

{ English }

» EXPRESS YOUR SELF

The courses in the English major paint a portrait of humanity, both past and present, Western and non-Western, male and female, rich and poor. The major is interdisciplinary in nature, and it is concerned with the relationship between literature, history, and culture.

Course Spotlight - Senior Thesis

Conduct a study in the fields of literature, composition, rhetoric, or cultural studies under the close supervision of a member of the English department faculty. Students may also complete a creative writing thesis of extended length, such as poetry, a collection of short stories or essays, a longer dramatic work, a screenplay, or a novella. Alternatively, English majors can fulfill this capstone experience through a supervised internship/practicum.

Faculty Profile - Ceiridwen Terrill

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

Ceiridwen Terrill, Ph.D. is a writer specializing in literary nonfiction. Ceiridwen has an avid interest in how humans interact with the environment. She began her career as a backcountry wilderness ranger in Northern California and once served as an interpreter for the National Park Service in Georgia and Utah. She has also worked with farmers in Costa Rica to document their transition from pesticide-dependent crops to organic ones.

Her first book, *Unnatural Landscapes: Tracking Invasive Species*, concentrates, in part, on how humans have moved foreign species into new environments and what needs to be done to contain the damage from such an invasion. The book encompasses many of her passions, both in content and in style, with its combination of science writing and personal adventure. Her second book is about the industry of breeding and selling wolves and wolf-dogs as pets.

As an educator at Concordia, Ceiridwen appreciates helping students find their voice as writers, "My most rewarding experience has been the eagerness of students to write about their lives, to make sense of them and reach out to others with their stories."

She also welcomes working with students engaged in thesis research, "After four years of coursework, these young scholars are looking beyond writing for the classroom. They develop confidence to take the next steps toward publication of their written work, and I'm interested in helping them reach that goal."



Why a Concordia University English Degree?

1. Work closely with faculty and other students in small classes
2. Learn how to learn through development of clear thinking and problem solving skills
3. Gain access to numerous literary events and resources in our stimulating urban setting
4. Launch your career through work and internship experiences with local businesses, media, or arts organizations
5. Explore a subject of personal interest in depth with a thesis which provides an excellent credential for graduate school admission

Sample Curriculum

The following is a sampling of the many classes that have recently been offered in our curriculum –

STUDENT NEWSPAPER

Develop and demonstrate skills in news gathering, writing for publication, editing copy, and desktop publishing.

WRITING STUDIO

Produce a portfolio of writing that meets self-identified goals.

LITERARY JOURNAL

Compose, edit, and publish *The Promethean*, Concordia University's literary journal.

FILMS OF JAMES BOND

Study 40 years of the Bond films' appropriation and manipulation of the iconography of late twentieth-century Anglo/American culture.

BRITISH LITERATURE

Survey the representative British prose, poetry, and drama from the 8th-century Anglo-Latins through the 17th-century Cavalier poets to Dickens and modern absurdist theatre.

AMERICAN LITERATURE

Evaluate writers and themes in 17th - 20th century American literature through a multi-cultural lens.

CREATIVE NON-FICTION: ART OF ESSAY

Practice the art of creative non-fiction writing reviews and personal essays.

JOURNALISM AND FEATURE WRITING

Master the basics of journalism and feature writing.

WORLD DRAMA

Consider the theatre as an arena where societies express their cultural issues and rehearse resolution of their cultural arguments.

THE HERO

Understand the role of the hero in specific times and place, especially our own.

THE WORLD NOVEL

Survey the world's many literary communities with an emphasis on the novel as a medium for the transmission of personal, communitarian, political, religious, and philosophical values.

SHAKESPEARE

Apply traditional and contemporary analytical methodologies and interpretive approaches to selected readings from Shakespearean comedies, tragedies, histories, romances, and sonnets.

THE SIXTIES IN ITS OWN WRITE

Explore the literature and history of the Sixties in America, particularly the civil rights movement, the Vietnam War, the counterculture, and the women's movement.

WOMEN AND THE LITERARY TRADITION

Draw from psychology, sociology, and history to investigate the changing role of women in society.

CREATIVE WRITING

Learn the principles of short story and poetry writing.

RELIGION AND LITERATURE

Study selected tragic and biblical texts, such as Oedipus, Job, King Lear, I Peter, J.B. and Wiesel's Night, that focus on the perennial question, "What is human?" Then study C.S. Lewis' Narnia, Tolkien's Lord of the Rings, and works by Ursula le Guin and Flannery O'Connor with selected biblical texts that concentrate on the recovery of transcendent values. Conclude the three course series with works by Aristophanes, Shakespeare, Moliere, Jane Austen, George Bernard Shaw, and selected biblical texts exploring the religious foundation of cultural norms and ultimate values.

Next Step

The study of English enriches your understanding of literature and helps you learn how to obtain and communicate knowledge so you can contribute to the intellectual life of your community. If you would like to join us, contact the Concordia University Office of Admission at –

800-321-9371 503-280-8501 admissions@cu-portland.edu



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