

Advisement Newsletter

Department of English
SUNY Geneseo

fall 2009

***** Preregistration on Knightweb for Spring 2009 Courses November 2 - 20 *****

Join us for Food and Advice on October 21



In addition to regular academic advisement appointments this spring, the English Department will hold a faculty-student pizza mixer with pre-registration help for the fall semester.

Please join us in the Harding Lounge (Welles 111) at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, October 21, for lunch, talk, and answers to your questions about English courses. Students may speak directly to faculty about their interests and scheduled courses.

The refreshments (thanks to the English Club) are free; the talk depends on you. Hope you can make it!

Preparing for your advisement appointment

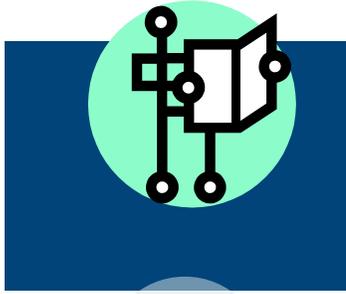
First-year students (including first-year transfer students) as well as students working themselves out of academic difficulty are **required** to see their academic advisors; otherwise you will be unable to pre-register for classes. Since faculty must meet with you to review your schedule, please do not make last-minute contact on the date you are scheduled to pre-register.

Academic advising isn't just for first-year students, however. All students can benefit from sitting down for fifteen minutes with a faculty member to make sure you are fulfilling your requirements as well as making progress toward your degree. Faculty advisors might not have all the answers, but we know where to go to find those answers.

When you arrive for your appointment, bring along your registration materials as well as a plan for courses you'd like to take in the fall. While academic advisors will happily suggest courses to fit your needs, your own interests should drive your schedule. Please recognize as well that you won't have time during a fifteen-minute appointment to work out class times or day preference. Also, you should make sure that you don't have time conflicts or more than two finals on a single day.

Make an appointment by stopping by your advisor's office, sending an email, or calling your advisor. *The department secretary does not make appointments for individual faculty members.*

Please remember to check the bulletin boards outside the English Department office where course descriptions are posted. You can learn the nature of slot-course offerings, and also gain some ideas about selected texts, classroom and grading policies, and so forth.



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We're on the Web!

english.geneseo.edu

*Check out the course
descriptions!!*

Courses of Interest to English Majors

ENGL 170 The Practice Of Criticism (Freed, Greenfield, Harrison, Schacht)

American Literature ENGL 235 American Literature (Freed); ENGL 237 American Voices: Hurricane Stories (McCoy); ENGL 239 American Visions: Graphic Narrative (Cooper); ENGL 330 American Romanticism (Rutkowski); ENGL 336 Native American Literature (Woidat); ENGL 339 American Ways: Cinema Heroes (Gillin); ENGL 358 Major Authors: Melville (Rutkowski)

Pre-1700 British ENGL 212 British Literature I (Drake); ENGL 222 Exploring the Renaissance: Harry Potter and the Renaissance Epic (Walker); ENGL 358 Major Authors: Malory and the Legends of King Arthur (Drake); ENGL 390 / INTD 354 Studies in Literature: Age of Dante [can be taken under either number] (Herzman)

Post-1700 British ENGL 213 British Literature II (Harrison); ENGL 233 Topics in Post-1700 Literature: The British Comedy of Manners Tradition (Greenfield); ENGL 233 Topics in Post-1700 Literature: Letters (Paku); ENGL 315 Victorian Literature (Schacht)

Major Figures ENGL 358 Major Authors: Malory and the Legends of King Arthur (Drake); ENGL 358 Major Authors: Melville (Rutkowski); ENGL 359: Film Authors: Wong Kar Wai (Okada); ENGL 390 / INTD 354 Studies in Literature: Age of Dante [can be taken under either number] (Herzman)

Non-Traditional Lit WMST 201: Women and Film (Okada); ENGL 237 American Voices: Hurricane Stories (McCoy); ENGL 336 Native American Literature (Woidat); ENGL 337 African-American Literature (McCoy); ENGL 345 Gay and Lesbian Literature (Drake); ENGL 359 Film Authors: Wong Kar Wai (Okada)

Shakespeare ENGL 355 Shakespeare II (Finkelstein)

Writing/Language Courses ENGL 200 (Metzger); ENGL 201 (Gentry, Perri, Woidat); ENGL 288 Reading as a Writer (Hall); ENGL 301/303 Poetry Writing I/II (Faurot) ENGL 302/304 Fiction Writing I/II (Gentry); ENGL 305/307 Creative Non-Fiction I/II (Hall)

Film WMST 201: Women and Film (Okada); ENGL 339 American Ways: Cinema Heroes (Gillin); ENGL 359 Film Authors (Okada)

Electives ENGL 319 Literary Theory (Asher)

Genre Courses (for Writing Track): ENGL 142 Short Fiction (Freed); ENGL 142 The Short-Story Cycle (Gentry); ENGL 142 Science Fiction (Metzger); ENGL 142 Mysteries and Thrillers (Walker); ENGL 233 British Comedy of Manners Tradition (Greenfield); ENGL 239 American Visions: Graphic Narrative (Cooper); ENGL 358 Major Authors: Melville (Rutkowski)

Contemporary Courses (for Writing Track): ENGL 142 The Short-Story Cycle (Gentry); ENGL 239 American Visions: Graphic Narrative (Cooper)

World Literature Courses (for Writing Track) ENGL 142 The Short-Story Cycle (Gentry); ENGL 390 / INTD 354 Studies in Literature: Age of Dante [can be taken under either number] (Herzman)

Please remember that, within a given range of course numbers (200-299 or 300-399, for example), higher numbers do not indicate increased levels of difficulty.

Concentrators:

Please note that you often have more flexibility in your course selection than some editions of the catalogue indicate. Current options include:

- Three hours from among ENGL 200, 201, 306, or 361
- Three hours from among ENGL 212, 222, 232, 310, 311, 312, 350, 353.
- Three hours from among ENGL 213, 218, 233, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 324.
- Three hours from among ENGL 235, 237, 239, 330, 331, 332, 333, 338, 339.
- Three hours from among ENGL 237, 241, 242, 267/M, 318, 343, 345, 360.

Please note that ENGL 358 can count in various categories depending on the offering. Please check with your faculty advisor or with English Advisement Newsletters for information.

PERMISSION FOR 300-level WRITING

Students should remember that these classes are highly selective. In order to get permission for ENGL 301/303, 302/304, 305/307 – you need to have completed ENGL 201.

Writing samples for Creative Nonfiction I and II and Fiction I and II are due by 4 p.m. on Friday October 30. Interested students should submit five to ten pages of their best work in the genre for which they are applying. (Fiction workshops focus on realistic literary fiction.) Cover sheets are available outside the English department office. These need to be filled out and attached to the writing sample.

The class lists will be posted before registration on Monday, November 2. Selected students will be able to register through Knightweb.

Have you ever wondered exactly which courses you still needed to complete your degree at Geneseo? Have you ever wondered about which general education requirements you still need to complete? Did you ever think about changing your major and how that might affect your graduation date? The answers to these questions and many more are available on-line using the program called **WebCAPP** which is available through Knightweb.

WebCAPP generates *unofficial* degree audit reports that provide you with the ability to monitor carefully your progress in meeting the degree requirements at Geneseo. With **WebCAPP**, you are able to check your progress:

- a) in General Education;
- b) in your major;
- c) in your concentration or minor(s).

In addition, a "**What-If**" option allows you to check your coursework against the requirements of any other program SUNY-Geneseo offers. This is especially useful as you consider possible changes of major/program or if you wish to add a minor or change a concentration.

It is important to recognize that **WebCAPP** generates only **unofficial** degree audit reports. If you have questions about **WebCAPP** records, consult your advisor. The formal pre-graduation check continues to

Important note on Pre-Grad Checks

Some students are contacted each semester for *pre-graduation checks*. When invited, you schedule an appointment with Ed Gillin in Welles 232B to go over your pre-grad forms. Please note that you don't need to initiate this process, which is triggered by the Records Office based on the number of credit hours earned toward graduation; Professor Gillin will contact you when he receives your documents from that office. Aside from this one-time, "official" process, you may continue to consult your regular advisor for information about your status in meeting graduation requirements during any point in your academic career.

Beginning this semester, the Administration is placing a records hold on students who have not completed their pre-grad check.

Law School advisement:

If you are interested in going to law school, please see Dr Drake in Welles 217A. Dr Drake is the College Pre-Law Advisor. He can tell you about pre-law at Geneseo, which is an advisement **system** rather than a specific set of courses (pre-law is not the same thing as the Legal Studies Minor). He can also help you navigate the application process, including preparing for the LSAT, looking for the right law school, and putting together personal statements and recommendation letters.

Unlike medical schools, law schools **do not require specific courses** on your transcript. You'll want to have the best GPA you can have, of course, but the courses you choose should emphasize skills that you will need for studying law and practicing as a lawyer: **writing, reading (critically and in huge quantities), critical analysis and logic, and public speaking (including debate)**. English, by the way, is an excellent preparation for law school because you develop many of these skills-- reading closely, using evidence, creating arguments in essay form, documenting sources, and speaking in various kinds of formal and informal situations.

Email: drake@geneseo.edu

That time of year thou mayst in me behold
When yellow leaves, or none, or few, do hang
Upon those boughs which shake against the cold,
Bare ruined choirs, where late the sweet birds sang.

from Sonnet 73
by William Shakespeare