EDEN SPECIAL TY COURSES

Fall EN311Z: World Literature: Vietnam

It has been forty years since the end of the Vietnam War, a decade-long struggle that produced deep divisions within American as well as Vietnamese society. Though we are increasingly asking those US veterans who remain to share their stories, the thoughts, memories, and histories of the Vietnamese people are still largely outside of our knowledge. This course will seek to understand modern Vietnamese society through its literature, beginning with a brief look at one of Vietnam's most famous early narratives, *The Tale of Kieu*, and then examining novels, poems and short stories from the period of French colonialism to the Vietnam War and its aftermath. Throughout the course, we will try to understand how a country that has been so ravaged by colonial wars and revolutions can now be one of the world's fastest growing economies and most populous nations. This course is being taught by Prof. Will Arighi.

Summer On-Line Course-English 284: British Literature Survey II

A six-week on-line version of EN 284: British Literature Survey II, which looks at British literature from around 1800 to the present, is being offered this summer session (May 18 - June 27). English 284 is required for the English-Graduate Bound major, and can fulfill requirements for the regular English major, the English-Writing major and for English-Secondary Ed. The course also fulfills Division II Liberal Studies requirements. The course is being taught by Prof. Russell Prather. If you have questions about the course, you can contact him at rprather@nmu.edu.

STUDY ABROAD OPPORTUNITY

Calling all advanced undergraduate and graduate writers (and readers) for May-June 2016!

Imagine yourself in a medieval walled town in the authentic heartland of Italy. You're surrounded by Romanesque, Renaissance, and Baroque architecture on a hilltop with snow-capped peaks, rolling fields, and other hilltop towns in view, on an ancient route between the Adriatic seacoast and Florence and Rome. It's an old university town of little cafes, cobblestone streets and romantic vistas. Originally a Roman settlement, Macerata sits on the eastern edge of Italy, a short drive from the Adriatic coast. You'll be warmly welcomed by local people. Classes are held in a $17^{\rm th}$ century palazzo in the center of the city – a building older than the American colonies.

Novelist and essayist John Smolens, literary scholar Peter Goodrich, and art historian/site director Filiberto Bracalente have developed a unique 6-week, 10-credit hour advanced reading and writing program with weekly travel among some of Italy's most remarkable places, to be offered through Northern Michigan University and the Consortium of Undergraduate Programs Abroad (COUPA). Now that the dollar has gained considerable value against the Euro, experience Italy off the beaten track. Feast your mind and all of your senses, inspire your Muse, and explore something worth writing about --in Macerata!

For more details, contact Peter Goodrich pgoodric@nmu.edu, 906-226-2828.



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NEW FACULTY

Department Head - **Lynn Domina** received an MFA in Creative Writing (poetry) from the University of Alabama (1986), and a Ph.D in English from SUNY, Stony Brook (1997). Her creative and critical work has been published in a wide variety of anthologies and periodicals, and her teaching interests include American Literature, African American Literature, and Native American Literature. She also has prior experience directing a university writing center.

Native American Lit/Poetry - **Patricia Killelea** is a Ph.D. candidate in Native American Studies at the University of California-Davis, where her research focuses on contemporary avant-garde indigenous poetics. She earned a Master's in Creative Writing in English in 2008 at UC Davis and is the author of the poetry collection Other Suns (2011, Swan Scythe Press), as well as a recently completed manuscript titled Counterglow. Patricia has taught the Introduction to Native American Literature course at UC Davis since Fall 2009, and has taught Native American Film & Literature as well as Creative Writing at the University of San Francisco and Solano College. She is currently producing experimental video poems, and her poetry is published in such journals as Quarterly West, The Common, Spiritus, Waxwing, As/Us: A Space for Women of the World, Gigantic, Fulcrum: A Journal of Poetry and Aesthetics, and many others.

"Welcome to NMU's English Department family!"

FAREWELL PETER GOODRICH

Peter Goodrich is retiring this year after being at NMU for 31 years. Thank you for everything. You will be missed.



Fiction - **Monica McFawn's** short story collection, *Bright Shards of Someplace Else*, won the Flannery O'Connor Award for Short Fiction. She is also the author of a hybrid chapbook, "A Catalogue of Rare Movements," and her screenplays and plays have had readings in New York and Chicago. She teaches writing at Grand Valley State University, and trains her Welsh Cob cross pony in dressage and jumping.

Nonfiction - Rachel May's documentary nonfiction book, Quilting with a Modern Slant, is a compilation of interviews with more than eighty quilters and identifies the roots of modern quilting, a hybrid form of art and traditional quilts. Braiding together profiles, original text, and images, the book offers a collaged reading of the contemporary quilt community. The book was named a Best Book of 2014 by Library Journal and Amazon.com and has been favorably reviewed in Publisher's Weekly, The Library Journal (starred), The LA Times, The Chicago Tribune, The Providence Journal, and on MarthaStewartLiving.com. Her hybrid form book, The Experiments: A Legend, combines sewn images with fabulist short fiction and will be published by Dusie Press this spring. She holds an MFA in Creative Writing-Fiction and an MA in Literature from the University of Montana, and will receive her PhD in Literature and Cultural Studies (with a Certificate in Gender and Women's Studies) from the University of Rhode Island in May 2015.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

On March 19th, at the Conference on College Composition and Communication in Tampa, Florida, **Dr. Kia Jane Richmond** presented a paper entitled "Reconsidering Reflective Writing across the College Curriculum: Promoting Individual Growth, Knowledge Transfer and Social Connections" along with NMU colleague Lori Nelson (Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences) and Columbia College-Chicago's Matthew McCurrie.

On March 26th, **Dr. Richmond** appeared as a guest speaker on the NMU Women for Women Self-Acceptance Week Diversity Panel. The focus of her talk was on being an academic while living with anxiety and depression.

In July 2015, **Dr. Richmond** will be attending a conference at Fordham University in New York City to present on a panel entitled "Preparing 21st Century English Teachers: Using Young Adult Literature to Challenge Stereotyping and Reduce Stigma of Marginalized Populations" with Tiffany Rebein (East High School, Wyoming), and Maureen McDermott (Nova SE-University, Florida) at the Conference on English Education/ International Federation of Teachers of English.

Jennifer Robinette's story "Mother Superior" is appearing in Issue 5 of *The Lindenwood Review*, which should be available by the end of June. The story is set in and around Marquette.

Prof. Gabriel Noah Brahm officially joined the Working Group on anti-Semitic academic boycotts at Israel's Institute for National Security Studies in Tel Aviv. This team is now taking the lead in preparations to host representatives of BICOM (Britain Israel Communications & Research Centre) for a workshop to be held at Israel's leading think tank in June, on the topic of academic freedom in an age of institutionalized political correctness, "weaponized human rights," and global jihad. Also in June, Brahm will travel to Oxford University to do a two-week residency at ISGAP (Institute for the Study of Global Anti-Semitism and Policy).

NMU Writing Center Director **Heidi Stevenson** and three graduate students working in the NMU Writing Center, **Mike Jacoby, Amy Hansen**, and **Molly Fox** presented preliminary data from an ongoing study of embodied tutoring strategies in writing centers at the Annual Conference on College Composition and Communication (CCCC's) in Tampa, Florida on March 19. The title of their presentation was "Risking Word and Limb: Embodied Strategies in the Tutoring of Writing."



MA THESIS READING & CELEBRATION

Tyler Dettloff— Literature & Pedagogy: Return and Recovery: The Influence of Place on Blues Murder Ballads and Laguna Ceremony Cycles

Tracy Haack—Pedagogy & Writing: Pedagogical Praxis in an Age of Privatization: the Contradiction of Charter Schools

Jerrole Hosler—Pedagogy: Structural Grammar, Nonsense Words and Critical Thinking

Tiffany Walters—Literature & Pedagogy: Not so Magical: Issues with Racism, Classism, and Ideology in Harry Potter

Alyssa Bersine—Writing: 16-Bit Ghouls

Sofie Harsha—Writing & Pedagogy: Lost and Found

Michael Jacoby—Writing: With the Light Caught Between

Emily Suess—Writing & Literature: Past the Edge of the Forest

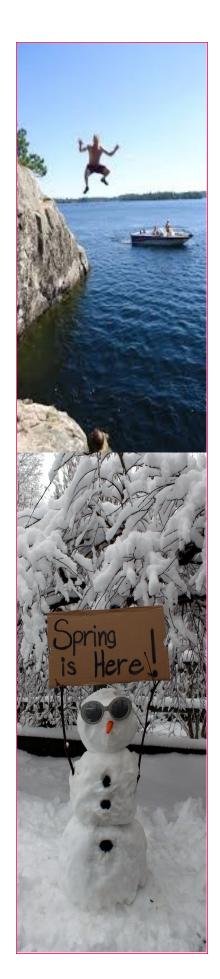
MFA THESIS READING & CELEBRATION

Rebecca Pelky - Creative Writing: Not One Without Water

Josh Brewer—Creative Writing: Yardbirds

Ginny MacDonald—Creative Writing: All Feathers and Attitude

Cory Ferrer—Creative Writing: Finding Tuwaqachi, and other essays



EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION AWARDS

The Excellence in Education Program is a \$1500 award established to support graduate student research in the summer. The awards are intended to assist graduate students in the conduct of scholarly research and creative works that will enhance their academic experience and professional growth. Congratulations to the recipients for 2015!

David Baldussi-Alves: Portuguese to English Translation of Graciliano Ramos' "Baleia"

Sarah Bates: Mount Rainer to Yosemite: A Pilgrimage into Topographical Poetry

Michael Berry: Saskatchewan Field Research

Anne Bilancini: Micro-Illuminations: A Chapbook

Jacqueline Boucher: It's not About the Points, It's About the Poetry: Immersion research in established spoken word and slam poetry communities

Josh Brewer: "Exotics" of the Ozarks: Turpentine Cree Wildlife Refuge, Big Cats and the Native

James Dyer: Restarting the Peter White Library Adult Literacy Project

Allison Paige Frazier: Mountain Voices: Observing Lives and Collecting Experiences in Modern Appalachia

Matt Ftacek: Mutable Maladies: Examining Depictions of Bodily Illness throughout History

Michael Giddings: Coyote Saint James: An Illustrated Study of a Meta-Fictional Universe

Amy Hansen: Poetry on Illinois' Great River Road

Christen Leppla: Communing with the Serpent: Religious Snake Handling Practices in Middlesboror, Kentucky

Robin McCarthy: Exploring the Cultural Seascapes of Maine Fishing Communities

Caleb Nelson: Community of Writers at Squaw Valley, California

Ania Payne: Guiding Lights: Shifting Perspectives on Lake Superior's Shoreline

Jennifer Quartararo: Return to India: Exploring Punjab and Kashmir

Matt Weinkam: The Cinematography of Sentences: Studying Film's Influence on Fiction

Andrea Wuorenmaa: "Loaded With Ice": An Exploration of Mining in the Isolated North

2015 WRITING AWARDS

Barnard Award

Winner—McKenzie Shephed for "My Tile Floor"
Finalists—Nick Obradovich for "Cut"
YeWon Park for "Rash"

Houston Award

Winner-Jaici Shiemke for "Pure Heroin"

Legler Memorial Poetry Prize

Winner—Brian Czyzyk for "Bitter Ode"

VandeZande Fiction Prize

1st Place—Anna Daavettila for "<u>A Driving Night</u>" 2nd Place—Kaitlin Kolhoff for "<u>Halcyon</u>"

Cohodas Literary Prize

1st Place—Danielle Pierre-Trettel for

"Gender Identity and Expression of Simone de Beauvoir"

2nd Place-Maggie Rose for

"Life in Syrian Refugee Camps"

3rd Place-Meghan Garrett for

"Can you hear us now? Discrimination against the deaf community"

20TH ANNUAL STUDENT CELEBRATION

Cecilia Smith, a sophomore in the English department presented on "The Advantages of Reading Out Loud." The research that was conducted in this project revolves around the cognitive and sensory explanations as to why reading out loud is beneficial in terms of writers proofreading or "workshopping" their pieces as well as from a tutoring standpoint of helping writers improve their writing in a non-directive manner; letting the student take control of their writing and find their own mistakes. The class which this project was initially intended for is EN 305, which is a class for new tutors working at NMU's Writing Center.

JOURNALS

The Lightkeeper - NMU's Official Undergraduate Literary Journal

<u>The North Wind</u> – Northern's independent student newspaper, which publishes every Thursday during the fall and spring semesters. The paper is funded by advertising and the student activity fee. Although independent from the university, the English Department provides a faculty adviser for the newspaper.

<u>Passages North</u> – The annual literary journal sponsored by Northern Michigan University. This publication has published short fiction, poetry and creative nonfiction since 1979.

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER

If you have any ideas to improve the newsletter or want to submit news, events, or an accomplishment to EDEN email us at: eden@nmu.edu

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