

Magid Center for Undergraduate Writing

Director, Division of Interdisciplinary Programs

- Cornelia C. Lang (Physics and Astronomy)

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- Amy Margolis

Director, Iowa Young Writers' Studio

- Stephen P. Lovely

Director, Iowa Youth Writing Project

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Undergraduate certificate: writing

Faculty: <https://magidcenter.uiowa.edu/people>

Website: <https://magidcenter.uiowa.edu/>

Courses

Magid Center for Undergraduate Writing Courses

WRIT:1003 English Grammar 3 s.h.

Recognizing nouns, verbs, adverbs, adjectives, and other parts of speech; sentence analysis; subjects, objects; types of sentences; passives, relative clauses; for students with little or no background in English grammar study. Does not count toward the linguistics major. Same as LING:1003.

WRIT:1030 English Words 3 s.h.

English word formation, basic units of English vocabulary; vocabulary skill expansion; word structure. Same as LING:1030.

WRIT:1500 Writing Commons: A Community of Writers 1-3 s.h.

Varied topics focused on building community and enhancing writing skills through generative exercises, long-form essay and hybrid assignments, workshops, sharing work in public, reading and discussing works of published authors.

WRIT:1600 Fast Fixes: Improving Your Writing in Six Short Weeks 1 s.h.

Varied topics focused on improving common writing problems or specific aspects of craft. Prerequisites: (RHET:1040 and RHET:1060) or RHET:1030.

WRIT:1740 Writing Strategies: Word Origins and Word Choice 3 s.h.

Study of words, their meanings, and their origins combined with writing; words and word histories; role of English language in the world. GE: Literary, Visual, and Performing Arts. Same as CLSA:1740.

WRIT:2100 Writing and Community Outreach 3 s.h.

Service-learning course offered in coordination with Iowa Youth Writing Project (IYWP); students create lesson plans, lead creative writing workshops in area schools and after-school programs, and collaborate to publish a final chapbook of writing from their teaching sites; assigned readings on creative writing pedagogy, teaching life, community outreach, social justice; relationships between self and community enhance interdisciplinary perspectives; weekly written reflections on teaching experiences featured on IYWP blog. GE: Diversity and Inclusion.

WRIT:2101 Writers in the Community 1 s.h.

Experiential, hands-on learning opportunities organized by the Iowa Youth Writing Project; introduction to the community at large; fun and meaningful activities with elementary and junior high school students; designing creative writing lessons, discussion of teaching tips and tricks, leading creative writing workshops for children in the Iowa City community, writing reflective essays about experiences; for those interested in education, creative writing, volunteerism, nonprofit work, or community engagement.

WRIT:2300 Writing Toward Empathy 3 s.h.

Students practice personal narrative, research writing, and professional communication skills to actively understand relevant social justice issues in Iowa; diversity, equity, and inclusion-based writing course offered in coordination with the Iowa Youth Writing Project.

WRIT:2600 Science Communication I: Fundamentals of Science Communication 2 s.h.

Bringing science to varied audiences; focus on writing and presenting research story, analogies, connecting with audiences, collaborating with others from science and film/writing disciplines; first of a two-course sequence culminating in a group outreach project and print product.

WRIT:2601 Science Communication II: Science Outreach and Engagement 2 s.h.

Bringing science to varied audiences; focus on writing and presenting research story, analogies, connecting with audiences, collaborating with others from science and film/writing disciplines; second of a two-course sequence culminating in a group outreach project and print product. Prerequisites: WRIT:2600.

WRIT:2900 Book Design for Publishing 3 s.h.

Introduction to the major aspects of book design, including typography, layout, standard industry software, discussion of trends in the field. Same as ARTS:2900, ENGL:2900, UICB:2900.

WRIT:2991 Publishing I: Introduction to Literary Publishing 3 s.h.

Introduction to major aspects of book and literary publishing, including evaluating submissions, copy editing, production calendars, and planning marketing campaigns; discussion of industry trends. English majors may apply this course to the following area and/or period requirement. AREA: Nonfiction and Creative Writing. Same as CNW:2991.

WRIT:2992 Publishing II: Advanced Literary Publication 3 s.h.

Hands-on experience of entire literary publishing process including reading submissions, selecting texts, editing, layout and design, marketing and promotion, and book release. English majors may apply this course to the following area and/or period requirement. AREA: Nonfiction and Creative Writing. Prerequisites: CNW:2991. Same as CNW:2992.

WRIT:3000 Publishing Practicum: The Iowa Chapbook Prize 3 s.h.

Experiential learning in the field of publishing through the Iowa Chapbook Prize; students gain knowledge in all aspects of publishing world including assessing submissions, selecting manuscripts, editing and proofreading, layout and design, marketing and promotion, and book release.

WRIT:3005 Professional and Creative Business Communication 3 s.h.

Solid foundation for creative and professional communication in today's modern work world; exploration of techniques, strategies, and craft of writing résumés, letters of interest, email and its related etiquette, and organization of ideas into presentable form; semester-long creative project that builds a bridge between office and the world using modern technology and social media; readings and discussions of literature to better understand issues of ethics, leadership, conflict, moral judgment, decision making, and human nature; how to navigate and succeed in business or any professional field. GE: Engineering Be Creative. Same as CW:3005, INTD:3005.

WRIT:3080 History of the English Language 3 s.h.

Development of phonological and grammatical structure of English, from Old to Modern English; selected issues in the history of England. Same as LING:3080.

WRIT:3325 Iowa Writers' Room 3 s.h.

Experiential learning in television writing field; first-hand experience as part of a traditional television writers' room—selecting material and show topics, pitching ideas, collaboratively breaking story, and writing and workshopping scripts for a limited series television show of student's choosing; includes instruction and class visits by acclaimed industry insiders. Same as THTR:3325.

WRIT:3435 Intersectional Identities: Writing About the Twenty-first-Century Self 3 s.h.

Analysis of intersections between systems of oppression, domination, and discrimination; focus on how writers of color represent those connections and critical articulation of students' lived experience of them. Same as LATS:3435.

WRIT:3526 The Business of Writing 3 s.h.

Students learn how to hone their writing skills and successfully transition into the workforce; objectives include developing the ability to pitch articles, establish personal brands, and navigate the world of freelance writing and editing; students network with professionals and explore writing-centric jobs. Same as DPA:3526.

WRIT:3632 Prose Style 3 s.h.

Sentences: how they work, what they do; how sentences can help writing, expand understanding of prose style, stretch options. English majors may apply this course to the following area and/or period requirement. AREA: Nonfiction and Creative Writing. GE: Engineering Be Creative. Same as CNW:3632.

WRIT:3742 Word Power: Building English Vocabulary 3 s.h.

Analysis of unfamiliar English words through knowledge of the history and meaning of word parts. Same as CLSA:3742.

WRIT:3900 Writing: Undergraduate Internship 1-3 s.h.

Professional and/or creative experience; students arrange faculty-approved internship. Requirements: undergraduate standing and minimum of 24 s.h. of coursework with at least 12 s.h. in University of Iowa courses.

WRIT:3910 Iowa Youth Writing Project Internship 1 s.h.

Internship with the Iowa Youth Writing Project. Requirements: application and acceptance as an Iowa Youth Writing Project intern.

WRIT:4000 Independent Capstone Project 1-3 s.h.

Capstone requirement for the Certificate in Writing through Program Option B. Requirements: junior or higher standing.

WRIT:4001 Guided Capstone Portfolio 1 s.h.

Capstone requirement for Certificate in Writing through Program Option A. Recommendations: junior or higher standing.

WRIT:4002 Scientists and Writers 1 s.h.

Science communication and collaborative skills that are highly sought after by employers in STEM firms including pharmaceutical firms, biotech start-ups, and many others; these same skills essential for reporting on, writing about, or translating science in any area; studio-style format. Same as CHEM:4000, JMC:4000.

WRIT:4100 Iowa Youth Writing Project Mentorship Practicum 1-3 s.h.

Mentor new volunteers on a weekly basis at Iowa Youth Writing Project (IYWP) program sites; work one-on-one with volunteers, write and review lesson plans, provide resources and feedback for volunteers, lead workshops for children. Requirements: WRIT:2100 or completion of Iowa Youth Writing Project internship.

WRIT:4745 The Sentence: Strategies for Writing 3 s.h.

Writing dynamic, cogent, and grammatically correct sentences; effectively communicating ideas; writing with clarity and confidence; review of grammar and various types of sentences; building complexity by adding adverbial, subordinate, and connective clauses to simple sentences; how rhythm, syntax, and word order expand the meaning of a sentence; application and appreciation. GE: Engineering Be Creative. Same as CW:4745.

WRIT:4760 The Art of Revision: Rewriting Prose for Clarity and Impact 3 s.h.

Writing and rewriting of short stories and essays; specific choices to help writing reach its full potential; examination of first drafts and making strategic or radical decisions on what needs to happen in subsequent drafts in order for writing to better match original intentions; students gain insight from peers on where first drafts are succeeding or falling short, and write second and third drafts of short stories and personal narratives; structural and aesthetic choices. GE: Engineering Be Creative. Same as CW:4760.