

**Department of English and Communication Course Descriptions  
SUMMER 2021**

**50:192:281  
03907**

**Public Speaking  
A1 online**

**Gimbal**

Public speaking is something that everyone will have to encounter at some point in their lives, and this course will help students focus on the skills necessary for effective public speaking. This includes delivery techniques, speech-writing, persuasion abilities and the ability to critically evaluate both written and spoken speeches of others. Students will research, write and deliver several speeches in class.

**50:350:227**

**Folk and Fairy Tales Across Media  
D1 Online**

**Blackford**

This course draws upon tales from around the world and asks you to compare adaptations of them, from a variety of critical lenses (structural, Marxist, psychoanalytic, queer, feminist, etc.). How has “Beauty and the Beast” morphed into a queer tale? How has “Little Red Riding Hood” been altered to suit what Jack Zipes calls “rape culture”? How does Brer Rabbit fuel the trickster tales of Looney Tunes and *Who Framed Roger Rabbit*? What were original mermaid tales like, and how did they frame female sacrifice? Requirements include continual participation online and a final project, which may be electronic or multimodal, in which you analyze adaptations of a core tale over time, in literature, film, plays, television, games, or even merchandise.

**50:352:250  
01756**

**Early African American Literature  
A1 online**

**Green**

This course surveys writings by blacks in America from the eighteenth century up until the end of the nineteenth century. Through a rigorous program of reading, discussion, and writing, students will come to appreciate the historical contexts, thematic concerns, and literary forms that structured African American literature in the Colonial, Revolutionary, Antebellum, and Reconstruction eras. Students will be reading from and interacting with a wide array of texts, such as slave narratives, poems, novels, letters, speeches, and pamphlets. Representative authors include, but are not limited to, Lucy Terry, Phyllis Wheatley, Briton Hammon, David Walker, Frederick Douglass, Harriet Jacobs, Harriet Wilson, and Ida B. Wells-Barnett. A short response paper, presentation, weekly quizzes, unit tests, final exam, and daily class participation are required.

**50:352:391  
12156**

**Special Topics: The Art of Dr. Seuss  
D1 Online**

**Hoffman**

In this course students will undertake intensive study of the art of the most important children’s authors of the last century, Dr. Seuss. We will map the evolution of his art in intersection with American cultural politics over the course of his long career. Requirements include: weekly discussion posts; weekly reading quizzes; weekly assignments; and a final paper.

**50:354:217  
12157**

**Introduction to Documentary Film  
J1 Online**

**Emmons**

This course is an introduction to the history and theory of documentary film. Through readings and screenings, students will review and analyze the evolution of the documentary film genre and its modes. The course will also explore concepts that are central in documentary filmmaking, including ethical, legal, and artistic issues that are critical in non-fiction filmmaking.

**50:354:398**  
**12158**

**Film Genre: Horror**  
**D1 Online**

**Sorrento**

This course will cover the history of horror, a dynamic though misunderstood tradition in cinema. After beginning with the horror film's first appearances in American and German silent film, this survey will trace the genre's development in the early Hollywood studio system up through contemporary treatments. We will analyze how cinematic/cultural movements and historical eras have informed horror movies, and how landmark films – including Wiene's *The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari*, Hitchcock's *Psycho*, Romero's *Night of the Living Dead*, among others – have revised the genre. This survey will also consider the artistry of trademark directors, screenwriters, and performers through in-class screenings and close analysis.

**50:989:102**  
**12154**

**English Composition II**  
**A1 online**

**FitzGerald**

Instruction in academic writing focused on research-based argument. The second course in a two-course composition requirement.

**50:989:102**  
**12155**

**English Composition II**  
**J1 online**

**Saha**

Instruction in academic writing focused on research-based argument. The second course in a two-course composition requirement.

**50:989:300**  
**02899**

**Writing Public Arguments**  
**A1 online**

**Blackford**

Today's public arguments encompass a wide range of written, aural, and visual media. In this course you will analyze and write a variety of public arguments across media, gaining proficiency with rhetorical strategies in each. You begin with analyzing omics and writing a short essay about how they work. In unit 2 you write a persuasive research paper on any topic of your choice; at the end of the course you will adapt your own researched argument into two modes of your choice—hopefully one will be a multimodal project that takes the form of a website on wordpress. I'm also open to podcasts, voiceover and slides, video essays, brochures, and other public materials. Throughout the course, you will engage actively with the peer learning community online.

**50:989:309**  
**12139**

**Nonfiction Workshop**  
**A1 online**

**Grodstein**

This nonfiction workshop is perfect for MA and MFA students who want to develop their essays, memoirs, and investigative nonfiction. We'll read work by Jo Ann Beard, Barry Lopez, Ta-Nehisi Coates, and others, while discussing the excitement and challenges of producing or own work. This is an asynchronous online course with lots of individualized feedback from the professor.