Spring 2024 Graduate Courses

ENG 711: Studies in Shakespeare: Staging Whiteness – Patricia Cahill
Thursdays, 10:00AM – 12:45PM

ENG 752: Faulkner – Barbara Ladd
Tuesdays/Thursdays, 10:00AM – 11:15AM
Course Description:
Faulkner was an artist (his mother painted), a poet (influenced by French and British poets of the late 19th century, among others), a writer of short stories, a novelist, a screenwriter, an essayist, and one of the most widely translated and influential writers of the 20th century, a Nobel Laureate. In this course, we will undertake a study of his work, with attention to his modernism and aesthetic experiments, the social and literary worlds that shaped his work, his global significance, and his continuing interest for readers and writers in the 21st century.

ENG 789-1: Novel Theory – Emma Davenport
Tuesdays, 1:00PM – 3:45PM
Course Description:
Through readings of literature, literary and cultural theory, and criticism, this course explores novel theory: its history and trajectory, its major figures and concepts, its long-running and recent debates. Our literary readings will be drawn from Britain during the Victorian era (1837–1901), when the novel became the ascendant popular literary form and proliferated among a wide variety of sub-genres. Our theory and criticism will encompass the nineteenth century through the present, focusing on foundational twentieth-century approaches to the genre. Throughout our study, we will evaluate how novels themselves shape their own theories and how, in doing so, they actively create a world they are sometimes thought passively to represent.

The aims of this course extend beyond familiarizing you with theories of the novel and with Victorian fiction: this course will equip you with a set of theoretical models, interpretive methods, and practical skills that you will be able to adapt to other historical eras and literary forms. You will be able to carry this analytical toolkit to your future coursework, research, and teaching, enabling you and your students to examine texts with a sensitive, discerning, and creative eye.
Assessments will include a class presentation, a midterm conference-length paper, and a choice of final project (a seminar-length paper; a syllabus with assignments; or a digital / public humanities project).

**ENG 789-2: Asian Am Lit Transpacific Femininities** – Erica Kanesaka

Mondays, 1:00PM – 3:45PM

Course Description:

Transpacific femininities places gender and sexuality at the center of Asian American literature and culture and the geopolitics of the Pacific Rim. Since at least the nineteenth century, femininity has played a critical role in the material and discursive mediation of transpacific relations: from the circulation of feminized Asian commodities and the migration of sex workers, care workers, and other female laborers to the idea of the Orient as the feminine counterpart to the masculinized West.

In this seminar, we will test the parameters of transpacific femininities as an approach for contending with complex networks of relations within and between multiple competing nations and empires. Rather than read literature and culture as representations that grant us access into the "authentic" experiences of marginalized women, we will consider modes of interdisciplinary analysis that activate texts and objects as agents in domestic race relations and international politics.

Through fiction, poetry, and popular culture, we will explore topics that include: the possibilities and limitations of transnational feminist and women of color solidarity; assemblage theory and virtual embodiment; aesthetics and commodity culture; the sexual politics of imperialism, militarism, surveillance, and globalization; and activism through technology, performance, memorialization, and care.

**ENG 798: Seminar in Pedagogy and Professionalization** – Patricia Cahill

Tuesdays, 10:00AM – 12:45PM