

English and Creative Writing

"I see students make far more progress in a one-block writing course here than I ever saw on the semester system."

Shannon Reed, Associate Professor of English

The Department of English and Creative Writing offers a broad range of courses, including off-campus classes in Chicago, England, Namibia, the Bahamas, and the Wilderness Field Station in northern Minnesota. The major fosters a general understanding of English and American literary history while enabling students to concentrate in one of three areas: literature, creative writing, or film studies.

Many courses allow students to get out of the classroom and into the archives and world. Some classes also have service learning components. Because of the three tracks, English faculty often allow students to create their own projects, choosing between a strictly academic project or a creative project with an academic component, for example. This better allows classes to fit the needs and interests of the students.

Students can also take part in Cornell's vibrant literary life through opportunities supported by the Center for the Literary Arts. Through the center's programs, students can take courses led by distinguished visiting writers, attend readings and workshops, contribute to the literary magazine *Open Field*, or participate in one of the many creative student organizations on campus. The center is assisted by an Emerging Writer Fellow who teaches courses, supports programs, and works on her own creative projects.

BENEFITS OF ONE COURSE AT A TIME

We extend our classroom beyond campus on a regular basis. Whether

exploring the theatre and architecture of England, nature writing in northern Minnesota, the literature of Africa or the Caribbean, or the historic literary treasures of Chicago's Newberry Library, students' imaginations are opened to new worlds of insight and possibility.

Each year we bring in two writers from the University of Iowa International Writers Program to visit classes and give a reading. Students have the opportunity to visit, and often to dine, with these writers. Other writers come as part of the Visiting Writers Series and spend time in classes. Each year two Distinguished Visiting Writers teach an advanced topics course and give a reading.

CURRICULUM HIGHLIGHTS

The diverse scholarly expertise of our faculty enables a curriculum steeped in literary tradition while fully engaged with the contemporary world. We endeavor to teach our students to read, evaluate, and write clearly about "the prose of the world"—the myriad texts they will be confronted with both at Cornell College and in their future.

Majors take at least two foundation courses, complete a variety of upper-level courses in American and British Literature, and gain in-depth knowledge through a concentration in one sub-field of English: literary studies, creative writing, or critical film studies. Senior Seminar, with its emphasis on research and life after the English major, plus a small, concentration-specific senior workshop, provide a capstone experience.

FACILITIES

While the faculty are housed in South Hall, the Cornell College Center for the Literary Arts is housed in a charming home two doors away that has a long

Faculty Bios & Courses

REBECCA ENTEL
Associate Professor of English

Teaches courses in American literature, multicultural literature, and creative writing. She is published as both a scholar in American literature and as a fiction writer. Her research and teaching interests include metaphor, race, and the literature of the civil war. Ph.D. and M.A., University of Wisconsin at Madison; B.A., University of Pennsylvania.

GLENN FREEMAN
Associate Professor of English

Teaches creative writing and American poetry courses, and takes students to the Wilderness Field Station in Minnesota for American Nature Writers. He is the author of two books of poems: "Traveling Light" (2011), and "Keeping the Tigers Behind Us" (2007). His poems have also appeared in *Poetry*, *The Cimarron Review*, *The Lullwater Review*, and *Talking River Review*. Ph.D., University of Florida, Gainesville; M.F.A., Vermont College; B.A., Goddard College.

LESLIE KATHLEEN HANKINS
Professor of English

Specializes in modernist and 20th century British literature, especially Virginia Woolf, as well as film studies. She teaches Modern American Literature at the Wilderness Field Station in Minnesota, and is currently researching modernism and the wilderness, focusing on Canadian painter and journalist Emily Carr. Ph.D. and M.A., University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; B.A., Duke University. Serves as president of the Virginia Woolf Society.



tradition of creative activity. Known as the Van Etten-Lacey House, it supports a variety of programs that bring distinguished visiting writers to campus for courses, workshops, and readings.

INTERNSHIPS/FELLOWSHIPS

Students can earn course credit while pursuing internships for a block or longer, and we consider internships to be an important part of our degree program. They allow students to clarify goals, make connections, and perform meaningful work in a variety of fields. Recent internships include Cornell Fellowships at Creative Materials in Huntington Beach, California (creating teaching materials), and Westview Press in Boulder, Colorado (academic texts); as well as internships in Washington, D.C., Seattle, and New York, and internships with Columbia University Press and Phantom Graphics (comics).

AFTER CORNELL

Recent grads have gone on to master's of fine arts programs, publishing, Teach For America, law school, library science, and graduate school. Some graduates have started their own blogs or are professional writers.

English teacher at Dundee Crown High School in Carpentersville, Illinois (Class of 2013)

"Education First" English teacher, Beijing, China (Class of 2013)

NYU Master of Fine Arts workshop in Paris (Class of 2012)

Editorial assistant at the Geological Society of America in Boulder, Colorado (Class of 2011)

Production editor, University of Arizona Press in Tucson, Arizona (Class of 2010)

Eighth grade English language arts teacher at Onslow County Schools in Jacksonville, North Carolina (Class of 2009)

Curator, Indianapolis Museum of Arts in Indianapolis (Class of 2008)

Production editor at Tucson University Press in Tucson, Arizona (Class of 2008)

Youth services librarian at the North Suburban Library District in Delevan, Wisconsin (Class of 2007)

Intelligence analyst with the U.S. Army in Fort Riley, Kansas (Class of 2007)

Science assistant at the National Science Foundation in Arlington, Virginia (Class of 2006)

Freelance editor, formerly senior editor at Penguin Books in Los Angeles (Class of 2005)

Executive director of Global Zero in Washington, D.C. (Class of 2004)

Attorney at Grefe & Sidney, P.L.C. in Des Moines, Iowa (Class of 2003)

Membership communications manager at WGPB Public Television in Boston (Class of 2001)

Editor at Eco-Structure Magazine in Chicago (Class of 1998)

Vice president for product management at MasterCard Worldwide in Purchase, New York (Class of 1997)

Consul at the U.S. Embassy in San Salvador, El Salvador (Class of 1996)

Vice president of human resources and organization effectiveness for the Girl Scouts of Greater Chicago & Indiana (Class of 1994)

Assistant principal of Roxbrough Intermediate in Littleton, Colorado (Class of 1992)

Senior editor at McGraw Hill Publishers in Burr Ridge, Illinois (Class of 1991)

Artistic director at Theatre Cedar Rapids in Cedar Rapids, Iowa (Class of 1989)

Director of communications at Duke University in Durham, North Carolina (Class of 1988)

Vice president at Global Markets Centre, Deutsche Bank Group in Wanchai, Hong Kong (Class of 1988)

Exhibits officer at The Newberry Library in Chicago (Class of 1974)

Marketing manager for Groves Dictionaries of Music in New York City (Class of 1971)

Managing editor of Poetry Magazine in Chicago (Class of 1966)

MICHELLE MOUTON

Professor of English

Teaches Romantic and Victorian literature, critical theory, cultural studies, women's studies, and AIDS literature and film. She teaches a 111 course that examines the World of Disney, and team-teaches Arts, Architecture, and Theater in England. Ph.D. and M.A., University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; B.A., Tulane University.

SHANNON REED

Associate Professor of English

Specializes in restoration and 18th century English literature, especially colonialist literature. She also teaches postcolonial literature, advanced critical writing, a 111 course on censorship, and a course on Southern African art, literature, and culture in Namibia and South Africa. Ph.D., University of Alabama Tuscaloosa, M.A., California State University at Sacramento, B.A., Earlham College.

KIRILKA (KATY)

STAVREVA

Professor of English

Teaches Medieval and Renaissance literature, Global Shakespeare, film, and book arts and history. She is the author of the 2015 book "Words Like Daggers: Violent Female Speech in Early Modern England" and her scholarship has appeared in essay collections and numerous academic journals. Ph.D., University of Iowa; Specialist (combined B.A. and M.A. degree), Sofia University, Bulgaria.

HELEN RUBINSTEIN

Robert P. Dana Emerging Writer Fellow

Her essays have appeared in The Seneca Review, The Paris Review Daily, Witness, The New York Times, and elsewhere, and her fiction in The Collagist, Ninth Letter, and Salt Hill. M.F.A., nonfiction, University of Iowa; M.F.A., fiction, Brooklyn College; B.A., literature, Yale.