Level 2: Discovery and Exploration

Artistic Theory and Practice

**ENGL 1100: Literary Interpretation**  
In-person | Various days and times

**ENGL 2100: Film Interpretation**  
CRN: 10735 | In-person | Mondays and Wednesdays, 2:00-3:15

**ENGL 2660: Writing Fiction and Poetry**  
Various days and times

**ENGL 2810: Youth Literature and Culture**  
CRN: 13554 | In-person | Mondays and Wednesdays, 11:00-12:15

Personal Wellness

**ENGL 3080: Quest for Self**  
CRN: 13682 | Fully Synchronous Online | Mondays and Wednesdays, 12:30-1:45

Societies and Cultures

**ENGL 3820: Literature for the Young Child**  
CRN: 12776 | In-person | Tuesdays and Thursdays, 4:00-5:40

World Language and Culture

**ENGL 2110: Folklore and Mythology**  
CRN: 11665 | Asynchronous Online

**ENGL 3140: African Literature**  
CRN: 13948 | In-person | Tuesdays, 2:00-3:40

**ENGL 3170: Stories of the Other**  
CRN: 15409 | Asynchronous Online

Level 3: Connections

Local and National Perspectives

**ENGL 3050: Professional Writing**  
CRN: 14514 | In-person | Mondays and Wednesdays, 2:00-3:40

**ENGL 4840: Culture in Children’s Literature**  
CRN: 15219 | Fully Synchronous Online | Mondays and Wednesdays, 2:00-3:15

Global Perspectives

**English 4120: Climate Change and Culture**  
CRN: 14529 | In-person | Mondays and Wednesdays, 3:30-4:45
Course Descriptions

**ENGL 1100: Literary Interpretation**
CRN: Multiple Sections | Mode: In-person

*This course satisfies WMU Essential Studies Level 2: Exploration and Discovery – Artistic Theory and Practice Category.*

An introduction to the study of literature, aimed at developing abilities to read literature and write about it with skill, sensitivity, and care. Students will read poetry, drama, and prose fiction, and through the writing of several papers will be introduced to terms and methods of formal study of literature. Course required for entry into most upper-level English courses.

**ENGL 2080: Literature in Our Lives**
CRN 15102 | Mode: In-person | Mondays and Wednesdays, 12:30-1:45 | Ms. Alyssa Jewell

*This course satisfies WMU Essential Studies Level 1: Foundations – Inquiry and Engagement: Critical Thinking in the Arts and Humanities Category.*

Heraclitus famously observed, “The only constant in our lives is change.” This section of Literature in Our Lives, then, will focus on environmental change, both in the natural world and in one’s immediate surrounding environment. Using Gaston Bachelard’s *The Poetics of Space* as a starting point, we’ll investigate how authors make use of their surroundings in their art as well as how they negotiate the constantly transitioning spaces around them. We’ll look at environmental literature, immigrant literature, and coming of age stories through a variety of genres: memoirs, journals, personal essays, poems, novels, and short fiction. Students will practice honing their own observational writing skills through keeping a personal journal and will respond to major course readings through written assignments, creative projects, and lively course discussions. We’ll additionally read work from Gloria Anzaldúa, Natasha Trethewey, Jericho Brown, Ocean Vuong, Anne Lamott, Eduardo Galeano, and Henry Thoreau, among others.

**English 2100: Film Interpretation**
CRN: 10735 | Mondays and Wednesdays 2:00-3:15 | Mode: In-person | TBA
Screening sections CRN 11844 (Mondays 6:30-9:00) or CRN 11845 (Tuesdays 6:30-9:00)

*This course satisfies WMU Essential Studies Level 2: Exploration and Discovery – Artistic Theory and Practice Category.*

Catalog Description: Studies in the motion picture as art form.
English 2110: Folklore and Mythology
CRN: 11665 | Mode: Asynchronous Online | Dr. Mustafa Mirzeler

This course satisfies WMU Essential Studies Level 2: Exploration and Discovery – World Language and Culture Category.

In this course students will explore the folklore and mythology of people who live in disparate parts of the world, in Africa, Central Asia, Mesopotamia, the ancient shores of Mediterranean Sea and Western Europe. Drawing from the contemporary folklore and mythology, this course historicizes and conceptualizes cultural and social contexts that produce folklore and myths around the world.

English 2660: Writing Fiction and Poetry
CRN: Multiple Sections | Mode: In-person and Fully synchronous online

This course satisfies WMU Essential Studies Level 2: Exploration and Discovery – Artistic Theory and Practice Category.

This is an introductory creative writing course that covers both fiction and poetry. It is a reading as well as a writing course; students will learn the basic elements of fiction and poetry, read selections of work in each genre, complete critical and creative writing exercises and assignments, and participate in workshop sessions that focus on discussion of their own work and the work of their peers.

ENGL 2810: Youth, Literature, and Culture
CRN 13554 | Mode: In-person | Mondays and Wednesdays, 11:00-12:15 | TBA

This course satisfies WMU Essential Studies Level 2: Exploration and Discovery – Artistic Theory and Practice Category.

Catalog Description: The course will introduce students to terminology and key ideas of a particular literary and/or visual form within children’s literature and youth culture.

ENGL 3050: Professional Writing, Work, and Culture
CRN 14514 | Mode: In-person | Mondays and Wednesdays, 2:00-3:40 | Dr. Brian Gogan

This course satisfies WMU Essential Studies Level 3: Connections – Local and National Perspectives Category.

This course prepares students to produce effective communications in workplaces and organizations, helping them transition from academic to professional writing. Students gain practice with both informational and persuasive genres in print, digital, and visual formats.
Students also gain practice with various methods of intellectual inquiry, including both qualitative and quantitative research methods, with special attention on discovering the needs and expectations of readers in workplace and professional contexts. Inherent in all student projects is consideration of ethics in a writer’s rhetorical and methodological decisions. At the center of the course is the vital connection between effective communication and the success of organizations at both the local and national levels. Thus this course interrogates the “Big Question”: How can the study and practice of professional communication prepare students for success as they seek careers in the arena of local and national organizations?

**ENGL 3080: Quest for Self**  
CRN 13682 | Mode: Fully Synchronous Online | Mondays and Wednesdays, 12:30-1:45 | Dr. Phil Savage

*This course satisfies WMU Essential Studies Level 2: Exploration and Discovery – Personal Wellness Category.*

Catalog Description: Exploration of the perennial quest for the self through the special perspective provided by literature. The literary perspectives may be supplemented by materials from other arts or disciplines. A non-technical course for the general student rather than the student specializing in the study of literature; does not count as credit towards an English major or minor.

**ENGL 3140: African Literature**  
CRN 13948 | Mode: In-person | Tuesdays, 2:00-4:30 | Dr. Vincent Desroches

*This course satisfies WMU Essential Studies Level 2: Exploration and Discovery – World Language and Culture Category.*

This course will be an exploration of several African cultures through text and film. We will be challenging stereotypes present in American discourse regarding Africa. We will also learn about the complex issues facing African societies in the 21st century, including the climate crisis, health care, economic inequality, challenges to democracy, women's rights, refugees, and more.

Catalog Description: A topical and/or regional study of African literature which may focus on North Africa, Sub-Saharan Africa, West, East, and/or South Africa. Topics may be historical or contemporary and can include oral tradition, mythology, religious texts, epic, poetry, drama, fiction, autobiography, biography, film, popular culture, essays, and address the development of autochthonous cultures as well as connections between cultural areas and/or contact with the West and other parts of the world. Works will be studies in English.
English 3170: Stories of the Other
CRN: 15409 | Mode: Asynchronous Online | Dr. Mustafa Mirzeler

This course satisfies WMU Essential Studies Level 2: Exploration and Discovery – World Language and Culture Category.

This course brings the stories of gender, religious and sexual “minorities” in non-Western world from a comparative perspective. These are the people who are called others of the “others” in their respective societies with their attendant terms and categories. This course brings the voices of these others’ “other”, to the classrooms, and share their stories with students. These stories constitute a valuable comparative resource for students, as they put a spot light on universally vital issues in their own societies, recent examples may include the issues of migrants, and LGBTQ individuals, in the third world, such as in Turkey.

ENGL 3820: Literature for the Young Child
CRN 12776 | Mode: In-person | Tuesdays and Thursdays, 4:00-5:40 | TBA

This course satisfies WMU Essential Studies Level 2: Exploration and Discovery – Societies and Cultures Category.

Catalog Description: An exploration of human and literary values in the best of children's works for the very young through age nine. Emphasis is on critical sensitivity and techniques necessary for interpreting and evaluating works representative of the major forms of children's literature. Discussion will focus on how literature is first learned through adult-child interaction and how interaction creates changes that are influenced by time period and culture as well as the personal dynamics inherent in the oral tradition. Visual reading through picture books will be examined as well as the evaluation of good picture book literature. Developmental issues related to a child's reading capability and narrative skills will be considered through an examination of transitional reader (chapter books) and novels. Poetry, both in its oral form and its written form, will be considered as will be mythology and folklore: its versions, variants, and adaptations (both in book and film form).

ENGL 4120: Climate Change and Culture
CRN 14529 | Mode: In-person | Mondays and Wednesdays, 3:30-4:45 | Dr. Allen Webb

This course satisfies WMU Essential Studies Level 3: Connections – Global Perspectives Category.

Now is a time of dire emergency for the Earth, a time when drastic and dramatic measures must be taken so that our planet remains habitable. The emergency of the global COVID pandemic has been a kind of fire drill for the climate crisis, emphasizing the importance of science, the relatedness of all human communities, and the necessity of collaboration and changing behavior.
A cultural studies approach to understanding the climate crisis can foster a deeper understanding of the human social systems that cause global heating and possibilities for meaningful action.

This course brings together texts from the humanities, especially novels, and the social sciences to consider: the global impact, history, politics, and ethics of global warming; imagined representations of warming in the future and their relevance to the present; and, ways to mobilize people to address climate change via social movements.

**ENGL 4840: Culture in Children’s Literature**

CRN 15219 | Mode: Fully Synchronous Online | Mondays and Wednesdays, 2:00-3:15 | Ms. Jamie Bienhoff

*This course satisfies WMU Essential Studies Level 3: Connections – Local and National Perspectives Category.*

In today’s contemporary social and political environment, it has become essentially important to think critically about the ways that texts for young people shape ideologies and understanding of culture within our society. ENGL 4840 tackles this challenge by examining a range of topics speaking to current concerns of multiculturalism, diversity, and the richness of culture that defines America. Readings will highlight underrepresented voices and will include novels for young readers and middle grade students, picturebooks, comics, poetry, and/or film. Additionally, students will engage in critical thinking and consider their own analytical practices through discussion, activities, and short essays as well as creation of a multimodal research project.