This course serves as an introduction to the basic terms and skills necessary to completing the Professional and Creative Writing Major and thus familiarizes students with basic principles of effective writing in several genres. Students will acquire skills in producing and analyzing professional, literary, and rhetorical texts, in developing an effective writing process, and in giving feedback and editing advice to other writers.
The Writers Project offers an opportunity for experiential learning and taking up writing as a practice for doing things in the world. Pushing ourselves beyond the confines of the classroom, we will approach writing as a professional skill and a tool for social action and community engagement. Framing our work as a “project” resonates on two levels: as a class, we will think of ourselves as a collection of writers taking on a collaborative project that achieves a broader vision; as individuals, we will work to project ourselves – our skills, interests, passions, and investments – out into the world as we work with others beyond our classroom walls.
This course provides an introduction to the multiple literary traditions of North America from the close of the fifteenth century through the Civil War, focusing especially on literature produced in the area that has come to be known as the United States. We will read a range of different kinds of writing, some familiar and some less so, and we’ll talk about how that writing was developed and how it affects us today.
Next semester hang out with some of the greatest writers in the English language: the Beowulf poet, Chaucer, Spenser, Milton, Shakespeare, and many more. Impress your friends with the insights you pick up about our literary heritage!
This course will explore poetry as a medium. Each student will write poems, and the work of all students will be studied in class and in conference with the instructor. The work of published poets will be used regularly to suggest possibilities and directions in both form and content.
English 376-01

American Novel to 1865

Dr. Harris

A critical study of the American novel from the beginnings of the realistic movement to the end of World War I with emphasis on representative works.

TTh 2:30-3:45
English 270
Creative Writing: Narrative 1

TTH 10:00 - 11:15
Dr. Kelly

A course designed to develop basic techniques of narrative writing: character development, plot construction, structuring, point of view and time-space sequences. Emphasis will be placed on the short narrative, although some structural analysis of the novel will be studied.
English 260: Professional Communication

STAFF– MWF 10:30-11:20

A course grounded in the practical application of principles of effective written, visual, and digital communication in professional contexts. Course assignments emphasize professional documents and genres, professional and disciplinary research, multimodal composition, and rhetorical concerns related to purpose, audience, and context.
A prince never lacks legitimate reasons to break his promise. --Niccolo Machiavelli

If everybody always lies to you, the consequence is not that you believe the lies, but rather that nobody believes anything any longer. --Hannah Arendt

Lies, broken promises, and empty rhetoric: these seem to be the stuff that politics is made of. But what are the actual expectations for truth in political discourse? If lying in politics is repugnant, why do we seemingly tolerate it, again and again?

Rhetorical theory offers a powerful set of tools for investigating the relationship of truth, lies, and politics. This class considers these questions as part of the rhetorical tradition, in which the primary aim of communication is as a public and persuasive practice.

Dr. Ellis
MWF: 12:30-1:20