ADVISING AND REGISTRATION NOTES

- All 200, 300, and 400-level English courses fulfill English Elective requirements for the EBA, CW, and PW majors. Most courses also fulfill other major requirements and are noted as is appropriate.

- Many 300 and 400-level English courses are open only to upperclassmen. Courses with such restrictions are noted.

- During the first few days of registration, most English courses are reserved for students who have primary and additional majors and minors in English. After all English students have had a chance to register we open registration to students outside of the department.
76-234  Introduction to Arabic Literature
Instructor:  K. Newman
Schedule:  Summer One: May 18 - June 26, 2015
MW
6:30 p.m. – 9:50 p.m.
Units:  9
Fulfills:  CW English Elective
         EBA English Elective
         PW Text/Context English Elective

In this class we will read a few classics in the field of 20th century Arabic Literature, in English. These will include Season of Migration to the North and Woman at Point Zero. We will also read some more recent novels, including The Map of Love by Ahdaf Soueif, and a collection of writings and short fiction by young Qatari writers called Qatari Voices. In this class we will question the very notion of the idea of “Arab Literature,” given the diverse history and cultures of the many Arab nations. But we will also think about the importance of literary representations of Arab people, and how these representations can counter stereotypes so present in Western media. The professor has a BA in Arabic from UC Berkeley and first learned to speak Arabic while living in the Middle East with Arab women, in the mid-1980s. Nonetheless, all of the readings for this class will be in English!

76-266  Writing the Love Story (or Poem or Memoir)
Instructor:  R. Goodmanson
Schedule:  Summer Two: June 29 – August 7, 2015
MTWRF
9:00 a.m. – 10:20 a.m.
Units:  9
Fulfills:  CW English Elective
         EBA English Elective
         PW Text/Context English Elective

Whether famous (or infamous) or secret, fantastical or everyday, gone-wrong or happily-ever-after, writing about love is as universal as it is deeply particular—and the subject provides a powerful engine for our creative work as writers. This course encourages students to take up the many-sided subject of love in all three major genres (poetry, fiction, and nonfiction), beginning with considering how we might define “love” in its many nuanced facets as writers, and then shaping that important definition through the reading of other contemporary writers’ diverse work on the subject. This course will offer readings in short fiction, poetry, and creative nonfiction about love in its numerous and distinct contexts, considering both common tropes within the subject and ways that writers subvert or challenge those tropes. What does it mean to write about love, and how can we push to do so in new and challenging ways? Students will then have the opportunity to craft, workshop, and revise their own creative work, using these complex definitions of “the love story” to help direct their own creative poetry or prose writing.

Information is subject to change  Updated: February 4, 2015
Writing for the Professions
Instructor: D. Dickson-Laprade
Schedule: Summer One: May 18 - June 26, 2015
MTWRF
12:00 p.m. to 1:20 p.m.
Units: 9

Writing in the Professions is a writing course specifically designed for juniors and seniors in all majors other than English. The course is appropriate for upper-level students in all CMU colleges, has no writing prerequisites, and assumes that you may not have had much college-level writing instruction past your freshman year. The basic idea of the course is to give you experience in developing the writing skills you will be expected to have as you make the transition from student to professional. The course will cover resume writing, proposal writing, writing instructions, the difference between writing for general and specific audiences, and analysis of visual aids in various texts. The course requires that students work both independently and in groups.

Science-Fiction and Cultural Transformation—from the Cold War to the Anthropocene
Instructor: J. Klancher
Schedule: Summer Two: June 29 – August 7, 2015
MW
6:30 p.m. to 9:50 p.m.
Units: 9
Fulfills: CW English Elective
EBA English Elective
PW Text/Context English Elective

This course uses early and recent sci-fi films and fiction to explore how the science-fiction film and print genres have envisioned the ultimate human stakes in the generating of new worlds or the “end” of our world. Most date from the 1950s-60s and 1990s-2000s. The newest will re-envision the human species’ life among the planets in the shape of the ANTHROPOCENE, the geological epoch that earth and life scientists have recently declared to be our own, fateful epoch of climate change, global warming, and recognition that human beings have become “a geological force on the planet.”

The most important film in this category is Joon-ho Bong’s Snowpiercer (2014), but we will also see related films about aliens, technology, international borders, apartheid, and immigration politics in District 9 (2009) and Monsters (2010). Along with these most recent and important sci-fi films we will read fiction in the genre often called “cli-fi” (climate-change science fiction). Earlier classics will include Metropolis (1927), Blade Runner (1982), The Day the Earth Stood Still (1951), The Thing (from another Planet) (1951), and/or Aliens (1979) and 2001 (1968). Students will choose one of the films to be shown in the 5th or 6th week of class. Three papers, about 5 pages each, will be required along with full class participation.

Information is subject to change

Updated: February 4, 2015