

CRN#**Spring 2024 Literature Cornerstone Course Descriptions****41097 ENG 100-A, COR: Island Living/Island Leaving****41098 ENG 100-B, COR: Island Living/Island Leaving****Prof. G. Scala**

This seminar explores the literature of islands. This will be a semester-long inquiry into how the unique conditions of island living shape literature and culture. We will study texts about castaways, pirates, tourists, islanders, and adventurers in order to discern what makes stories about islands so compelling and enduring.

Fulfills the Literature Cornerstone requirement.

41100 ENG 100-C, COR: Literature in Translation?**Prof. J. Golden**

Many of the texts that you read in your core courses are translations into English. What exactly does it mean to read a text in translation? We will ask and answer that question, using these 19th-century texts: Baudelaire, *Les Fleurs du mal/Flowers of Evil*; Flaubert, *Madame Bovary*; Tolstoy, *Anna Karenina*.

Fulfills the Literature Cornerstone requirement.

41102 ENG 100-D, COR: Fictional Futures**41103 ENG 100-E, COR: Fictional Futures****Prof. S. Cohen**

An examination of a variety of literary works from the middle of the 19th century to the present, focusing on the ways they critique prevailing power structures and ideology. How these various writers construe the relationship between aesthetics and politics (that is, the social/political purposes of their art) is the central question we will seek to answer. By examining the ways in which each work assaults the status quo of an inhumane, often brutal society, we will trace a tradition of protest literature and discover the means and methods of protest writers from several different cultures and national literatures.

Fulfills the Literature Cornerstone requirement.

41104 ENG 100-F, COR: African-American Literature**41105 ENG 100-G, COR: African-American Literature****Prof. S. Morris**

An introduction to the major themes and issues in African American literature, from the 18th century to the present.

Fulfills the Literature Cornerstone requirement.

41143 ENG 100-H, COR: Love & Other Difficulties**41144 ENG 100-I, COR: Love & Other Difficulties****Prof. A. Baldys**

What does it mean to desire something-or someone? What is the nature of the relationship between the enamored and the object of desire? In this course, we will explore love and desire as fundamental aspects of identity and self-awareness as well as central themes of literature across diverse cultures and historical periods. Through readings in poetry, drama and fiction, we will examine desire in its many forms, from desire for friendship and familial connection to romantic and libidinal desire, to the desire for material goods and power. Authors to be considered may include Plato, Ovid, Shakespeare, Keats, Brontë, Freud, Rilke, Joyce, Kafka, Nabokov, Wilde, Mann, Duras, Neruda, García Márquez, and Morrison.

Open to First-Year students. Fulfills the Literature Cornerstone requirement.

41146 ENG 100-J, COR: Poetic Idiom through the Ages

Prof. J. Chichetto, CSC

Using some of the most familiar and often taught works in each genre of poetry, this course will explore the poetic styles and forms of artistic expression that are characteristic of certain poets and periods of literature down through the ages. It will also examine the idiom of current songwriters like Lil Wayne and Taylor Swift and compare and contrast them with poets, both past and contemporary.

Fulfills the Literature Cornerstone requirement.

41147 ENG 100-K, COR: Classics of Children's Literature

41148 ENG 100-L, COR: Classics of Children's Literature

Prof. P. White

This course considers some of the best-loved books of children's literature to analyze and understand their power. What makes for a children's "classic," and does it make sense to categorize children's books along these lines? Thematic issues at stake include universal experiences of childhood—friendship and growing up—but also broader issues—ethics, the representation of history, and finding a place in what the animals of *The Wind in the Willows* would call *The Wide World*. We will pay careful attention to the forms of the stories we read; while the course focuses on novels, we will also consider picture books and poems.

Fulfills the Literature Cornerstone requirement.

41149 ENG 100-M, COR: Identity and Conflict

41150 ENG 100-N, COR: Identity and Conflict

Prof. S. Wimberly

This course presents an introduction to the study and appreciation of literature. Our thematic focus is on the representation of human identity in the works of poets, dramatists, novelists, and essayists at various moments in history. As we read novels, plays, and poetry, we will become acquainted with key concepts and methodologies employed in literary studies. The course will focus on a diverse collection of literature that expresses/addresses aspects of identity and some examples of how some authors express and even grapple with aspects of identity. The works we examine come from a variety of historical and cultural contexts and contribute to representations of the shaping and expressing of identity in such contexts as health, love and marriage; race, gender, culture, and society, to name a few.

Fulfills the Literature Cornerstone requirement.

40067 ENG 141-A, HON:CS: African-American Literature

Prof. D. Itzkovitz

An introduction to the major themes and issues in African American literature, from the 18th century to the present.

Open to Honors Scholars. Fulfills the Literature Cornerstone requirement.

41142 ENG 142-A, CS: Between Two Worlds

Prof. A. Opitz

In this course we study the work of contemporary writers and filmmakers from Native American, African American, Caribbean immigrant, and Asian American communities. We will examine how these artists explore questions such as community, belonging, and identity; race, nation, and assimilation; power and representation; colonization, history, and institutionalized racism; and writing and resistance. Students are expected to read at least one novel, a number of short stories, poems, and personal essays in preparation for class discussion, as well as watch documentary and feature films, mainstream as well as independent. There will be weekly response papers, at least one presentation, and two or three longer papers.

Fulfills the Literature Cornerstone requirement.

40072 ENG 164-A, CS: Introduction to Creative Writing

41145 ENG 164-B, CS: Introduction to Creative Writing

Prof. M. Borushko

In this course you will be introduced to the world of creative writing. We will embark on weekly writing experiments and exercises drawing from your own experiences, identities, perceptions, and unique and wild imaginations. At the same time, we will read, listen to, and watch work read by contemporary authors in all genres to be in conversation with our own writing and the world in which we live. This course will get you thinking creatively and show you ways to approach writing as a creative outlet and form of self-expression to grapple with and explore the complexities of what it means to be human in this moment. Together we will build a close classroom community through weekly collaborations, feedback, discussion, reading, and exciting writing adventures. Students will learn fundamentals of writing poetry, fiction, and creative nonfiction such as mini-memoir and personal narratives.

Fulfills the Literature Cornerstone requirement.

40074 ENG 164-C, CS: Introduction to Creative Writing

40075 ENG 164-D, CS: Introduction to Creative Writing

Prof. S. Dasgupta

In this course you will be introduced to the world of creative writing. We will embark on weekly writing experiments and exercises drawing from your own experiences, identities, perceptions, and unique and wild imaginations. At the same time, we will read, listen to, and watch work read by contemporary authors in all genres to be in conversation with our own writing and the world in which we live. This course will get you thinking creatively and show you ways to approach writing as a creative outlet and form of self-expression to grapple with and explore the complexities of what it means to be human in this moment. Together we will build a close classroom community through weekly collaborations, feedback, discussion, reading, and exciting writing adventures. Students will learn fundamentals of writing poetry, fiction, and creative nonfiction such as mini-memoir and personal narratives.

Fulfills the Literature Cornerstone requirement.

41153 ENG221-A, COR: Introductory Topics in Digital Humanities

Prof. S. Cohen

This course serves as an introduction to digital methods of humanistic inquiry. Over the course of the term, we will experiment with digital tools (computers, digital media, databases, algorithms, artificial intelligence) to enhance our study and appreciation of texts and artifacts. We will learn how texts exist and work in the digital age. We will examine new and emerging models for interpretation. Much of our time together will take the form of hands-on, lab-styled experimentation with digital tools. We will clean, mine, and encode texts, making them machine readable. We will build and refine custom datasets. We will use natural language processing and word vectors to visualize large datasets and analyze multi-million-word corpora. At the same time, we will discuss the aesthetic and critical dimensions of this work. Advanced knowledge of computers is not required; rather, a willingness to learn and experiment is all that is needed. Please reach out to scohen@stonehill.edu if you have any questions about the course.

Fulfills the Literature Cornerstone requirement.