Our course texts will guide us through a rigorous, challenging, and hopefully-sometimes-revelatory of reading in the literature of post-colonialism in English. This semester, we’ll work to get a sense of how these authors talk to us (however we construe that “us”) and to each other, the historical and political contexts shaping their artistic concerns, and how they view the role of art and the production of literature in an increasingly globalized world. We’ll think about the emergence of English as a language that has been used in literature to colonize, to define the nation, to create international connections, and to theorize the global. We’ll discuss what it means for post-independence authors to choose to work in a colonial language (or, in the case of one of our authors, to refuse to do so). We’ll do this by looking at a variety of literary forms, including the novel, lyric and dramatic poetry, and works that are betwixt and between those more traditional forms. Course authors will likely include Chinua Achebe, Wole Soyinka, Derek Walcott, Leslie Marmon Silko, Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, Grace Nichols, and Nuala ní Dhomhnaill.

Across cultures and throughout history, writers have depicted the Lawyer in various and conflicting ways. What does this say about a particular society? What does this say about the legal system in which the Lawyer operates? And, importantly, what does our modern portrait of this figure tell us about our own values and ethics today? As the liaison between the citizenry and official authority, the Lawyer -- whether as attorney, advocate, judge, or legal rhetorician -- functions, among other things, as an enforcer or a shield in relation to that authority. The civil law of European nations, the common law of England and the United States, the religious law of major religions, and the law of tribal societies have all created differing roles for their advocates, and writers have long worked to describe the complexity of this power relationship. We will take a critical, and hopefully entertaining look, at their ideas and stories.

This course will explore concepts in Black popular culture of the last fifty years with particular emphasis on connections between the Black Power movement, the Black Arts movement and (M4BL) the Movement for Black Lives. Using cultural and critical race theories, students will gain understanding of the historical, popular and political contexts in which Blackness is culturally produced in American society. Materials for the course will include a variety of films, online resources, social media artifacts,
This course examines--through literature, film, art, and philosophy--different concepts critical to the shaping of primarily "Western" culture(s), with a glance at similar concepts in "non-Western" cultures. The course is also "critical" in the sense that it asks students, through virtually weekly take-home quizzes, to critique these concepts, taking the wheat and letting the chaff be still. Topics may include the ideology of war or human rights; the problem of evil; the figure of the Trickster; and others.

English 220B-001 Literature of the Bible: The New Testament    Tom Willard
Tier II HUMS
TuTh 11:00am-12:15pm

A study of the New Testament books with some attention to Old Testament sources and apocryphal writings associated with both testaments. The emphasis will be on such literary features as narrative and poetic styles, implied authors and audiences, and myths and metaphors similar to those found in other works of world literature. Previous experience with the Bible is neither necessary nor necessarily helpful. The assigned text is The Access Bible: New Revised Standard Version. Requirements include quizzes, in-class writing, two short essays, and mid-term and final exams.

English 231-001 Shakespeare’s Major Plays    Staff
Tier II HUMS
MWF 12:00pm-12:50pm

A close reading of six to eight plays, including a comedy, a history, a tragedy, and a tragicomedy.

ENGL 255-101 Introduction to English Language    Staff
ONLINE

Basic concepts in the study of the English language: history, semantics, phonology, morphology, syntax, and discourse. English in its social context: regional and social varieties, language acquisition, and English as an international language.
ENGL 260-001  Major British Writers  Staff
TIER II HUMS
MWF 10:00-10:50 a.m.

Intensive study of selected works by major British writers.

ENGL 266  Young Adult Literature  Pearmain

- 266-001  In-Person Lecture  MW  4:30 p.m.-5:20 p.m.
- 266-001A  In-Person Discussion  MW  5:20 p.m.-5:45 p.m.

Students will learn to critically examine and write about Young Adult novels and to develop a better understanding of the genre as a whole. Students will discuss, explore, and analyze the ways in which cultural and historical contexts influence the production and themes of literature. Students will come to understand the ways in which Young Adult literature shapes understandings of adolescence.