

ENGLISH 690
CRN 16970
FALL 2016
MW 12-1:50
448 PLC

Prof. Laskaya
Office: 357 PLC
Office Hrs: Mon 2-3:30;
Th 10-11:30, & by appointment
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INTRO TO GRADUATE STUDIES

Description

This course provides a rigorous introduction to scholarly writing and speaking through the process of conceiving, researching, writing, and revising one long paper and presenting this work as a conference paper at the end of the term. We will also analyze, discuss, and workshop components of scholarly writing.

Learning Outcomes

English 690 will (1) offer strategies for success in graduate study in the English Department; (2) build familiarity with professional tasks and institutions, through explanation, discussion, and assignments/experiential learning; (3) facilitate each student's progress toward the goals of (a) writing clearly, persuasively, and in accordance with conventions of formal writing in field and (b) producing substantial research projects with faculty guidance, including the basics of close reading, graduate-level argumentation, and the development of theses and bibliographies; (4) familiarize students with the resources of Knight Library and its staff; and (5) acquaint students with some of the history and philosophy/methodology of the discipline of modern literary study.

Required Readings

Gregory Colon Semenza, *Graduate Study for the 21st Century*, 2nd ed. (Palgrave, 2010)
Cristina Vischer Bruns, *Why Literature? The Value of Literary Reading and What it Means for Teaching* (Continuum, 2011)

Additional readings and materials will be posted as pdfs on the course Canvas website: canvas.uoregon.edu.

Recommended Readings & Resources: *MLA Style Manual and Guide to Scholarly Publishing*, 8th ed.; The Forest of Rhetoric: rhetoric.byu.edu [help w/rhetorical structures, elements, and figures]; Purdue OWL: owl.english.purdue.edu/owl [help with grammar, usage, and style]; Alex Preminger and T.V.F. Brogan, eds., *The New Princeton Encyclopedia of Poetry and Poetics* (1993); Roland Greene, et al. eds., *Princeton Encyclopedia of Poetry and Poetics*, 4th ed. (2012) [Greene's is newer than Preminger/Brogan, and both are worth consulting]; William P. Williams and C. S. Abbott, *An Introduction to Bibliographical and Textual Studies*, 4th ed. (2009); Neil Fraistat and J. Flanders, eds., *Cambridge Companion to Textual Scholarship* (2013); Annette Kuhn and G. Westwell, *Oxford Dictionary of Film Studies* (2012); Roberta Pearson and P. Simpson, eds., *Critical Dictionary of Film and Television Theory* (2014); Frank Beaver, *Dictionary of Film Terms*, 5th ed. (2015); Susan Hayward, *Cinema Studies: The Key Concepts*, 4th ed. (2013); Regina Bendix and G. Hasan-Rokem, eds., *A Companion to Folklore* (Blackwell, 2013); Thomas Mann, *The Oxford Guide to Library Research*, 4th ed. (2015).

Requirements

1. Interpretive Essay: close reading of a Shakespeare sonnet, 3-5 pages, due Mon. Sept. 26
2. Self-evaluations, 2 pages each: one due Sept. 26, and one due Dec. 5
3. Oral Presentation on one of the texts from your own seminar paper's bibliography
4. 12 –15 page seminar paper, submitted in stages: abstract, draft, final paper, and presentation (see syllabus for deadlines)
5. 12-item annotated bibliography pertaining to your seminar paper, due Thurs., Oct. 27th
6. Presentation version of seminar paper, edited for 10-minute reading at NWMLA conference (Monday-Tuesday, December 5-6)
7. 2 questions about class readings marked with*, to be posted on Canvas by 6 p.m., the night before class in which we will be discussing the readings
8. 2-4 short, written assignments (related to workshop topics/readings) as assigned
9. Careful and thoughtful preparation of assigned readings throughout the term

Additional Requirements

1. **Punctual, regular attendance and participation in discussion are required.**
2. All written work should be typed, single-sided and double-spaced.
3. Incompletes will be given only for a documented emergency and in consultation with the Director of Graduate Studies.

Grades

Interpretive essay, self-evaluations	comments, grade, 0% of final grade
Questions on readings	(part of class participation grade)
Oral presentation	15%
Seminar paper:	
Abstract	5%
Draft	10%
Final version	30%
Bibliography	15%
NWMLA Presentation	15%
Class Participation	10%

Accessibility Accommodations

Appropriate accommodations will be provided for students with documented disabilities. If you have a documented disability and require accommodation, you must meet with me by Friday, October 7. You will also need to meet with the Accessible Education Center, which will help provide, and/or arrange needed accommodations.

Religious Observances

Please see me in office hours should religious observance conflict with class sessions or activities. See <https://registrar.uoregon.edu/calendars/religious-observances> for more information.

Course Schedule (NB: Some of our meetings will occur with Bovilsky's section of this course when both 690s will share a speaker, presentation, or a discussion. Please check the syllabus and Canvas diligently so you know where to meet on those days during the term so you arrive on time.

Week One

M 9/26 Course Introduction Meet in PLC 448

Sonnet analysis (3-5 pp) and self-evaluation (2 pp) due in class

W 9/28 Library Visit 1

Meet in Knight 144

Faculty Guest: Prof. Jeffrey Staiger

*Reading: Andy Barrett, "The Information-Seeking Habits of Graduate Student Researchers in the Humanities" together

Week Two

M 10/3 Writing Workshop 1: Close reading: Description; Micro-theses Meet in PLC 448

W 10/5 Library Visit 2

Meet in Knight Foyer

Faculty Guest: Jennifer O'Neal

*Reading: Michael Warner, "Professionalization and the Rewards of Literature" PLC 448

Week Three

M 10/10 Writing Workshop 2: Close reading: Words and Meaning Meet in PLC 448

*Reading: William Empson, from *7 Types of Ambiguity*

*Reading: Semenza, Chapters 1-3

Meet in Knight 122

W 10/12 Writing Workshop 3: Close reading exercises

Meet in PLC 448

Week Four

M 10/17 *Reading: Barbara Herrnstein-Smith, "Contingencies of Value" Meet in PLC 448

*Reading: Semenza, Chapters 4-6

Meet in Knight 122

Sample annotated bibliography entry due

W 10/19 *Reading: Christopher Newfield, *The Unmaking of the Public University*,
Introduction, Chapters 9, 13

Meet in PLC 448

Professionalism Q&A 1: Conferencing

Meet in Knight 122

Reading: Semenza, Chapter 9

Week Five

M 10/24 Writing workshop 4: Shaping Introductions Meet in PLC 448

***Reading: Bruns, *Why Literature? The Value of Literary Reading and What it Means for Teaching*; 1-2 page typed response AND 1 key question.

W 10/26 Writing workshop 5: Incorporating and citing criticism

Meet in PLC 448

Professionalism Q&A 2: Publishing

Meet in Knight 122

Reading: Semenza, Chapter 10 together

Th 10/27

Annotated Bibliography due

Week Six

M 10/31 Writing workshop 6: Sentences, Abstracts Meet in PLC 448

W 11/2 Writing workshop 7: Paragraphing Meet in PLC 448
 Publishing case studies **Optional Abstract Exercise due**

Week Seven

M 11/7 Presentations begin! (3) Meet in PLC 448
 Readings to be assigned from your bibliographies

Tu 11/8 **Final paper abstract due**

W 11/9 Presentations from bibliographies cont. (3) Meet in PLC 448

Week Eight

M 11/14 Presentations (3) Meet in PLC 448

W 11/16 Writing Workshop 8: Style/Copia Meet in PLC 448
Copia Exercise due

Week Nine

M 11/21 Presentations (2) Meet in PLC 448

Tu 11/22 **Final paper draft due**

W 11/23 **Thanksgiving Break: no class**

Week Ten

M 11/28 Writing Workshop 9: Close Reading for your papers Meet in PLC 448
 Discussion: Preparing for the NWMLA presentation

W 11/30 Writing Workshop 10: Diction/Grammar/Sentences Redux Meet in PLC 448

Finals Week

M 12/5 and Tu 12/6 NWMLA, 9:30 am –2:30 pm; Alder bldg. ALL TOGETHER

12/6 **Final polished seminar paper due by 5 pm**
Self-evaluation (2 pp.) due