

Spring 2023 Graduate Courses

ENG 789-1: The Afterlife of Colonialism – Deepika Bahri

Mondays, 10:00AM – 12:45PM

ENG 789-2: Early Modern Literature and Reproduction - Ross Knecht

Tuesdays, 4:00PM – 6:45PM

Course Description: This course will focus on the relations among gender, economics, and literature in the early modern period. We will consider the way that literary genres such as the love poem, the wedding masque, and the nursery tale function within the reproductive economy. We will also examine the changes that take place in the household and family during our period, a time when communal households and arranged marriages remained common but nuclear families and the ideal of companionate marriage were becoming more prevalent. The course will begin with a set of readings in feminist criticism, economics, and history that will provide a reproductive economy. We will then move into a survey of early modern poetry, drama, and prose, including writings by Shakespeare, Wroth, and Milton and lesser-known texts such as midwifery manuals and conduct books.

ENG 789 -3: True Crime – Catherine Nickerson

Thursdays, 1:00PM – 3:45PM

ENG 790: Quantitative Literary Analysis: Theory and Practice - Lauren Klein & Ben Miller

Tuesdays, 1:00PM – 3:45PM

Course Description: One of the primary strands of digital humanities scholarship is quantitative literary analysis: the use of quantitative (and other digital) methods to study literary texts. These practices raise many major questions: What does large-scale analysis reveal about literature that cannot be discerned by reading alone? What happens when literary texts are converted into numbers, as they must be for any quantitative analysis to take place? What does it mean, both ethically and intellectually, to borrow methods developed in the sciences and/or from industry for literary and cultural studies scholarship? And what of the core concerns of literary and cultural studies? Can ideas about language, metaphor, style, labor, and power, among others, be quantified, modeled, and/or otherwise explored at scale? This course will take on these questions

in both theory and practice, first by reading and discussing key digital humanities texts that explore these questions, and then, as a class, thinking through possible projects in the area of quantitative literary studies that might intervene. The course will culminate in final projects undertaken in small groups, consisting of both graduate students in English (and related programs) and advanced undergraduates in QTM, which demonstrate how quantitative analysis can contribute to current scholarly conversations in the field of literary studies and beyond, as well as what those demonstrations reveal about the methods, infrastructure, and conceptual frameworks of quantitative and computational analysis.

ENG 798: Seminar in Pedagogy and Professionalization – Patricia Cahill

Tuesdays, 10:00AM – 12:45PM

Course Description:

A seminar designed for doctoral candidates preparing to teach a literature section in the fifth year. Students will also be invited to prepare key documents for fellowship applications and the job market and to explore career opportunities beyond the professoriate.