Words at Work Courses in the English Major

ENGL 240 – Creative Writing
4 semester hours

Prerequisite: ENGL 101E
Beginning course in creative writing — fiction, poetry and drama. The rudiments and beyond. First-year students by permission of instructor. This course is a prerequisite to all advanced creative writing courses. Writing intensive. Every year.

ENGL 241 – Beginning Journalism
4 semester hours

Prerequisite: ENGL 101E
Introduction to the concepts and concerns of the practicing journalist, with primary emphasis on news writing and secondary emphasis on beginning copy-editing skills. Students discuss such topics as freedom of the press, rights and responsibilities, and the post-Watergate press, and are expected to write for the weekly student newspaper. Writing intensive. Every year.

ENGL 242 – Writing Center Theory and Practice
4 semester hours

Prerequisites: By permission of instructor, ENGL 101E
This course is designed primarily to prepare writing advisors for the Wittenberg Writing Center. Emphasis on writing processes, interpersonal dynamics, evaluation of writing-in-progress, and rhetorical theory as it pertains to working one-to-one with writers. By permission of instructor only. Writing intensive. Every year.

ENGL 243 – Business Writing
4 semester hours

Prerequisite: ENGL 101E
This course focuses on writing skills for professional situations, including conventional formats for letters, memos, and formal reports. Also looks at use of conventional structures for typical documents such as brochures, résumés, and proposals. Emphasis on peer critique, editing, and revision. Writing intensive. Alternate years.

ENGL 244 – Opinion Writing
4 semester hours

Prerequisites: ENGL 101E and ENGL 241
Intermediate course with emphasis on journalistic opinion writing such as editorials, commentaries, columns, and reviews. Reading will include examples of such writing; students will practice writing, critiquing, revising, and editing skills. Writing intensive.

ENGL 245 – Writing for Teachers
4 semester hours

An intermediate course in composition for prospective teachers. Students will review the history of writing instruction, study key issues in composition and assessment theory, and develop their own writing. The course will also examine the day-to-day work of a writing class: from designing assignments to responding to drafts and finished products. Writing intensive. Fall semester odd-numbered years.
ENGL 320 – Advanced News Writing
4 semester hours

Prerequisite: ENGL 241
This course builds on basic journalistic skills by exploring advanced techniques in writing, editing, reporting, layout, investigation, research, and conducting interviews. Emphasis on workshop critiques, editing, and revision. Writing intensive. Alternate years.

ENGL 321 – Advanced Feature Writing
4 semester hours

Prerequisite: ENGL 241
The course offers practice in writing feature stories for newspapers and magazines. Types of stories might include profiles, human-interest stories, lifestyle and travel stories, etc. Emphasis on workshop critiques, editing, and revision. Writing intensive. Alternate years.

ENGL 324 – Summer Journalism Institute
4 or 6 semester hours

Prerequisite: Permission of the department
The four-week course provides in-depth training in feature writing based on a week of interviewing at a pre-selected locale. The course will combine discussion, lecture, writer-workshop, interviewing, fieldwork, revision, and extensive individual consultation. Students will workshop their stories, edit them and produce a final product.

ENGL 327 – Advanced Rhetoric and Grammar
4 semester hours

This course focuses on grammatical terminology and structure, and offers an overview of rhetorical theory. The course will also examine the manner in which language changes as a result of social, political, and cultural influences. Fall semester even-numbered years.

ENGL 335 – Topics in Advanced Composition
2-4 semester hours

Prerequisite: ENGL 101E, other prerequisites may vary by section
This course focuses on a form of professional writing for which English serves as a preparatory major. All sections emphasize critical reading and writing skills, but the form of professional writing will vary from section to section (e.g., the critical edition, the public intellectual, grant writing, etc.) Writing intensive. Every year. This course may be repeated for credit if the focus is different.

ENGL 340 – Advanced Fiction Writing
4 semester hours

Prerequisite: ENGL 240
Extending skills learned in English 240 by focusing on the writing of fiction. Class activities will include reading and discussing the narrative strategies and techniques of contemporary fiction as well as extensive workshop critiques of students' own stories. Emphasis on dramatic structure and conflict, dialogue, and other important matters of craft. Writing intensive. Every year.
ENGL 341 – Advanced Poetry Writing
4 semester hours

Prerequisite: ENGL 240
Extending skills learned in English 240 by focusing on the writing of poetry. Class activities will include reading and discussing the strategies and techniques of contemporary poetry as well as extensive workshop critiques of students' own poems. Emphasis on language, lineation, figural speech, and other important matters of craft. Writing intensive. Every year.

ENGL 342 – Advanced Creative Non-Fiction
4 semester hours

Prerequisite: ENGL 240
Extending skills learned in English 240 by focusing on the writing of creative non-fiction. Class activities will include reading and discussing the forms and techniques of contemporary non-fiction as well as extensive workshop critiques of students' own essays. Emphasis on defining subject and point of view, narrative technique, and other important matters of craft. Writing intensive. Every year.

ENGL 343 – Advanced Screenwriting
4 semester hours

Prerequisite: ENGL 240, THDN 240 strongly recommended
Extending skills learned in English 240 by focusing on dramatic writing for the screen. Class activities will include reading and discussing the format and structure of screenplays as well as extensive workshop critiques of students' own work. Emphasis on dramatic structure, dialogue, visual narrative, and other important matters of craft. Writing intensive. Alternate years.

ENGL 344 – Summer Screenwriting Institute
4 or 6 semester hours

Prerequisite: Permission of the department
This course combines workshopping and individual conferences with instruction by professional screenwriters and producers in writing with an understanding of production considerations.

ENGL 403 – Advanced Projects in Creative Writing
4 semester hours

Prerequisites: By permission of the instructor
A cross-generic, selective writing workshop for students who have completed at least two advanced creative writing courses and have been selected by a faculty panel based on a portfolio of work.