

## ***COURSE DESCRIPTIONS ENGLISH DEPARTMENT: SPRING 2023***

NOTE: If you have any questions about how a course ‘counts’ in the major, please see your English Major Faculty Advisor. If you do not have a Faculty Advisor, please contact department Associate Chair, Prof. Seamus O’Malley [seamus.omalley@yu.edu](mailto:seamus.omalley@yu.edu)

**Media Exit Project:** If using the OLD requirements (only available for students who declared their major prior to Fall 2021 semester), enroll in English 4002 with the name of your Track Coordinator (Mintz or Gewirtz) and contact that person to get the directions and deadlines. The media exit project will now be completed as part of an advanced course taken with our media studies instructors.

**Internships:** *Must be approved for academic credit before being started.* Internships are required for media studies students wishing to earn a concentration in either journalism or advertising. Fill out the form <https://www.yu.edu/registrar/forms> and give a description of the internship duties to your faculty advisor or your media advisor. Only internships for the advertising and journalism count towards college credit.

**CW Portfolio:** For the creative writing concentration, you complete this requirement in ENGLISH 1900 if you have not done so already. If you are graduating this spring or next fall and have not done the exit project, you should enroll in this course this term to complete it. Any creative writing students who have already taken a previous creative writing class is also eligible to take it, and it is strongly recommended for all writing minors.

## **MEDIA AND CREATIVE WRITING COURSES**

### **ENGL 1722 Broadcast Journalism**

**M 6:00PM-8:30PM**

**Jason Gerwitz**

In this course students will learn how a modern newsroom works. You will be assigned and will generate story ideas and work them through to completion by interviewing, researching, gathering knowledge, using appropriate photo-journalism skills (that you will learn in this class), and ultimately putting it all together for an article.

This class focuses on writing and reporting for digital news outlets. We will start with journalism basics, but students will soon be writing news and feature articles in a digital and modern style. We will cover idea generation, pitches, story production, ethics, basic photography, graphics production, and what is sometimes referred to as second-day stories... where we take news of the day or breaking news and then pull a specific thread to explore a cause or personal story impacted by that day-of or breaking news story. This class will partner with the *YU Observer* to allow, possibly, for the publication of some of your stories.

Pre-req: ENGL 1100 or 1200H. Elective for Media Tracks & Creative Writing. Counts toward Writing Minor



## LITERATURE COURSES: Category II (Survey) Courses

### **ENGL 2004 Survey of British Literature II** **M/W 9:00AM-10:15AM**

**Stephen Spencer**

From the seventeenth to the nineteenth centuries, a “separation of spheres” phenomenon premised on the gendering of forms of labor developed in the Western world. Household work within the private sphere of the family was gendered feminine, to be performed by mothers and wives, while activity outside the household within the public sphere of politics was considered the sole province of men and, hence, masculine. We have certainly critiqued and redressed the hard edges of this separation phenomenon in the modern world; women are integral to the workforce and politics, and men are much more frequently domestic caretakers. It may be surprising, however, to learn that critiques of this phenomenon existed as it emerged. In this survey of British literature, we will look at the origin, codification, and critique of this phenomenon through the lens of literary production. Because our focus is on literature, we will pay particular attention to the gendering of literary labor; literature was typically published by men, but professional women writers became much more common in these three centuries. The course will be organized to reflect literature from the three major periods we will cover: the Enlightenment, the Romantic movement, and the Victorian era. We will likely look at John Milton’s idiosyncratic portrayal of the paradigmatic biblical justification of the separation phenomenon—Adam and Eve—in *Paradise Lost*, romantic lyrics by male and female poets (including the Wordsworth siblings), a Jane Austen novel, and excerpts from Christian Rossetti’s fantastical narrative *Goblin Market*. We will also look at media that makes these authors and texts relevant in the modern world.

Pre-req: ENGL 1100 or 1200H or FYWR 1020. Interpreting Lit and Art. Fulfills II B Intro.

**ENGL 2602 Jewish Representations in Literature**

**T/Th10:25AM-11:40AM**

**Shaina Trapedo**

From medieval blood libels to *Ulysses*'s Leopold Bloom, the figure of the Jew has loomed large in the Western literary imagination. This course

Along the way, however, pioneering female graphic novelists like Linda Barry, Vanessa Davis, Lauren Weinstein, Miriam Libicki and Alison Bechdel launched major contributions to the graphic novel world, Bechdel's *Fun Home* (2007) being hailed by many as the greatest example of the genre to date. Comics are now for women.

This course will explore many aspects of graphic novels, but its primary aim will be to analyze what makes them a unique art form. Not quite literature, not quite art, they have their own set of conventions and readerly assumptions that require a set of critical interpretive practices that borrow from, but cannot imitate, literary or art criticism.

Course requirements include 5 quizzes, reading responses, a 5-page essay and a final exam.

presentation, and a final research project. I hope we can enjoy Shakespeare via his own words and the echoes he created.

Pre-req: ENGL 1100 or 1200H or FYWR 1020. Interpreting Lit and Art. Fulfills III C Intro.

**ENGL 2901/WMNS 1020-N**  
**T/Th 3:00-**

**Nora Nachumi**

This course is an introduction to Women's Studies, an interdisciplinary field that grew out of the twentieth-century women's movement. In its early years, those in the field concentrated on the "absence" of women (from literature, history, science, etc.) and worked to add them to the curriculum. Today, Women's Studies is a vast and still growing field of study that draws on many different disciplines in the humanities and the sciences in its efforts to describe, understand and – in many cases – improve women's lives.

**ENGL 2925 Censored Books: American Literature and Controversy**  
**T/Th 1:35PM-2:50PM**

**Cynthia Wachtell**

Last January a Tennessee school board's ban of *Maus*, a Pulitzer Prize-

