

Topic Courses – Fall 2023

ENGL 169T – American Detective Fiction (Arcé)

The readings for this course explore the form and history of American detective fiction from the 19th-century to the present. Thematically the course addresses issues of nationhood, legality, moral righteousness, and downright vengeance. From Edgar Allen Poe's short detective novels to Lucha Corpi's noir fiction of murder on the streets of East Los Angeles, the course investigates detective fictions ongoing struggle between that which is legally correct and that which is morally just. In addition to literature, the class will include cultural texts such as film, and television shows.

ENGL 175T – Teaching Creative Writing in K-12 and Beyond (Blackburn)

Students that have completed a creative writing workshop of some kind are eligible to take this service-learning course on teaching and writing skills in the community, with an emphasis in creative writing pedagogy. Students will develop curriculum, syllabi, lesson plans, and creative writing exercises to engage students in K-12 environments and potentially college classes as well. Through a partnership with youth organization, The kNOw Youth Media, students will have a culminating experience of an actual in person workshop taught in either the Fresno County schools or community centers.

ENGL 250T – Teaching Literacy with Technology (Crisco)

Teaching with technology is not just a necessity in response to an emergency pandemic. Scholarship on teaching literacy with technology focuses on leveraging technology to reimagine the classroom space and content. Additionally, many community colleges require instructors to use technology in order to make college more accessible to a diverse range of students. This course will focus on best practices for teaching literacy with technology, including incorporating elements of Universal Design for Learning, addressing equity, and researching and experimenting with technology tools.

ENGL 250T – Studies in Children's and Young Adult Literature (Rodríguez)

This course will examine literature created for children from birth to adolescence: picture books, chapter books, middle grade novels, graphic novels, poetry, films, toys, and young adult novels. This course will introduce historical, theoretical and research approaches to analyze, categorize, and define texts created for young audiences, and explore how texts construct and subvert normative assumptions about childhood and adolescence. This course is interdisciplinary and embraces academic interests and coursework in the disciplines of literary studies, English studies and creative writing.

Seminars in English Studies – ENGL 193

ENGL 193 – Language Ideologies (Krichevsky)

How does language shape the systems of power that we live in and how is it, in turn, shaped by those systems? Through the lens of language diversity, this course examines how language and literacy practices shape individual and group identities and have a significant impact on the political, educational, and social fabric of the United States. Students will unpack texts in language scholarship, institutional mission statements and strategic plans, federal and state policies, and second language learning materials to explore contemporary discourse on growing linguistic and ethnic assimilation in the US. Major themes in the course will include the implications of linguistic discrimination for the survival of minority and home languages and cultures, equity in the workplace and education, and inter-racial/ethnic contact zones.

ENGL 193 – California Migrations and Displacements (Hernandez)

This is a course in California literature, which we will explore through the lens of migration and displacement. Much of the course will be dedicated to Central Valley literature as well as those whose work is about and influenced by their experiences with the Central Valley. Rather than telling a simplified "rags to riches" American Dream style narrative of migration, this historically-oriented class will explore migration patterns as reflected by California literature through the lenses of race, labor, migration, and legislation.