

Winter 2022

HUNTER COLLEGE -- ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

UNDERGRADUATE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

NOTE 1: This is a document that is tentative and updated frequently, so please continue to check back before registering.

NOTE 2: There are ONLY TWO winter courses this year! When on CUNYFirst, look under "2022 Spring Term" for the following winter courses below. Pay attention to the start dates!!!

ALWAYS CHECK CUNY FIRST FOR ACCURATE CLASS TIMES AND DATES.

ENGL 252 INTRODUCTION TO LITERARY STUDIES (3 Credits) Prerequisite is English 220. W

This discussion-based and writing-intensive course prepares you to be an English major by introducing you to the tools of the trade for literary studies. The course has three primary units, each of which focuses on reading, analyzing, and researching a text in a particular genre of literature. Special attention will be paid to research methods and to learning a range of critical and scholarly approaches to literary texts. Topics and content areas vary by instructor. Requirements include participation, short essays, and a research paper. Please note: students under the 30 credit major can take the course as an elective with prior permission of a department adviser. All new majors are required to take English 252 within one semester of declaring the major.

Section W01: Multiethnic Literature: Narratives of Trauma and Healing M, Tu, W, Th 1:00-4:08 pm (Chon-Smith)
Class Number: 38178 Mode: Online

Course Description

This course prepares undergraduates to be Hunter English majors. We will learn the "tools of the trade" for the study of literature: its objects of study, methods, theories, and applications. We explore literature as an ideological project, situated in history, and embedded within power dynamics. In particular, we will read literature in three units (an autobiography, a novel, a collection of poetry) through reading, analyzing, and researching a text in a specific area of the study of American literature and culture: multiethnic literary studies.

Our primary texts are concerned with the trauma of double consciousness and the healing of alternative projects. W.E.B. Du Bois coins this term in *The Souls of Black Folk* (1903) as twoness, two worlds, torn asunder, as "always looking at ones's self through the eyes of others, of measuring one's soul by the tape of a world that looks on in amused contempt and pity" (3).[1] *The Sympathizer* (2015) by Viet Thanh Nguyen provides an overview of mixed-race double consciousness and citizenship as an extension of Cold War structures of empire-building and foreign policy. Finally, *Borderlands La Frontera* (1987) introduces students to the interconnections between race, gender, sexuality, class, and nation---all constituted by the history of colonial capitalism and constructed borders of

“despot dualities.” All these works move the reader toward projects of multiplicity, complexity, and emancipatory critique.

Examining the literary traditions of Black American, Asian American, and Latina literature, this course is designed to help students develop an understanding of the major themes, genres, and movements in which multiethnic American literatures have narrated conceptions of hyphenated-selfhood and American identity. Therefore, we will reckon with the violence of double consciousness in human life and read alternative archives and ways that engender narratives of healing, what Du Bois envisions as “true self-consciousness” (3). Class requirements will be weekly BB discussions, 3-short papers (2-pgs), reading quizzes, and final research paper.

[1] See W.E.B. Du Bois, *The Souls of Black Folk*, (Chicago: McClurg & Co., 1909): 3.

ENGL 285 INTRODUCTION TO CREATIVE WRITING (3 credits) Prerequisite is ENGLISH 220. No auditors allowed.

GER: 3A.

Section W01: M, Tu, W, Th 1:00-4:08 pm (Rempe) Class Number: 17661 Mode: Online

This course is designed to introduce three genres of creative writing: poetry, fiction, and creative nonfiction, as well as the processes of workshoping and revising. The class will be held in a workshop setting, in which you are expected to share writing assignments and discuss reading assignments.

Learning Goals

Every student will have the opportunity to present work with the goal of gaining expertise as writers. In workshop classes, we discuss poetry, fiction and creative non-fiction written by members of the class, providing constructive, respectful feedback and offering suggestions for revision. We also spend a good deal of time discussing and learning from the poems, essays and stories I provide.

You will need a notebook specifically for this class. Bring it every day. You are expected to complete all in-class writing exercises and occasionally revise at home. Be prepared to share your work in class.

Requirements

- If you have serious doubts about your ability to fulfill these requirements, this may not be the right class for you.
- Read all assigned work at least twice, as it will be a substantial part of our class discussions.
- Complete in-class writing assignments each class period.
- Post reading/writing responses on blackboard when assigned.
- Workshop 1 poem, 3-5 pages of fiction and 3-5 pages of creative nonfiction.
- Bring a notebook to class each time we meet.
- Participate in class discussion.
- Hand in a final portfolio at the end of the semester with each of the workshop pieces, revisions and a cover letter.
- The work you submit for workshop will be posted online through Blackboard’s Discussion Board feature. Failure to submit your piece on the day it is due (for any reason) results in the forfeit of your turn to workshop that piece of writing.
- You are expected to read your classmates’ work at home, write detailed notes on the discussion board and be ready to discuss the writing during workshop. You may bring a device to class on which you can access the work to discuss (iPad, laptop, etc).
- Never throw away any drafts of any of your work! Never give anyone your only copy of any of your work! You should save each draft in a separate file, or at least keep hard copies for yourself
- Coursework Formatting: Please type all assignments in plain 12-point Times New Roman font. Single-space your poetry, unless you mean to indicate additional lineation. On each document, include your name,

assignment title and the date. All work must be titled. Assignments may NOT be submitted or distributed via e-mail.