have completed multiple manuscripts and learned the process for submitting their work for publication. The program's emphasis on general writing skills and career preparedness also ensures that students will be ready to enter the world of work, whether in publishing, freelance writing, or numerous other writing-related fields.

The undergraduate concentration in **Media Writing** is designed for students who seek a career creating media content upon completing their bachelor's degree. This degree will prepare students to write professional content in a wide variety of styles, genres, and forms, including writing for newspapers, magazines, social media, and public relations. By the end of the program, students will understand the conventions and applications of these different genres and styles, be well-versed in varying forms of professional writing, understand the differences between appropriate print and online media forms, and demonstrate technical proficiency as writers.

Secondary and middle-level certification in English is also available for students aspiring to teach middle or high school English.

All Wilson graduates, regardless of major, complete an assessment of learning outcomes in their major. As English majors, you will complete your assessment in a classroom with your peers.

You will find more on each concentration and assessment in the pages below.

### ***HEAR FROM A WILSON STUDENT...***

I came to Wilson as an Equine Facilitated Therapeutics major and decided, at the end of my freshman year, to add a major in English with a concentration in Literary Studies. Double majoring in fields with almost nothing in common and juggling an increasing number of extra-curricular activities was a challenge, but I wanted to take advantage of all the opportunities offered at Wilson. While peer-teaching the first-year seminar class, working as a writing tutor, editing *The Billboard*, and compiling *The Bottom Shelf Review*, I discovered that remaining in an atmosphere where I could learn and share my knowledge was important, so I applied to graduate school for English. Without Wilson's leadership opportunities and engaging academic programs, I doubt I would have come to that decision. -JESS DOMANICO

## Concentration in Literary Studies

### Required Courses:

ENG 345 Shakespeare's Histories and Comedies  
*or*  
 ENG 346 Shakespeare's Tragedies and Romances

ENG 311 The English Language  
 ENG 380 Literary and Cultural Interpretation

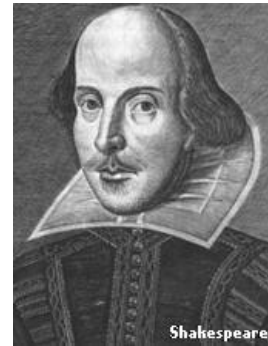
ENG 400 Assessment Portfolio in Literary Studies (1 credit)

Students must also select eight additional literature courses in English. Of these courses, at least three must be taken at the 300 level and one must be in each of the following areas:

- British literature
- American literature
- European literature
- literature written before 1700
- literature written after 1900

A student may choose ENG 220 Creative Writing as one of the eight courses, provided that the above criteria are met. Either ENG 115 or 185 may count towards completion of the concentration.

“Here will be an abusing of God’s patience and the King’s English.”  
 – William Shakespeare, 1564-1616, *The Merry Wives of Windsor*



### ***HEAR FROM A WILSON STUDENT...***

As a graduate student studying literature, I received a foundation from my undergraduate studies that has given me the ability to understand literature within its socio-historical context, to conduct analysis using critical theory, and to draw conclusions about what authors convey to readers. My time spent learning to appreciate the form and style of literature has increased my love of reading, which is helpful for a grad student. The English department is truly a collection of scholars dedicated to their field. -COURTNEY WOLFE

## Concentration in Creative Writing

### Required Courses:

ENG 201 Media Writing  
 ENG 210 Advanced Exposition  
 ENG 220 Creative Writing  
 ENG 311 The English Language

### Plus two of the following:

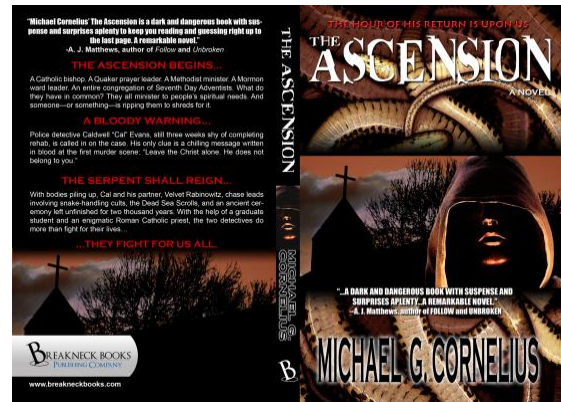
ENG 321 Advanced Creative Writing: Poetry *or*  
 ENG 323 Advanced Creative Writing: Fiction *or*  
 ENG 325 Topics in Creative Writing

### Plus one of the following:

ENG 345 Shakespeare's Histories and Comedies *or*  
 ENG 346 Shakespeare's Tragedies and Romances

ENG 499 Project in Creative Writing

The student will also take three additional courses from the offerings in English. At least one of the four courses (which would include the required Shakespeare course) must be at the 300 level. Either ENG 115 or 185 may be applied to the major. Coursework is supplemented by seminars in genres, markets, and master classes by visiting writers that all students in the concentration are encouraged to attend.



*A book by a member of the Wilson faculty*

*"Fiction reveals truth that reality obscures."  
 -Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882), American author*



### **HEAR FROM A WILSON STUDENT...**

The time I spent at Wilson radically improved my writing skills, critically and creatively. Wilson went out of her way to provide me with an education in the Liberal Arts and in my major and minor. My advisor allowed my voice to resound in the halls of Warfield with a rewarding final song. —JESSICA CARNES

## Concentration in Media Writing

The undergraduate concentration in Media Writing is designed for students who seek a career creating media content upon completing their bachelor's degree. This degree will prepare students to write professional content in a wide variety of styles, genres, and forms, including writing for newspapers, magazines, social media, and public relations. By the end of their program, students will understand the conventions and applications of these different genres and styles, be well-versed in varying forms of professional writing, understand the differences between appropriate print and online media forms, and demonstrate technical proficiency as writers.

### Required courses

ENG 201 Media Writing  
 ENG 3xx Practicum: News and Feature Writing  
 ENG 3xx Practicum: Social Media and Web Content  
 COM 130 Digital Communications and Design  
 COM 233 Integrated Marketing and Communications  
 COM 303 Communications Law and Ethics  
 ENG 355 Internship

Students complete their major by selecting a field of specialization with their academic advisor. To complete the specialization field, students must complete at least the minor in that subject area, though students may also complete the major to earn a double major.

Common fields of specialization fields include:

- Sports Journalism
- Photojournalism
- Health Media
- Science Media/Journalism
- Equine Journalism
- Animal Journalism

Students who wish to complete the concentration by earning a major directly in Media Writing are required to complete the following:

ENG 210 Advanced Exposition  
 ENG 325 Advanced Creative Writing: Literary Journalism  
 COM 105 Introduction to Media Communications

COM 232 Multimedia Communications and Design

or

COM 332 Web Communications and Design

Plus one class in Writing at the 200-level or higher

## **Concentration in Media Writing: Fields of Specialization**

### Sports Journalism

Sports Journalism focuses on writing and communication related to athletic events and competitions. Students in this specialization may work for newspapers or magazines, internet sites, or athletic or event organizations as communications specialists. Students interested in pursuing a focus in Sports Journalism should complete a minor in Athletic Coaching or Sports Management or double major in Sports Management.

### Photojournalism

Photojournalists use images to tell a story. They document important events of the day, sometimes in difficult situations. Students in this specialization may work for newspapers or magazines or internet sites that emphasize strong imagery. Photojournalists often work as freelancers as well. Students interested in pursuing a focus in Photojournalism should complete a double major / minor in Photography or Studio Art.

### Health Media

Health Media focuses on the communications that are a vital part of the expansive healthcare industry. This can include public relations and corporate communications. Health Media specialists often work for healthcare companies or media companies that report on the healthcare industry frequently. Students interested in pursuing a focus in Health Media should complete a double major in Nursing or Health Sciences or a minor in a Health Science field.

### Science Media/Journalism

Science Media/Journalism focuses on writing and communication related to the sciences, broadly speaking. Students in this specialization may work for companies pursuing scientific research in industry communications or for newspapers, magazines and internet sites that report on the sciences. Students interested in pursuing a focus in Science Media/Journalism should complete a double major / minor in Biology, Chemistry, Psychology, or Environmental Studies.

### Equine Journalism

Equine Journalism focuses on writing and communication related to the animal industries, broadly speaking. Students in this specialization may work for magazines and internet sites that report on equestrian or animal-related fields. Wilson has a long tradition of students completing our program in Equine Journalism, and we have graduates working at equestrian magazines and publications across the country, as well as in the equestrian industry. Students interested in pursuing a focus in Equine Journalism should complete a double major / minor in any of our equestrian fields, including Equestrian Teaching, Equestrian Training, Equine Management, and Equine Facilitated Therapeutics (major only).

### Design Your Own Specialization

Do you have another kind of media writing specialization in mind? Our program is designed to allow the student to create her/his own major. For more information, please contact the English program.



## Middle-Level and Secondary Education Certification in English

### About the Major

In keeping with the Wilson College mission as an independent liberal arts college, the Department of Teacher Education enhances those qualities that result from a liberal education by linking strong academic content to the best educational theory, research, and practice.

In preparing successful candidates for Pennsylvania Pre-K-12 certification, the Department of Teacher Education faculty not only builds close communities of students through collaborative learning in small classes but also builds partnerships with school communities through collegial dialogue, staff development opportunities, and interactive field experiences. We provide thorough, individualized advising to accommodate the diverse needs of students in the undergraduate program and the Teacher Certification Program. The Teacher Education program serves as a resource for both the college community and the community at large to model innovative educational practices that result in the highest standards of teaching.

All Education majors and certification students choose courses across a wide range of disciplines that provide the broad knowledge base required for teaching in Pennsylvania public or private schools.

### Concentration in Literary Studies for Secondary Education

The concentration in English Secondary Education is designed for students who wish to teach English in the high school setting. The concentration emphasizes breadth of learning and preparation for being in the classroom. Students will complete their program with student teaching and a certification that will allow them to teach in almost every state in the union.

#### Concentration in Literary Studies for Secondary Education

##### Required Courses

ENG 210	Advanced Exposition	3
ENG 224	Young Adult Literature	3
ENG 230	Film Analysis and History	3
	OR	
ENG 335	Film Genres and Genders	3
ENG 345	Shakespeare's Histories and Comedies	3
	OR	
ENG 346	Shakespeare's Romances and Tragedies	3
ENG 311	The English Language	3
COM 110	Effective Speaking	3
COM 105	Intro to Media Communications	3
	OR	
COM 210	Women in the Media	3
PSY 110	Introduction to Psychology	3
EDU 206	Educational Psychology	3
EDU 207	Adolescent Dvlpmnt, Cognition & Learning	3

EDU 215 Education - Students W/Special Needs	3
EDU 312 Teaching English Learners	3
EDU 332 Secondary Methods in Content	3
EDU 333 Secondary Methods in Literacy	3
EDU 341 Educational Assessment	3
EDU 348 Pre-Practicum	3
EDU 430 Special Needs Seminar	3
EDU 431 Sec English Student Teaching Practicum	12
One mathematics course	
One statistics course	

Plus 18 semester hours of English electives: Must include a minimum of four courses in literature: two in American, one in British, and one in European translation. Two of the electives may be writing courses. At least two electives must be at the 300 level. No 100-level courses count toward completion of the concentration.

### **Concentration in English/Language Arts and Reading for Middle-Level Education Certification**

#### **Required courses for all middle-level education majors**

EDU 204 Child Development, Cognition & Learning	3
EDU 206 Educational Psychology	3
EDU 215 Education - Students W/Special Needs	3
EDU 312 Teaching English Learners	3
EDU 341 Educational Assessment	3
EDU 343 Middle Level Teaching Methods	3
EDU 345 Mid Lvl-4-8 Reading, Writing, Assessment	3
EDU 348 Pre-Practicum	3
EDU 430 Special Needs Seminar	3
EDU 441 Mid Lvl English Studnt Teachng Practicum	12
EDU 443 Mid Lvl Science Studnt Teachng Practicum	12
EDU 444 Mid Lvl Social Studies Stud Teach Pract	12
EDU 445 Mid Lvl Mathematics Studnt Teachng Pract	12
MAT 115 Introductory Statistics	3
OR	
PSY 115 Understanding Statistics	3

Two non-credit workshops in technology and code of conduct

### **Middle-Level Certification in English/Language Arts and Reading**

In addition to completing the courses above, each student must fulfill the major requirements for the English/Language Arts subject area of middle-level certification.

ENG 311 The English Language	3
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ENG 213 American Literature I	3
ENG 214 American Literature II	3
ENG 224 Young Adult Literature	3
2xx/3xx 2 English Electives	6
COM 105 Intro to Media Communications	3
OR	
COM 220 Interpersonal Communication	3
MAT 103 College Algebra	3
MAT 110 Pre-Calculus Mathematics	3
MAT 115 Introductory Statistics	3
MAT 130 Calc & Analytic Geometry I	4
BIO 101 General Biology I	4
BIO 102 General Biology II	4
PHY 112 Contemporary Physical/Earth Science	3
ENV 115 Intro to Environmental Science I	3
ECO 105 Consumer Economics	3
PS 120 American Government	3
HIS 124 American History to 1865	3
HIS 125 American History - 1865 to 1945	3



*Dr. Lisa Woolley teaching English education students.*

## Department Course Catalogue

### Courses in English

*Completion of a Foundations course in English is a prerequisite for any 200-level course in English. Completion of a 200-level English or any LIT-designation course or the instructor's permission is a prerequisite for any 300-level course in English. Specific course prerequisites are listed underneath the course description.*

#### Foundations Course

##### **ENG 108 College Writing**

Emphasizes principles and practice of effective writing, reflection on composition as a process, thinking and organizational skills at the college level, and preparation for academic research papers.

**EAP Foundations Courses** (for English as a Second Language students only)

##### **ENG 103 EAP: Communication and Combined Language Skills**

A course designed for international students who wish to work on multiple aspects of language and culture while living in the United States. It will cover listening, speaking, reading, writing, academic skills, and American culture. Offered Fall. CC



##### **ENG 104 EAP: English Composition in an Academic Environment**

A composition course designed for non-native English-speaking students. The course explores English for academic purposes with particular attention to the complexity of contrasting argumentation styles found in comparative rhetoric. The student will focus on the particulars of micro and macro elements of academic writing aimed at a native-speaking audience. These elements will include, but are not limited to, syntax, semantics, organization, rhetoric and argumentation. In an effort to ensure that students know how to use their academic writing for research purposes, the course will also introduce related skills such as drafting article/literature reviews, research skills, paper organization, outlining, note taking, summarizing, paraphrasing, and citation. Normally taken concurrently with ENG 103. Students who complete ENG 104 must also complete ENG 106 in the following Spring semester. Prerequisite: English Placement.

##### **ENG 106 EAP: Academic Research Writing**

A research and composition course designed for non-native English-speaking students. The course will emphasize distinct areas of planning, conducting, and writing for an independent research project. These areas will include: topic selection, thesis generation, research skills, primary and secondary source selection, validation of sources, draft and detailed outlining, literature reviews, interviewing techniques, questionnaire generation, introductory and concluding sections, effective use of work by other authors and researchers, organized presentation of findings, and well-supported argumentation and analysis. Offered Spring. Prerequisite: ENG 104. WI

##### **ARS 095 Applied Reading Strategies**

Emphasis on reading strategies for academic texts, relationships between reading and writing, and reflection on the student's own learning process.

### **Courses in Writing and Language**

#### **ENG 115 Writing about Literary Genres**

Writing-intensive introduction to the histories, conventions, methods, and pleasures of particular literary genres. The focus varies from year to year but could include poetry, drama, fiction, autobiography, popular literature, and combinations thereof. The course demonstrates the interdependency of writing, learning, and interpretation. Prerequisite: Foundations course. LIT, WI

*Recent offerings in 115 have included Poetry, Short Story, Gothic Literature, The Graphic Novel, and Horror Literature and Film*

#### **ENG 185 Writing about Literature and the Environment**

Writing-intensive approach to nature writing. Emphasizes composition, critical thinking, literary analysis, and reflection on the natural world. Prerequisite: Foundations course. ES, WI, LIT

#### **ENG 201 Media Writing**

Development of journalistic skills required by newspaper writing, magazine writing, and writing for online source content, including principles of interviewing, reporting, and editing. WI

#### **ENG 210 Advanced Exposition**

Development of expository writing skills at an advanced level across academic curriculum and/or disciplines. Applications of advanced rhetorical techniques to several expository genres. WI

#### **ENG 212 Technical Writing**

Examination of and practice in technical writing. Emphasis on developing effective style after analysis of purpose and audience. Analyses and assignments in formulating definitions, mechanical and process descriptions, reports, proposals, and technical presentations. WI

#### **ENG 220 Creative Writing**

Introduces students to techniques and skills in writing the four major genres of creative writing: poetry, fiction, drama, and creative non-fiction. Class will consist of craft exercises, critical renderings of others' work, self-reflective analysis, and the completion of four distinct projects in portfolio format. ART, WI

#### **ENG 311/511 The English Language**

Examination of the structural, historical, and ethical expansion of the English language. Course subjects include phonetics, morphemics, and syntax; the anthropological and transhistorical development of the language; and the relationship of the language to society, economics, and politics.

#### **ENG 321/521 Advanced Creative Writing: Poetry**

Intensive study and practice in the creation of poetic writing, including detailed craft and skill-building instruction, written and oral peer-critiquing, self-reflective analysis, regular examination of contemporary theoretical trends in creative writing poetry, and the completion of several significant projects. Prerequisite for 300-level course: ENG 220. ART

#### **ENG 323/523 Advanced Creative Writing: Fiction**

Intensive study and practice in the creation of prose fiction, including detailed craft and skill-building instruction, written and oral peer-critiquing, self-reflective analysis, regular examination of contemporary theoretical trends in creative writing fiction, and the completion of several significant projects. Prerequisite for 300-level course: ENG 220. ART

**ENG 325/525 Topics in Creative Writing**

Intensive study and practice in the creation of specific genres of creative writing, including detailed craft and skill-building instruction, written and oral peer-critiquing, self-reflective analysis, regular examination of contemporary theoretical trends in the specific creative writing field, and the completion of several significant projects. Prerequisite for 300-level course: ENG 220 or ENG 201 or HSC 222 and permission of the instructor. ART

*Topics include Creative Non-Fiction, Literary Journalism, and Drama*

**ENG 360/560 Language and Culture**

This course focuses on the interconnected relationship of language to culture, including exploring issues of cultural identity, acculturation and resistance, ethnocentrism, medial diffusion, and language study. CD

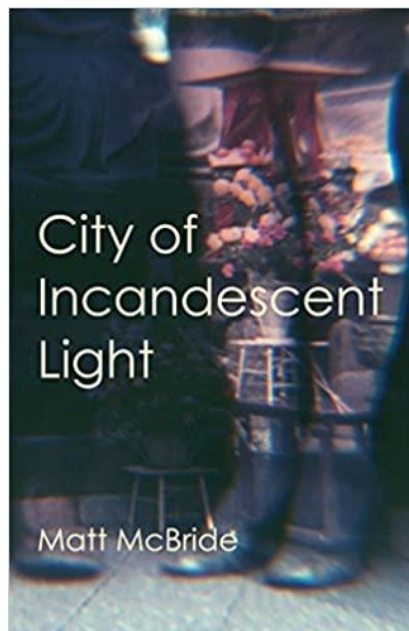
**ENG 361/561 Applied Linguistics for TESOL**

This course studies language as an integrative system of component parts. Students gain both a theoretical grounding and an understanding of scaffolding content for English language learners, including exploring learner strategies. Topics include syntactic structure, the English sound system, oral and written language variation, and pragmatics and semantics.

**ENG 499 Project in Creative Writing**

Students will work to put together a literary magazine, learning the fundamentals of selecting manuscripts, editing work, design, and layout, as well as compose two projects in their chosen genre which they will submit for publication. Students will also complete a self-reflexive study. Prerequisite: ENG 321/323/325.

*Book by Wilson Faculty  
Dr. Matthew McBride.*



## Courses in Literature



### **ENG 204 Women Writers**

Examines themes, techniques, goals, and historical contexts of women's literary production. LIT, WS, WI

### **ENG 213 American Literature I**

The intellectual and cultural milieu of the American "New World" as revealed in the prose and poetry—including that of Native Americans and African-Americans—produced between the early 1600s and the mid-1800s and culminating in a distinctive American literature. HWC, LIT, WI

### **ENG 214 American Literature II**

The development of American literature from the later 19th century through 1945. Emphasizes the intellectual, social and aesthetic concerns that have shaped American fiction, poetry and drama. HWC, LIT, WI

### **ENG 215 Major Writings of the European Tradition I**

Students will read authors whose works have strongly influenced Western culture: e.g., Sappho, Homer, Sophocles, Plato, Aristotle, Dante, Boccaccio, and Voltaire. Discussion topics include the history of ideas, the construction/critique of a canonical tradition, and the self in society. FWC, LIT, WI

### **ENG 216 Major Writings of the European Tradition II**

Students will read authors whose works have strongly influenced modernity: e.g., Wollstonecraft, Austen, Flaubert, Dostoyevsky, Kafka, Woolf, and Freud. Discussion topics include the romanticism-realism conflict, the critique of patriarchy, and the emergence of the unconscious. HWC, LIT, WI

### **ENG 224 Young Adult Literature**

Survey of literature written for and about young adults. Critical reading of young adult literature by genre (e.g. realistic fiction, modern fantasy, historical fiction, nonfiction, and poetry) focusing on authors who have made significant contributions to the field, as well as on criteria for selecting works of proven literary merit for use in a secondary school classroom. LIT, WI

### **ENG 230 Film Analysis and History**

Students will analyze film using the elements of *mise en scène*. Technical discussions of film production and reception are supported by in-class screening of movies by such directors as Keaton, Welles, Hawks, Ford, Hitchcock, De Sica, Kazan, Lee, and Scott. Discussion topics include film history, genres, and criticism. ART, WI

### **ENG 234 The English Novel**

The genre examined through critical reading of novels from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, including works by Austen, Dickens, Stevenson, Ford, Conrad, and Woolf. HWC, LIT, WI

### **ENG 236 British Literature 1200-1700**

An intense examination of the literature and especially the changes in the forms of national literature of Britain from 1200 to 1700. Authors read may include the Gawain-poet, William Langland, Julian of Norwich, Christopher Marlowe, Mary Wroth, John Donne, and Ben Jonson. FWC, LIT, WI



**ENG 239/339 African-American Literature**

Introduces the diversity and intertextuality of the African-American literary tradition. Includes major writers, periods, and genres. CD, LIT, WI

**ENG 270/370/570 Topics in Literary Studies and Writing**

In-depth study of a limited body of literature unified by author, theme, or historical period. Emphasis on the relationship of literature to social and cultural history. LIT, WI (*For titles and descriptions of courses periodically offered under this rubric, please check the end of this section.*)

**ENG 270/370/570 Topics: Advanced Genre Study**

Writing-intensive study of classical, modern, and postmodern literary genres. Emphasis on the development of genres, new approaches in genre criticism, and the historical bases of literary production and reception. The individual genres studied will vary over time but may include poetry, drama, melodrama, autobiography, gothic fiction, and popular literature, as well as the representation of such literatures in film. LIT, WI (*For titles and descriptions of courses periodically offered under this rubric, please check the end of this section.*)

**ENG 270/370/570 Topics: Major Authors**

Intensive, historical study of a major author or writer. Representative authors might include Chaucer, Milton, Burns, Austen, Dickens, Darwin, Freud, James, Cather, Joyce, Woolf, and Morrison. LIT, WI (*For titles and descriptions of courses periodically offered under this rubric, please check the end of this section.*)

**ENG 317/517 American Literature Since 1945**

New directions in poetry, drama, fiction and literary innovations in the context of international conflict, feminism, environmentalism, civil rights, and gay rights. CD, LIT, WI

**ENG 318/518 Chaucer**

Detailed analysis and study of *The Canterbury Tales*. Includes close, critical readings of the original Middle English text and examination of the social, political, and cultural climate in which Chaucer composed. FWC, LIT

**ENG 333/533 Topics: Multicultural Environmental Literature**

This course examines inequality in access to natural resources and the wealth they produce, exposure to toxins, and participation in environmental decision making as represented in literature by Native American, African-American, Latino, and Asian-American authors. CD, ES, WI

**ENG 335/535 Film Genres and Genders**

Historical study of Hollywood film genres and their relation to dichotomous gender. Emphasis on the genres of screwball comedy, maternal melodrama, and film noir. Representative directors may include Hawks, Sturges, Rapper, Dmytryk, Ray, Hitchcock, and Aldrich. ART, WS, WI



**ENG 345/545 Shakespeare's Histories and Comedies**

Critical reading of representative histories and comedies, including a strong theoretical approach to the texts. HWC, LIT, WI

**ENG 346/546 Shakespeare's Tragedies and Romances**

Critical reading of representative tragedies, romances, and genres, including a thorough introduction to Shakespeare and his sonnets. LIT, WI

**ENG 3xx Practicum: News and Feature Writing**

Practicum-based course where students work for the campus newspaper *The Billboard* and the *Wilson Magazine*. Students advance their knowledge of journalistic writing, copyediting, design and layout for print publications. Pre-req: ENG 201 and junior standing

**ENG 3xx Practicum: Social Media and Web Content**

Practicum-based course where students work for campus communications offices, creating content for social media, websites, and other marketing materials. Students advance their knowledge of online content creation, monitoring and filtering online content, and brand creation. Pre-req: ENG 201 and junior standing

**ENG 380/580 Literary and Cultural Interpretation**

In-depth study of developments in the history of interpretation. Representative methods include hermeneutics, feminism, psychoanalysis, and semiotics. FT, HWC, LIT

**ENG 400 Assessment Portfolio in Literary Studies**

A study in writing and reflection, the Assessment Portfolio in Literary Studies course will impart the advanced rhetorical and critical skills that will enable a student to demonstrate mastery of the department's assessment criteria. Taken concurrently with a senior-level Shakespeare class in the spring semester. Pre-requisite: senior standing in English or instructor's permission. Co-requisite: ENG 345 or ENG 346. 1 semester hour

Courses periodically offered under the 270/370 rubric include:

**ENG 270/370 Topics: Arthurian Literature and Film**

Intensive study of the origins and development of the Arthurian myth in English and continental European literature through to the modern day. Authors read include Malory, Geoffrey of Monmouth, Gildas, the Gawain poet, White, Tennyson, Zimmer Bradley. FWC, LIT, WI

**ENG 270/370 Topics: Gay and Lesbian Literature**

A comprehensive look at the depictions of gay men and lesbians in the western literary tradition from the Middle Ages through the modern day, with an emphasis on how these depictions change over time. Authors read might include Marlowe, Barnfield, Lyly, Hall, Winterson, Brown. CD, LIT, WI

**ENG 270/370 Topics: Twentieth-Century American Poetry**

Twentieth-century poets clashed over questions of expressivity, performance, objectivity, and subject, leaving behind a spectacular variety of subjects, forms, and purposes for this genre. This course explores twentieth-century conflicts over the very nature of poetry and examines poems from different movements and traditions. LIT, WI

**ENG 270/370 Topics: Charles Dickens**

An in-depth examination of the works of this seminal British writer. LIT, WI

### **ENG 270/370 Topics: Women Writers of the Middle Ages and Renaissance**

This course is designed to make students intimately familiar with women's writing from the Middle Ages through the Renaissance in both England and Continental Europe. By the end of this class, students should be able to understand what women were writing about in these eras, the conditions under which they wrote, why they wrote, and how their writing was received by the society as a whole. Represented authors include Marie de France, Anna Comnena, Margery Kempe, Julian of Norwich, Mary Astell, Mary Wroth, Aemilia Lanyer, and Elizabeth Cary. LIT, WS, WI

### **ENG 270 Girls' School Series Literature**

Examines the genre of the girls' school book series in order explore literary developments (the rise of the adolescent heroine) and cultural issues (the development of women's education and changing roles for women) through key historical periods (late-Victorian, Progressive Era, mid-century, late century) and theoretical perspectives (feminist theory, queer theory, Marxism). LIT, WS, WI

### **ENG 270/370/570 Topics: Nineteenth-Century Women Writers**

Examines British and American women's imprint on the novel, the short story, and the slave narrative. Studies of texts in relation to the social and intellectual milieu of the nineteenth century. LIT, WS, WI

### **ENG 270/370/570 Topics: Fiction and Film Noir**

A study of hard-boiled fiction and crime films that focuses on the figures of the private detective and the femme fatale (i.e., fatal woman). Representative authors include Dashiell Hammett, Raymond Chandler, Chester Himes, and Walter Mosley. In-class screening of *films noir* by such directors as John Huston, Billy Wilder, Fritz Lang, Jacques Tourneur, Ida Lupino, Rob Rafelson, and Carl Franklin. ART, LIT, WI

### **ENG 270/370/570 Topics: Robert Burns**

A comprehensive look at the poetical works and influence of Scottish poet Robert Burns. Course includes intensive study of Burns' work plus critical discussion of his poetry. HWC, LIT, WI

### **ENG 270/370/570 Topics: Christopher Marlowe**

Intense study of the works of a seminal Renaissance playwright. Plays examined include *Tamburlaine 1 and 2*, *Dr. Faustus*, *The Jew of Malta*, and *Edward II*. Course also includes study of the author's poetry (including *Hero and Leander*) and films based on Marlowe's works and themes. HWC, LIT, WI



*Books by recent English program alums*



**Meet Our Faculty!** The English faculty are dedicated to shaping students who excel in critical writing, critical reading, and critical thinking. The faculty work diligently to ensure each student's success and work hard with the students to help them achieve their career and graduate school goals. You can use the pages below to learn more about the department's faculty, their interests and accomplishments, and what functions they serve in the department.

**Dr. Michael G. Cornelius**

**Professor of English**

michael.cornelius@wilson.edu

Warfield 109



Dr. Cornelius received his Ph.D. from the University of Rhode Island. He specializes in early British literature, teaching courses that include Chaucer, British Literature 1200-1700, Arthurian literature and film, Shakespeare, The English Language, and seminars on Robert Burns and gay and lesbian literature. Professor Cornelius is a recognized expert on Nancy Drew and juvenile detective literature. He has published in numerous journals, including *Fifteenth-Century Studies*, *Studies in Medieval and Renaissance Teaching*, *CLUES*, *White Crane Journal*, *The Delta Epsilon Sigma Journal*, *Pennsylvania Literary Journal*, *EAPSU Journal*, *Magazine Americana*, and *SCOTIA: A Journal of Scottish Studies*. He is the author/editor of twenty books, including *Edward II and a Literature of Same-Sex Love: The Gay King in Fiction, 1590-1640* (2016); *Spartacus in the Television Arena: Essays on the Starz' Series* (2014); *The Sex Is Out of This World: Essays on the Carnal Side of Science Fiction* (co-editor, Sherry Ginn, 2012); *Of Muscles and Men: Essays on the Sword and Sandal Film* (2011); *The Boy Detectives: Essays on the Hardy Boys and Others* (2010); *Nancy Drew and Her Sister Sleuths: Essays on the Fiction of Girl Detectives* (co-editor, Melanie Gregg, 2008); and three volumes in Harold Bloom's classical studies series: *John Donne and the Metaphysical Poets* (2008); *Geoffrey Chaucer* (2007); and *Shakespeare Through the Ages: Much Ado About Nothing* (2010).

Dr. Cornelius is also an award-winning novelist, penning the works *Creating Man* (Vineyard Press, 2001) and *The Ascension* (Variance Books, 2008). His most recent works include *The Snow Vampire* (Dreamspinner Press, 2012), the short story collection *Tricks and Treats* (MLR Press, 2012), and *The Bibliophile* (9St Press, 2018). He has also published short fiction in numerous journals, magazines, and anthologies, including *Velvet Mafia*, *The Egg Box*, *Icarus*, *Collective Fallout*, *The Spillway Review*, *Future Mysterious Anthology Magazine*, *CreamDrops*, and others.

Dr. Cornelius also organizes the annual Writers Series and is the current chair of the Faculty Senate.

**Laura Biesecker**

**Instructor of EAP/ESL**

laura.biesecker@wilson.edu

Warfield 002



Laura Biesecker teaches English as a Second Language. She received her B.A. in Intellectual History from the University of Pennsylvania and her M.A. TESOL from The American University. Professor Biesecker has returned to the local area after living and working in Hungary for thirteen years and is thrilled to be back "at

home” working with Wilson's international students. Professor Biesecker's work in teaching English as a Foreign Language grew out of her desire in the late 1980s to help recent immigrants to the U.S. become acclimated and gain confidence in their new home.

Her sights later turned to teaching abroad. Professor Biesecker soon found herself teaching in a Hungarian High School Military Academy. As an eager student of the Soviet period, this placement was a fascinating adventure into a post-Soviet time. During those thirteen years, Professor Biesecker served as an ESL intern for the Center for Immigration Policy and Refugee Assistance and later as a fellow of the National Security Education Program. She was most recently the Director of the Language Teaching Center at Central European University in Budapest. While at CEU Professor Biesecker had the opportunity to work with students and faculty hailing from more than 25 countries and initiated CEU's first intensive writing program in English for Academic Purposes. Today, she enjoys focusing on comparative rhetoric as it applies to the contrasts and similarities among various language groups. As such, she is very excited to be teaching an international group of students at Wilson and helping non-native speakers of English further develop their own voice in another language.

Professor Biesecker has a wide range of interests and hobbies that include dance, music, sports, and travel. Professor Biesecker was a Special English writer for the Voice of America's Special English program broadcast from Washington, DC, a CNN intern, and a paralegal in telecommunications law.

**Dr. Matthew Diltz McBride**  
**Assistant Professor**  
 matthew.mcbride@wilson.edu  
 Warfield 008

Dr. Matthew Diltz McBride received his Ph.D. from the University of Cincinnati, his M.F.A. from Bowling Green State University, and his B.A. from Capital University. He specializes in composition and creative writing. His first book, *City of Incandescent Light*, was published by Black Lawrence Press in May 2018. He is the recipient of a Devine Fellowship, a George Elliston Fellowship, an Ohio Arts Council Grant, and a Writers in the Heartland residency. His scholarly interests include composition pedagogy, cultural theory, Marxism, and psychoanalysis (specifically the intersections with psychoanalysis and social media). Further, Dr. McBride spends his summers teaching at an agricultural college in Wuhan, China and has been studying Mandarin Chinese for an undetermined end. Undergirding all of these disparate interests, however, is an examination of the ways we express ourselves through language and other media and the ways language and other media express us.



**Dr. Larry Shillock**  
**Professor of English**  
 larry.shillock@wilson.edu  
 Warfield 209

A Professor of English, Larry Shillock earned his B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities.

Dr. Shillock has published in the areas of critical theory, the modern novel, and film studies. He has contributed chapters to volumes on science fiction and the

sword and sandal film, both of which were edited by Michael G. Cornelius. His most recent publications include “The Global and Local Femme Fatale in *The Maltese Falcon: A Reappraisal*” (*Philological Papers*, 2012), “The Walking Flesh: Zombies, Narrative Desire, and the Apostle Paul’s Anxious Account of Embodiment” (*The Journal of Cultural and Religious Theory*, 2014), and “*Black Widow*, Gender Criticism, and the Narrative Agency of the *Femme Fatale*” (*Interdisciplinary Humanities*, 2016). He is also a frequent contributor to *The Bloomsbury Review*, where he writes on an array of topics, including aesthetics, English studies, classical Hollywood cinema, gender, the history of the novel, and teaching. A previous holder of the Drusilla Stevens Mazur Research Professorship, he received the Assessment Award for Faculty in 2012 and the Donald F. Bletz Award for Teaching in 2013. He is currently working on a book project that reassesses the role of the femme fatale in film noir.

Dr. Shillock teaches courses in British literature and composition and on subjects spanning Homer to Homer Simpson. His hobbies—backpacking, bird watching, fly fishing, mountain biking, orchid hunting, and solar-home design—more closely resemble obsessions. Each summer, he can be found at his house in Montana near Yellowstone Park, which he co-designed and built.

**Dr. Lisa Woolley**  
**Professor of English**

lisa.woolley@wilson.edu  
 Warfield 203

A Professor of English, Dr. Woolley received her B.A. from Augustana College and her M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Minnesota.

She is author of *American Voices of the Chicago Renaissance* (Northern Illinois University Press), “Racial and Ethnic Semiosis in Mitsuye Yamada’s ‘Mrs. Higashi Is Dead’” (*MELUS*), “Vachel Lindsay’s Crusade for Cultural Literacy” (*MidAmerica*), “From Chicago Renaissance to Chicago Renaissance: The Poetry of Fenton Johnson” (*Langston Hughes Review*), “Two Chicago Renaissances with Harlem Between Them” (*Other Renaissances*), and “Richard Wright’s Dogged Pursuit of his Place in the Natural World” (*ISLE: Interdisciplinary Studies in Literature and Environment*).

Dr. Woolley teaches courses in American literature, women’s literature, composition, and Environmental Studies. Her hobbies include bird watching, hiking, bicycling, and knitting.



**Part-time instructors:**

**Peter Cullen Bryan** received his Ph.D. in American Studies at Penn State University. His areas of study include American Studies, Intercultural Communications, and 21st Century American culture, emphasizing comic art and fan communities. His Master’s thesis considers Windsor McCay’s role in the genesis of comics as a genre, and his dissertation focuses on the cultural impact of Donald Duck comics in Germany, emphasizing Erika Fuchs’s translations. He hopes to one day trace the journeys of Scrooge McDuck himself and see how reality stacks up to the legend.

**Laura Dessel** has a Bachelor's and a Master's degree in Education from Shippensburg University. Dessel has an extensive background in helping students with study skills. As a reading specialist with the Chambersburg Area School District, she has created study skills lessons focusing on test taking strategies, time management, and organizational skills. Also, she has developed lessons for note taking techniques and how to read a textbook. Dessel has worked with a variety of study skill programs and has developed curriculum for Study Skill classes, SSR Classes, RtII, and ELA Intervention Classes. She has mentored numerous teachers in the Franklin County New Teachers Mentor Program and was honored in 2011 with the Outstanding Teacher Award from the Shippensburg University Study Council.

**Adam Ellerbrock** received his Master's in Humanities from Wilson College and his B.A. from Greenville College. Adam has selective teaching and tutoring experience, and is also a published scholar, with his essay on *Westworld* forthcoming in an anthology from McFarland Press.

**Mark Erwin**, a native of south-central Pennsylvania, received his B.A. from Shippensburg University, where he majored in English and minored in Ethnic Studies, and his M.F.A. in Creative Writing-Fiction from the University of Memphis. He has been teaching various writing and literature courses for over ten years. His areas of interest/study include writing, in all its forms, the short story, and modernism. He has been writing a weekly outdoors/humor newspaper column for over five years.

**Robin Herring** earned her Bachelor of Arts degree, majoring in Mass Communications, from Wilson College in 2007. In addition to earning magna cum laude honors, she was awarded the Grace Tyson Schlichter Award in Communications and the Wilson College Political Science Prize. Robin received the Wilson College Award for Volunteer Service to the Community in 2006 and the Wilson College Award for Service to the Students in 2010. In 2012, Robin received Wilson College Alumnae Association Outstanding Young Alumna Award. She is the current President of the Wilson College Club of Franklin County.

**Susan P. Livermore** earned her Bachelor's Degree in Secondary Education, Communications: Writing and Literature at Bloomsburg State College and her Master's Degree in English at Millersville University. She has taught grade 3 and English 7-12, as well as various writing and literature courses at local community colleges, state universities, private colleges, and proprietary institutions. Her non-academic interests include reading, baking, and engaging in family activities.

**Jessica Moore** has been teaching English composition and literature for about four years. She received her BA in English from Penn State University and her MA in English from Southern New Hampshire University. She lives in Huntingdon County, PA, with her husband Andy and their Great Dane, Ragnar. She is an avid reader and still reads about two books a week. There is nothing that Jessica enjoys doing as much as teaching English, and she looks forward to working with new students every semester.

**Marybeth Richards** earned her B.A. in English: Literary Studies and her M.A. in Humanities with a Concentration in English Language and Literature from Wilson College. Before enrolling in the master's program at Wilson, Marybeth was a guest teacher for the local school district and a professional writing tutor for Pearson Company. Taken together, these positions thoroughly prepared her for her role as a graduate assistant in Wilson's Writing Lab, which, in turn, helped prepare her to teach at Wilson. Inspired by feminist literary criticism and women writers, Marybeth's scholarship explores issues of consent and sexual violence in young adult literature,

which she has presented at the Virginia Humanities Conference (2017) and the Global Status of Women and Girls Conference (2018).

**Linda Swartz** received her Ed.D. from the University of Maryland, her M.S. from the State University of New York at Geneseo, and her B.A. from Houghton College. She also holds a Reading Supervisory Certification from Shippensburg University. Before coming to Wilson, Dr. Swartz completed a 37-year career in public education and also taught at a local community college. Dr. Swartz is the first college reading specialist hired by Wilson College and hopes to be a valuable resource to students. She believes that the teaching of reading comprehension is intertwined with the teaching of study skills.

**Abigail Thornton** is a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Linguistics at the University of Connecticut. Her dissertation investigates cross-linguistic generalizations in morphology and its interfaces with phonology and syntax. Abigail's goal as a researcher is to unify the grammatical concept of a word across morphological frameworks. She received her Master's Degree in Linguistics from the University of Connecticut in 2016 after completing her Bachelor's Degree in English at the University of New Hampshire. Her manuscript, "Agreeing in Number: Verbal Plural Suppletion and Reduplication," was recently accepted for publication in the special issue, "Roots in Context," in *The Linguistic Review*.

**Amy Watson** received her M.S. in Reading Specialization from Hood College and her B.A. in English with Secondary Education Certification from Shippensburg University. Her previous teaching experience includes nine years in public education with Frederick County Public Schools. Most recently, Amy has also taught community college courses. She looks forward to sharing her love of learning and literacy with students at Wilson College.

*Need to contact your professor? All Wilson emails are [firstname.lastname@wilson.edu](mailto:firstname.lastname@wilson.edu)*

## Student Media and Department Clubs at Wilson

### STUDENT MEDIA



*The Wilson Billboard* is a student-run newspaper that depends on the students first and foremost. *The Billboard* presents campus news and is a forum for the free exchange of ideas, offering space for all types of reports, commentary, and artistic expression, whether from the students, the Wilson Community, or outside subscribers. For the readers, it strives to be a succinct summary and sounding board of campus events; for its contributors, it is an exercise in creativity and technique.

Each edition brings editorials, feature stories, photographs, and sports articles designed to keep the readers interested and informed. It is published tri-weekly during the school year. Students participate in *The Billboard* as a club, work on it as part of their courses, or can even work for *The Billboard* as work study.

*The Bottom Shelf Review* is Wilson College's literary magazine. Run by and for Wilson students, the magazine publishes the best in prose, poetry, and drama by the Wilson community. To learn more about *The Bottom Shelf Review*, or to read the current issue, visit the program website.

### HEAR FROM A WILSON STUDENT...

My time as Editor-in-chief of the *Wilson Billboard* not only enhanced my abilities as a creative writer but prepared me for the challenges I would face in the workforce. I learned how to collaborate with others of diverse backgrounds and skills, as well as the value of time management in the face of tight deadlines. My work with the *Billboard* helped me to realize my potential, and in turn I developed confidence and valuable leadership skills that will last a lifetime. -KIMBERLY MASKE-MERTZ



### The Wilson College Writers Series

Each semester, the program in English sponsors poets, novelists, prose writers, or creative non-fiction authors to visit campus and present readings of their latest works. These writers also conduct master classes for majors. Past writers presented in the series have included Scott Hightower, John Gery, Richard Katrovas, Diane Vance, and Laurel Black. The readings are announced at the beginning of each semester and are free and open to the public. To learn more about the Writers Series, visit the program website.

In addition to the Writers Series, the department sponsors field trips to lectures, theater, conferences, and other events.



## Internships

Internships present an amazing opportunity for students to gain real-world professional experience, to strengthen their portfolios with published writing samples, materials, or on-air clips, and to get a taste of potential career opportunities. In our department, internships are required for some concentrations, but internships experiences are open to any student in any major. They are designed to give students hands-on experience working for a business, organization, or, in some cases, an individual professional. Students register for the internship for college credit (ENG 355), complete tasks assigned to them by the supervisor at their site, and submit materials to the faculty director in order to document their learning. Internships require at least 120 hours of work for the site. They may be undertaken in any semester after the junior year (including summer) at a location chosen by the student in conjunction with the faculty director and the Director of Career Services.

Department majors have interned for newspapers, radio and television stations, non-profit organizations, corporate public relations and communications offices, and even acted as research assistants for prominent authors and scholars. English majors should choose a business or organization where they can complete several pieces of professional writing. Some of the hours at the internship may include research and attending meetings, but both the student and the supervisor should keep professional writing as the focus. In the past, interns have written press releases, news articles, newsletters, websites, pamphlets, fliers, user manuals, and research summaries.

- To document their learning, interns in English typically submit a portfolio of writing produced for the site and a journal that includes reflections on the experience and the student's career goals.
- To enroll in an internship, begin the following process early in the semester prior to the term in which you plan to serve as an intern.
- Attend the Internship 101 workshop sponsored by the Career Development Center and pick up the internship packet.
- Write a resume and submit it to the Director of Career Development.
- Meet with Dr. Lisa Woolley to discuss your goals for the internship.
- With the help of the Director of Career Development, look for sites at which you could intern.
- Contact potential sites and complete their interview process.
- Complete the paperwork required by Wilson College; it will need to be signed by your academic advisor, Dr. Woolley, the Director of Career Development, the supervisor at your site, and the registrar.
- Students are strongly encouraged to attend a workshop on creating e-portfolios.

Most students learn a great deal about themselves and their chosen field while interning. Below are a few difficulties that students sometimes encounter and tips for handling them

- *Despite their best intentions, site supervisors occasionally cannot find time to give the intern assignments.* If your site supervisor seems to have disappeared, contact your faculty director to see if some gentle nudging from the faculty member will help.
- *The supervisor gives the student assignments, but they do not seem to take very long and then there is nothing else to do.* Be prepared to take some initiative. If the site supervisor is temporarily out of work for you, take some time to learn more about the business or organizations of this type. Your research may prepare you to take on new kinds of assignments.
- *The supervisor is not providing much feedback about the intern's performance.* All supervisors will fill out an evaluation of the intern at midterm. Meanwhile, realize that in the workplace employees often do not receive a great deal of feedback, unless something

is going wrong! Remember, too, that in most cases supervisors will not consider themselves teachers. They will not be expecting to go over drafts of your work carefully and then make detailed suggestions. In terms of editing for grammar and punctuation, they often will be expecting you to be the expert.

- *The supervisor does not seem to know much about handling others' intellectual property.* Interns can not be expected to be experts in copyright law. Be aware, however, that, in the writing you produce for the site, simply listing the source of images or reprinted materials may not be enough to satisfy legal requirements. Be especially careful about using others' intellectual property. Alert your supervisor if you think the business or organization where you are interning will need to obtain permission or pay a fee in order to reproduce an image or extensive quotation in a project you are doing for them.

Internships are usually tremendous experiences for Wilson students. Some have resulted in job offers; all have broadened the horizons of the students who completed them. Careful preparation can ensure that your internship experience is a positive one.



### **HEAR FROM A WILSON STUDENT...**

#### **XIAOMENG LI**

*Xiaomeng Li completed an internship at Pittsburgh Magazine in Pittsburgh, PA, where she worked as an article researcher, fact-checker, and even wrote for both the print and on-line versions of the magazine.*

I felt fortunate to work at *Pittsburgh Magazine* because, unlike some heavily commercial-driven magazines, it provides a lot of useful information and everyone in the office puts a lot of effort to make the magazine a pleasant read. As an intern, I realized how difficult and time-consuming it is to publish a monthly magazine with all those interesting, exciting, and informative articles and pictures. Everyone had his or her particular job in the office, but in the end when everything came together, I could see the diligent teamwork that made all the efforts worthwhile. This internship also helped me think about my future. I also worked at the local newspaper the *Public Opinion*—last winter, and now having worked both at a newspaper and a magazine, I have a fair understanding of these two different aspects of the print media industry.

## **Studying Abroad as an English Major**

The department faculty encourages our students to go abroad! Study Shakespeare in Stratford-on-Avon. Learn about emerging media in the Far East. Combine your study of journalism and equestrian overseas. Go abroad for a semester, a summer session, or even a January-term class with a Wilson faculty member and fellow students! Wilson faculty occasionally teach summer coursework in Montreal; other recent Wilson classes abroad have visited Jamaica, Belize, Costa Rica, and Great Britain. At Wilson College, study abroad opportunities abound.

Wilson College has a summer partnership exchange programs with Seoul Women's Universities in Korea. Students may also participate in the many study abroad programs during a semester, summer, or the year through a partnership with Cultural Experiences Abroad (CEA). CEA Programs to England are especially popular with our majors, but CEA offers dozens of study abroad opportunities worldwide.

Travel opportunities are also possible here in the United States. Wilson students regularly participate in the Washington Semester consortium program which includes an internship and

coursework in Washington D.C. Students have special housing and are eligible for scholarships for this program. Other students in the department have completed internships and coursework in New York City, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Baltimore, and Washington, D.C.

To learn more about study abroad at Wilson, contact the Study Abroad Coordinator, Crystal Lantz, Director of International Scholar Services.

## **Graduate School**

Many English majors from Wilson go on to graduate school. Our students have been accepted into some of the finest institutions of study across the country, including Columbia University, Princeton University, New York University, and many more. Students also attend Wilson's own M.A. in Humanities program, often concentrating in the English Language and Literature area, or Wilson's MFA in Creative Writing. Our students also attend graduate school in a wide variety of fields. One of the great strengths of the English major at Wilson is our in-depth study of critical writing and critical thinking skills. The faculty work with the students to find schools and programs that provide good fits for their academic interests and aspirations. Recent graduates have gone on to study literature, rhetoric and composition, creative writing, communications, journalism, media theory, law, social work, religious studies, divinity and pastoral care, women's studies, and sociology.

## **Careers in English**

Wilson graduates do exceptionally well in the work force. During the department's last self-study nearly one hundred percent of majors in all concentrations of English reported working in careers that required college degrees, and all but one expressed strong job satisfaction. (This does not include the students who went directly into graduate school. In English, about 45% of our students go directly into graduate study within a year of completing their degree). The faculty and staff of the department, with the assistance of the Career Services Office, amongst others, do their best to aid students in the search for jobs that are fulfilling and meaningful to each student's values and aspirations. Recent graduates work for government environmental agencies, non-profit organizations, religious organizations, institutions of secondary and higher learning, media organizations, in corporate America and in numerous other facets of industry.

Recent graduates from Wilson are currently working as...

- a professor of English at a small liberal arts college.
- an account executive for a television news program.
- a full-time public relations and production assistant in the newsroom of a radio station.
- a diagnostic/prognostic researcher for a software development company.
- middle and secondary school teachers at public and private institutions.
- director of a university Writing and Learning Resource Center.
- a human resources director.
- a poet.
- a social media coordinator for a college communications office.
- an associate at a prominent law firm.
- assistant director of a private school's Alumni and Development Department.
- chief of staff for a Vice President of Academic Affairs.
- accounts administrator.
- technical writer for an environmental non-profit organization.
- corporate communications coordinator for major industry.

- program coordinator and office assistant for a local church organization.
- instructor of English at the Army War College.
- an admissions counselor.
- assistant editor of a regional magazine.
- freelance copywriter and editor.
- mid-tier analyst for a data consultant firm.
- curriculum coordinator for a private high school
- speech-language pathologist
- production scheduler
- cultural ambassador to the US Department of State...

... to name just a few!

### ***HEAR FROM A WILSON STUDENT...***

During my time at Wilson, I have reached outside of my comfort zone and matured into a young woman who is prepared and eager to join the ranks of professionals. The faculty are the best aspect of the department. More than anything, they wish to see you succeed and will go to great lengths to help you do so. They are always available and willing to help and are encouraging and approachable as well. –GEORGIA KALMOUTIS

Faculty members are personally committed to the success of their students, and willing to give 100% to every student committed to learning and growing. The faculty's commitment to the liberal arts tradition is the inspiration for my decision to continue my studies in the liberal arts, and it is their passion for teaching that made me capable of pursuing the next step in my education. –COURTNEY WOLFE

## **Department Minors**

Students often choose to minor in English, Writing, or Film to enhance their writing and analytical thinking skills in preparation for their chosen career.

### Minor in English

The English minor requires five courses in English above the Foundations/EAP level, including one in writing. Students may count one course at the 100-level toward the minor, and at least one course must be completed at the 300 level.



### Minor in Writing

The minor in Writing can help students from any major to strengthen and refine their skills in writing and communication. A minor in writing enhances technical and rhetorical skills, teaches proficiency in argumentation and reasoning, and enables students to practice vital critical thinking abilities. The minor includes one literature course so that students can study the product of writing as well its formation.

To complete the minor in Writing, students must take four course options from the list below:

- ENG 201 Media Writing
- ENG 210 Advanced Exposition
- ENG 212 Technical Writing
- ENG 220 Creative Writing
- ENG 311 The English Language
- ENG 321 Advanced Creative Writing: Poetry
- ENG 323 Advanced Creative Writing: Fiction
- ENG 325 Topics in Creative Writing

Students must also take one literature class in ENG at the 200-level or higher. At least one class in the minor must be at the 300-level.



#### Minor in Film Studies

Film has served as a central entertainment medium in our culture for more than a century. It has influenced how we think and how we perceive. Early films can tell us much about how previous generations have thought, while contemporary films comment upon the social, economic, or cultural issues of the day. The study of film also challenges us to understand the specific contexts in which films have been conceived, produced, distributed and consumed, as well as the messages and ideologies that viewers absorb. The Film Studies minor, then, offers students an opportunity to sharpen their analytical skills while learning about an exciting and often demanding medium.

Student must complete four courses from among the following:

- ENG 230: Film Analysis and History
- ENG 335: Film Genres and Genders
- ENG 380: Literary and Cultural Interpretation
- COM 304: Media Theory
- GS 223: Examining Asia through Film
- SPN 320: Hispanic Film Studies

In addition to the courses listed above, selected topics courses across the curriculum related to film studies may also be used in satisfying requirements in the minor.

## Department Awards and Honors

### English Department Awards

#### *The James Applegate Award*

Established in honor of Dr. James Applegate, Dean Emeritus and Emeritus Professor of English, this prize is awarded to a student or students with an interest or appreciation of drama and theater.

This award is decided upon by vote of the English department faculty.



#### *The Joanne Harrison Hopkins Prize*

Endowed by classmates and friends of the late Joanne Hopkins of the Class of 1957, this prize is given for the finest piece of imaginative literature in fiction, poetry, drama, or creative non-fiction produced during the academic year.

This is a contest judged by the members of the English faculty. In the spring semester, notification will be sent out to all students eligible for the prize asking for submissions that will include all relevant directions on how to apply for the prize.

#### *The William and Ivy Saylor Prize*

Endowed by Raymond W. Britcher and established through the Academy of American Poets, The William and Ivy Saylor Prize supports young poets through a program established by the Academy of American Poets at colleges nationwide.

Winners receive a cash prize as well as a one-year membership in the Academy.

#### *The Mary Beers Sheppard Prize*

Established by Benjamin M. Sheppard in memory of his sister of the class of 1895, this prize is awarded to the member of the senior class who, in the judgment of the English faculty, has shown the keenest understanding and appreciation of literature.

This award is decided upon by vote of the English department faculty.

#### *Sigma Tau Delta*

Wilson is a member of the National English Honors Society, Sigma Tau Delta. Any student completing a major or minor in English may be considered for acceptance into the Sigma Tau Delta chapter upon achieving junior status.

*Wilson College also proudly sponsors a chapter of **Phi Beta Kappa**. See Dr. Woolley to determine how you can become eligible for the nation's oldest and most prestigious honor society.*

### College Honors

English majors may be invited by faculty to complete *Honors in the major* and to compete for the campus-wide *Margaret Criswell Disert ('20) Honors Scholarship*. Many Wilson English majors are invited to complete these to earn Honors in the Major. Below are just a sampling of titles of recent theses completed in the department:

- *Encephalon: A Creative Non-Fiction Study of the Human Brain* (Disert Award Winner) Joy Merchant
- *Tom Waits: A Revolutionary Poet in the Tradition of William Wordsworth* Rachel Coldsmith
- *A Creative Exploration of New Wave Fabulism* (Disert Award Winner) Casey Beidel
- *The Internet as a Contemporary Public Sphere: Democracy and Communication* Laura Hans
- *"No Improper Vehicle:" Charlotte Smith and the Eighteenth-Century Sonnet Revival* Jess Domanico
- *Chaucer's Interruptions and Their Social Implications* Meg Oldman
- *Dreaming with a Purpose: Three Examinations of the Medieval Dream-Vision* (Disert Award Winner) Elizabeth Clever

Creative writers can also be invited to participate in college honors! To learn more about College Honors, please talk to your academic advisor.

### ***HEAR FROM A WILSON GRAD on... DOING A THESIS***

*Jess Domanico completed her thesis in the field of literary studies. Here is what she has to say about the benefits of doing thesis work in the field.*



Planning and writing a senior research project—my thesis—in the English department gave me the opportunity to experience scholarship beyond the classroom. Encouraged by the department's faculty, I organized a long-term project on a literary period and genre of my choosing. Initially interested in the revival of the sonnet form in the late eighteenth century, I chose to narrow my interest and focus on Charlotte Turner Smith, a marginalized woman writer. Smith's contributions to the sonnet revival influenced several canonical poets of the Romantic period, including poets such as Coleridge and Wordsworth. My project raised questions of gender, influence, and canonicity—all prevalent questions in today's literary scholarship. From there I learned how to compile the necessary research, think critically about current scholarship and respond to

it, overcome my own writing obstacles, and produce a significant body of work that would prepare me for graduate study in English. In the process, I discovered how exciting scholarship can be.

## Assessment in the Major

### Assessment for Concentration in Literary Studies

Students who are completing a major in English with a *concentration in literary studies* will demonstrate that they are

- capable academic writers;
- skillful interpreters of literature;
- versed in literary methodology;
- and effective synthesizers of ideas.

They will do this by crafting a 20-page paper of publishable quality that reflects the culminating synthesis of their study in the field. This paper is written during the student's senior-year Shakespeare course (completed in the Spring semester) and the results of this work will be presented during Senior Research Day.

Under the supervision of the course instructor, the student will meet the following criteria:

- \_\_\_\_\_ The student selected a topic that is appropriate to the level and expectations of the assignment.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The introduction that capably and clearly introduces the topic of the paper.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The introduction contains a properly-detailed, original thesis that will guide the paper.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The paper contains a clearly articulated methodology.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The paper uses research to contribute to scholarly dialogue.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The paper understands the nature and arguments of the critical works being used.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The paper contains an appropriate review of critical scholarship.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The paper uses these arguments to bolster the thesis and foster a greater understanding of the subject area.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The research is properly cited in the body of the paper.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The body of the paper clearly and capably articulates the argument set forth in the thesis.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The conclusion either reiterates or extends the main points of the paper.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The paper contains a correctly noted Works Cited page.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The work demonstrates publishable-quality writing at the undergraduate level.

#### Exit assessment evaluation scale (on a basis of 1-4)

- 1 – the student does not demonstrate an understanding of the goal in a measurable way
- 2 – the student demonstrates a basic understanding of the goal, but there are still severe deficiencies present in her/his demonstration of the course goal
- 3 – the student demonstrates a strong understanding of the goal, but is still missing one or two key components in mastering the goal
- 4 – the student demonstrates a full understanding of the goal per the course's level and objectives



**Assessment for Concentration in Creative Writing**

Students who are completing a major in English with a *concentration in creative writing* will demonstrate that they are

**persuasive writers**

Students will demonstrate their awareness of

- purpose in writing,
- audience,
- level,
- tone,
- structure,
- and use of supporting detail.

**accomplished creative writers**

Students will demonstrate their mastery of one creative genre, including the genre's

- conventions,
- structure,
- and components.

Students will develop their portfolios during their senior year by enrolling in ENG 40X Assessment Portfolio course. This course is taken concurrent with the senior thesis project in Creative Writing.

The portfolio will consist of a 15-page reflexive essay that addresses the questions above. Students completing the creative writing concentration will be required to present their work during the annual Student Research Day.

### **Assessment for Concentration in Media Writing**

Students who are completing a major in English with a Concentration in Media Writing will demonstrate that they

- are able to compose text in a variety of common media genres;
- understand the conventions of common print and online media styles;
- and are clear, consistent, and capable writers.

#### **compose text in a variety of media genres**

Students will demonstrate their ability to write a variety of media genres by presenting clips of work for

- \_\_\_ newspapers (print and/or electronic)
  - \_\_\_ magazines (print and/or electronic)
  - \_\_\_ public relations / press release
  - \_\_\_ social media
- (mark “yes” if the texts are present in the clipping file)

#### **understand the conventions of common print and online media**

Students will demonstrate the conventions of common print and online media, reflected through their knowledge of

- \_\_\_ common AP newspaper style
- \_\_\_ magazine story form
- \_\_\_ adapted social media script
- \_\_\_ writing for media audiences

#### **are clear, consistent, and capable writers**

Students will demonstrate their awareness of

- \_\_\_ purpose in writing,
- \_\_\_ level,
- \_\_\_ tone,
- \_\_\_ structure,
- \_\_\_ concision, and
- \_\_\_ technical accuracy

### **Assessment for Secondary Education Certification in English**

Assessment for all Education majors, regardless of their area of certification, is completed through the PRAXIS II test (for English majors, it is the English Language, Literature and Composition exam) and the Student Teaching experience.

#### ***HEAR FROM A WILSON STUDENT...***

Wilson has made me a stronger individual. I have become more outspoken and individualized than I ever was. Since taking Creative Writing courses at Wilson, I have vastly improved my writing ability and my attention to detail. Beyond showing me that I have a passion for medieval literature, Wilson has shown me that I am more than just a face; I have a voice and am a talented individual. –MALLORY SUNDERLAND

### Rotations for English Courses

A course listed as **F** means that the course is taught every Fall semester

A course listed as **S** means that the course is taught every Spring semester

A course listed as **FE** means that the course is taught Fall semesters in an even year (2020, 2022)

A course listed as **FO** means that the course is taught Fall semesters in an odd year (2021, 2023)

A course listed as **SE** means that the course is taught Spring semesters in an even year (2020, 2022)

A course listed as **SO** means that the course is taught Spring semesters in an odd year (2021, 2023)

OL means the course rotates online.

*\*The faculty member who usually teaches each course is listed after the class.*

ENG 108 College Composition **F, S (various faculty, OL F)**

ENG 115 Writing About Literary Genres **F, S, SU (various faculty, OL F, Su)**

ENG 185 Writing About Literature and the Environment **S (Woolley)**

ENG 201 Media Writing **SO (McBride)**

ENG 204 Women Writers **FO (Woolley)**

ENG 210 Advanced Exposition **SE (Woolley)**

ENG 213 American Literature I **FE (Woolley)**

ENG 214 American Literature II **SO (Woolley)**

ENG 215 Major Writings of the European Tradition I **FE (Shillock, OL)**

ENG 216 Major Writings of the European Tradition II **FO (Shillock)**

ENG 220 Creative Writing **F (McBride)**

ENG 224 Young Adult Literature **FE**

ENG 230 Film Analysis and History **FE (Shillock)**

ENG 234 The English Novel **SE (Shillock)**

ENG 236 British Literature 1200-1700 **FO (Cornelius)**

ENG 239/339 African-American Literature **SE (Woolley)**

ENG 311/511 The English Language **SO (Cornelius)**

ENG 317/517 American Literature Since 1945 **FO (Woolley)**

ENG 318/518 Chaucer **FE (Cornelius)**

ENG 321/521 Advanced Creative Writing: Poetry **SO (McBride)**

ENG 323/523 Advanced Creative Writing: Fiction **SE (Cornelius, OL)**

ENG 325/525 Topics in Creative Writing: **SE (Cornelius, OL)**

ENG 333/533 Multicultural Environmental Literature **FE (Woolley, OL)**

ENG 335/535 Film Genres and Genders **FO (Shillock)**

ENG 345/545 Shakespeare's Histories and Comedies **SE (Cornelius, OL)**

ENG 346/546 Shakespeare's Tragedies and Romances **SO (Shillock)**

ENG/ESL 360/560 Language and Culture **F (DeGregorio, OL)**

ENG/ESL 361/561 Applied Linguistics for TESOL **S (Thornton, OL)**

ENG 380/580 Literary and Cultural Interpretation **SE (Shillock)**

ENG 3xx Practicum: News and Feature Writing **F (McBride)**

ENG 3xx Practicum: Social Media and Web Content **S (McBride)**

ENG 400 Assessment Portfolio in Literary Studies **S (Cornelius and Shillock)**

ENG 499 Project in Creative Writing **S (Cornelius and McBride)**

Topics courses rotate on irregular rotations. The program offers periodic summer courses; please check the schedule for courses for specific listings.