ENG 151 01  Nature and the Artist: the Role of the Writer
Eva Artschwager  TTH  9:00 am – 10:30 am

From the time that humans first turned their efforts to the creative arts, nature has been a source of inspiration, a topic of examination, and, at times, a place of sanctuary and refuge for the artist. In this class we will consider some of the ways in which writers have approached nature in their work. In addition to looking at nature and nature writing from a variety of vantage points, we will consider the ways in which nature writing can act as a source of identity for individuals and nations, and as a form of political and philosophical manifesto.

ENG 151 02  The Power of Thinking
Natalie Farr  TTH  10:45 am – 12:15 pm

When we think, we move beyond our physical bodies across landscapes and oceans. We charge through walls. Notions of linear time and space collapse. While the earth turns on its axis, our thoughts fling out beyond, transcending linear time and challenging frames of space, like the space of the body we inhabit. When we think, we visit friends and family, and converse with those gone before us. We walk across fire and water. We imagine ourselves beyond ourselves as animals and machines. What do you think about thinking? Through selected works, we will explore the writers’ take on thinking, and exercise our writing through analysis and questioning of the power of thinking.

ENG 151 03  The Spirit of Folk Art
Greg Stark  TTH  9:00 am – 10:30 am

Folk art lives in community. Decorative clothing, rugs, music, pottery, and other folk arts often serve functional as well as artistic purposes. Fine art more often celebrates the individual. Over the course of the semester we will re-imagine how folk art can point to a revaluing of the individual’s place in community.

ENG 151 04  In Celebration of the Mundane: What Everyday Objects Tell Us About Ourselves
Bonnie Schwartz  TTH  9:00 am – 10:30 am

In this course we will elevate the unsung, the sorts of objects and technologies that make our lives easier and better and yet which most of us lavish with little thought. The histories of such innovations as plastic coffee cup lids, butter
knives, birth control pills, and paper clips will be examined with an eye toward understanding how the mundane products most of us today take for granted can shed light on a broad swath of cultural, social, and economic realities. Through reading, talking, film watching, and writing, we will trace the history of various products and innovations and the cultural repercussions many have given rise to. Come to class ready to re-examine (and perhaps appreciate in new ways) your blue jeans, ballpoint pens and Number 2 pencils.

ENG 151 05  The Writer as Outsider
Elizabeth Tidrick  TTH  9:00 am – 10:30 am

The world's most powerful literature often emanates from the words of writers who live in the margins of society where human suffering and alienation are not simply metaphors. The African-American poet on death row. A gay man ostracized from his community. The woman seeking equal status. A South American exiled for his political beliefs. Through literature these writers offer their stories and perspective in an attempt to claim their voices and their history. The outsider writer peers at the world from behind locked doors, across crumbling walls, and through invisible yet impenetrable boundaries. In this class we will explore the hunger of the outsider through literature from around the world.

ENG 151 06  The Writer as Outsider
Elizabeth Tidrick  TTH  10:45 am – 112:15 pm

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ENG 151 07  Art and Words
Becky Peterson  TTH  10:45 am – 12:15 pm

Why have so many visual artists written and published essays about their creative process and their artistic philosophy? What is the connection between visual art and the written word? In this class we’ll explore these and other questions while developing critical writing and research skills. Students will have the chance to write reflectively and analytically about various genres and forms of art. We’ll trace the use of writing by twentieth-century visual artists, taking into account historical, political, and cultural contexts as well as notions of race, class, gender, and sexuality. While looking into the intersection of visual art and writing, we’ll examine a range of materials, including: manifestoes by Dada and
Surrealist artists, autobiographical writings by artists working in the feminist and civil rights movements, contemporary graphic novels, graffiti, and “artists’ books.”

ENG 151 08 Close-up, Long Shot, Wide Angle: Shakespeare and Film
Elizabeth O’Brien T 6:30 – 9:30 pm

This course will analyze the ways that Shakespeare continues to be adapted, reshaped and performed in film. First, the course provides close readings of several plays, focusing on the dramatic techniques, poetic language, and themes in Othello, Taming of the Shrew, The Tempest, Macbeth and Romeo and Juliet. Then, we will study two film adaptations for each play, noting the film’s dramatic and cinematic effects, the various choices the directors and actors make in portraying the plays, and the ways the plays have been either enhanced or distorted by these adaptations.

ENG 151 09 Queer Art, Film, Literature and Religion
Dr. Olive E. Hinnant TTH 10:45 am – 12:15 pm

In this Writing Roundtable we will closely examine texts by and about queer artists, writers, thinkers, and directors to determine what makes it “queer.” What does sex have to do with it? If the painter is gay does that make the painting queer art? If a straight person writes about queer people, is it considered queer? Who makes these decisions and why? The interpretation of someone’s art, poetry, book, film, and even biblical narrative is a complex and subjective, an endeavor which we will attempt to do. Through careful analysis of art forms and religion we will learn this practice in our writing.

(This course follows Just Good Sex: Justice Religion and Identity, but it is not necessary to have taken that class first.)