

DEPARTMENT OF

ENGLISH

GRADUATE PROGRAMS



UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTH DAKOTA
COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES



From the Department of English Chair

The Department of English at the University of South Dakota offers you the opportunity to be a part of a vibrant group of scholars actively engaged with literature and creative writing.

As a faculty we strive to balance rigorous thought, meaningful research, responsive teaching, and supportive community building. Consider joining us in these endeavors.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'D. Farabee'.

Darlene Farabee, Chair
Department of English
University of South Dakota
Darlene.Farabee@usd.edu

From the Coordinator of Graduate Studies

We'd like to introduce you to the possibilities for graduate study in English at the University of South Dakota. Our program offers M.A. and Ph.D. degrees with specializations in 1) Literature, and 2) Creative Writing. The M.A. program also offers a specialization in TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages), a field which boasts an expansive job market in the U.S. and abroad.

In our robust English graduate program, graduate students work closely with our vibrant faculty and receive the support and guidance they need to be successful researchers, writers, teachers, and professionals. The faculty profiles in this brochure will give you a brief overview of our congenial community of scholars and writers. The success of our program can be measured in the accomplishments of our previous graduate students. Our Ph.D. students have won impressive fellowships, and USD also has an impressive placement record at regional schools in a tight job market.

Our graduate program offers a wide variety of opportunities beyond coursework, including professionalization workshops, visiting writers and scholars, and English department publications. For example, our M.A. and Ph.D. students gain valuable experience editing the *South Dakota Review*, which publishes creative and critical work for a national audience, and the Vermillion Literary Project journal, an annual anthology of regional fiction, poetry, and visual art. Moreover, our students also have the chance to learn the nuts and bolts of the publishing world by working with Astrophil Press.

The USD Department of English is committed to providing its graduate students with support in the form of teaching assistantships, travel funds, and opportunities for research grants. Our Ph.D. students are guaranteed four years of support as teaching assistants, while teaching assistantships are available on a competitive basis to our M.A. students. All teaching assistantships provide a substantial stipend and a reduction in tuition to one-third of the in-state graduate tuition rate. Currently, M.A. teaching assistants receive an annual stipend of \$12,000, while Ph.D. teaching assistants receive \$14,500. More detailed financial information appears at the end of this brochure.

Thank you for exploring what the USD graduate program in English has to offer.

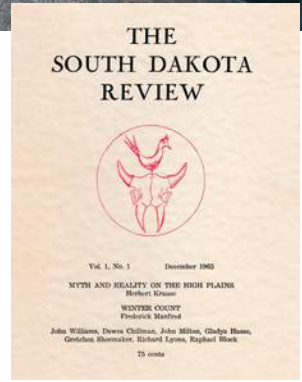
Sincerely,

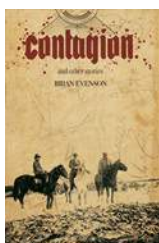
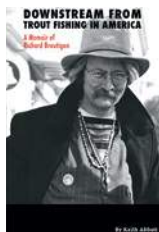


Skip Willman, Coordinator of Graduate Studies
Department of English
University of South Dakota
Skip.Willman@usd.edu



South Dakota Review is a national quarterly literary journal committed to cultural and aesthetic diversity—celebrating the full spectrum of the contemporary literary arts. Founded in 1963, *South Dakota Review* retains a tradition of supporting work by contemporary writers writing from or about the American West (particularly Native American writers, writers addressing the complexities and contradictions of the “New West”, and writers exploring themes of landscape, place, and/or eco-criticism in surprising and innovative ways,) while striving to place these writers, ideas, and themes in dialogue with and within the context of larger global literary communities. Graduate students are invited and encouraged to become involved with the magazine in a variety of roles: as assistant editors, genre-specific associate editors, or circulations manager. Staff members also have the opportunity to represent the magazine at the annual national AWP Conference & Bookfair.





Astrophil Press was founded in 2008 to publish innovative literary work that is fertile in imagination and mind—literary art that many major and independent presses overlook. Astrophil is interested in writing that grows out of an understanding of literary tradition, but transcends that lineage by actively breaking boundaries. This is a press dedicated to publishing fiction that defies genre, but does not ignore it. It is work that is playful, but striking. The poetry tells a story either through image or sound—poetry that displaces, disrupts, seduces. Astrophil Press is interested in literary criticism that focuses on contemporary authors or authors who have been overlooked. The press is most interested in writing that defies categorization. Graduate students have the opportunity to volunteer with Astrophil Press while working on their degrees, as well as taking a workshop on publishing, in which they gain practical knowledge about the publishing industry through editing manuscripts and designing books.



Vermillion Literary Project, USD's literary and creative writing organization, organizes and hosts a wide range of events throughout the year, including readings, a short story contest, a literary festival, a young writers workshop, and a community writers group. The VLP produces an annual journal of creative writing and photography, chosen from submissions across the United States and around the world. Students and community members work together in this long-running organization.



AFTER THE ENGLISH DEGREE AT USD

Our graduates continue their active, engaged literary and educational life after USD. M.A. graduates have gone on to work for non-profit organizations, in the publishing industry, in higher education and some go on for further graduate study. Recent M.A. students have continued their studies at Notre Dame, University of Iowa, University of New Mexico, Washington University (St. Louis), and SUNY-Buffalo. Our program aids our Ph.D. students to land the academic and non-academic positions they seek. Below, we've highlighted some of our graduate students' recent accomplishments.

Ryan Allen (Ph.D., 2009) is an associate professor of English and writing at Briar Cliff University, where he also serves as the nonfiction and Siouxland editor for *The Briar Cliff Review*.

Holly Teresa Baker (Ph.D., 2015) received a Fulbright research grant to Romania, where she researched and worked on her novel for one year. She has taught creative writing at the University of Bucharest and is currently working as a full-time lecturer at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst.

Justin L. Blessinger (Ph.D., 2004) was named the winner of the 2008 Doug Fir prize for fiction. He is a professor of English at Dakota State University.

Leigh Ann (Annie) Christain's (Ph.D., 2009) first volume of poetry, *Tall As You Are Tall Between Them*, was published by C & R Press in 2016. She received the grand prize of the 2013 Hart Crane Memorial Poetry Contest, the 2013 Greg Grummer Poetry Award, the 2015 Oakland School of the Arts Enizagam Poetry Award,

and the 2015 Neil Shepard Prize in Poetry. Additional honors include selection for the Shanghai Swatch Art Peace Hotel Artist Residency and the Arctic Circle Autumn Art and Science Expedition Residency. She is an associate professor of composition and ESOL at SUNY Cobleskill.

Jenny Yang Cropp's (Ph.D., 2016) book *String Theory* (Mongrel Empire Press) was named a finalist in the 2016 Oklahoma Book Awards and was featured in an NBCNews.com article by Frances Kai-Hwa Wang, "Celebrating Asian-American Poets: Emerging Writers to Read." *String Theory* was also named as one of *Split This Rock's* 2015 Poetry Books We Love. She has taught English at Cameron University and is currently an assistant professor of English at Southeast Missouri State University.

Poet **Sarah Den Boer** (Ph.D., 2012) was a recipient of the Wallace Stegner Fellowship at Stanford University.

Sara Henning's (Ph.D., 2016) second volume of poetry, *View from True North*, was selected by Adrian Matejka as a winner of the 2017 Crab Orchard Poetry Prize, and published by Southern Illinois University Press in 2018. She is currently working as a visiting assistant professor of English and creative writing at Stephen F. Austin State University.

Courtney Huse-Wika's (Ph.D., 2008) chapbook of poems, *Perch*, was published by Anchor and Plume Press in 2016. She is the director of the University Honors Program and an assistant professor of English at Black Hills State University.

Sean Johnston's (Ph.D., 2011) most recent book is *We Don't Listen to Them*, a collection of short fiction published by ThistleDown in 2014. He has also published the 2011 poetry collection *The Ditch Was Lit Like This*, and the novel *Listen All You Bullets*, which began as a USD dissertation, was published by Gaspereau in 2013. He teaches literature and creative writing at Okanagan College in Kelowna, British Columbia, where he co-edits *Ryga: A Journal of Provocations*.

Lindy Obach's (M.A., 2005) volume of poetry, *North of Zenith*, was published by Finishing Line Press in 2016. She teaches at Dakota Wesleyan University.

Pen Pearson (Ph.D., 2001) is a professor of English at Northern State University. Her first volume of poetry, *Poetry as Liturgy*, was published by Edwin Mellen Press in 2010.

Kevin Phillips, currently a Ph.D. student in the program, won the North American Review 2017 Torch Prize for his creative nonfiction piece, "Eight Hours, With Cow."

GRADUATE FACULTY IN ENGLISH



Lee Ann Roripaugh (M.F.A., Indiana University), professor of English, serves as Director of Creative Writing and Editor-in-Chief of *South Dakota Review*. The current South Dakota State Poet Laureate, she is the author of four volumes of poetry (*Dandarians* (Milkweed Editions 2014), *On the Cusp of a Dangerous Year* (Southern Illinois University Press 2009), *Year of the Snake* (Southern Illinois University Press 2004), and *Beyond Heart*

Mountain (Penguin Books 1999)), and has published short fiction and essays in numerous literary journals. Professor Roripaugh teaches the graduate poetry seminar, workshops in mixed/hybrid-genre writing, and poetry writing, as well

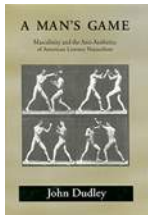


as literature courses in contemporary American poetry, multicultural literature, and Asian American literature. Her creative and critical research

interests frequently intersect and revolve around questions of identity: discourses in critical race theory, postcolonial theory, language and identity, gender/queer theory, post-human/cyborg studies, and neuroscience.



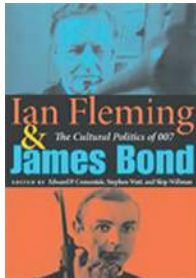
A professor of English and associate dean in the College of Arts & Sciences, **John Dudley** (Ph.D., Tulane University) is the author of *A Man's Game: Masculinity and the Anti-Aesthetics of American Literary Naturalism* (University of Alabama Press 2004), as well as several articles on naturalism, African American literature, and Western American literature. His most recent publications include the chapter "Western folk traditions: from colonization to Mark Twain and the San Francisco Circle" in *The Cambridge Companion to the Literature of the American West* (2016) and a forthcoming chapter in *The Cambridge History of American Crime Fiction*. Professor Dudley also served as a member of the fiction jury for the 2013 Pulitzer Prize, has taught a variety of courses on 19th and 20th



century American Literature, and has directed a wide range of dissertation and thesis projects since arriving at USD in 2003.



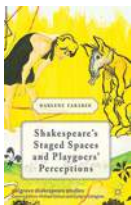
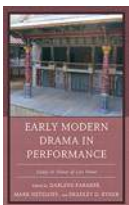
Skip Willman (Ph.D., Indiana University) was a Marion L. Brittain Fellow at the Georgia Institute of Technology and a visiting assistant professor at Oberlin College before landing at USD. He teaches courses in literary/cultural theory and contemporary American literature and serves as the Coordinator of the Graduate Program. Willman has published essays on Don DeLillo, Stanley Elkin, Ian Fleming, Thomas Pynchon, and conspiracy theory in a range of journals including, *Critique: Studies in Contemporary Fiction*, *Modern Fiction Studies*, *Contemporary Literature*, and *Arizona Quarterly*, among others. He is the co-editor, along with Edward P. Comentale and Stephen Watt, of *Ian Fleming and James Bond: The Cultural Politics of James Bond* (Indiana University Press 2005). He is currently completing a project entitled *Cold War Catastrophes: Western Intelligence Failures in Post-World War Two Fiction*, which



examines the cases of the Cambridge spies and the Bay of Pigs in the literature of Fleming, John le Carré, Robert Littell, DeLillo, Norman Mailer, and James Ellroy.



Darlene Farabee (Ph.D., University of Delaware) is the author of *Shakespeare's Staged Spaces and Playgoers' Perceptions* (Palgrave 2014) and co-editor of and contributor to *Early Modern Drama in Performance* (University of Delaware Press 2015). She has also published on Shakespeare in performance, on the role of metaphor in John Milton's *Paradise Lost*, and on the critical reception of Christopher Marlowe's *Edward II* from



its first performances through the 20th century. Teaching graduate courses primarily in Shakespeare and early modern British literature, she serves as the chair of the English department and also frequently teaches the M.A. Research Methods course. She was the project director for the First Folio: The Book that

Gave Us Shakespeare 2016 exhibition at USD, which hosted a 1623 printing of Shakespeare's plays on tour from the Folger Shakespeare Library. Dr. Farabee's critical interests extend to theories of space, functions of metaphor, drama as a genre, and travel literature. Her current book project explores the language of travel, navigation, and proprioception in early modern British plays.



Duncan B. Barlow (M.F.A., Naropa University; Ph.D., University of Denver) is the author of *All Possible Things* (The Cupboard 2016) and *The City, Awake* (Stalking Horse 2017), as well as *Super Cell Anemia* (After Birth 2008). His work has appeared in *The Denver Quarterly*, *The Collagist*, *Banango Street*, *The Apeiron Review*, *Calamari Press*, *Masque & Spectacle*, and *Meat for Tea*. Barlow teaches creative writing and publishing in the graduate program, and he



is the editor-in-chief of Astrophil Press and the managing editor of *South Dakota Review*. He has also edited for *Tarpaulin Sky*, *The*



Bombay Gin, among others. Before writing, Duncan Barlow was a touring musician who played with Endpoint, By The Grace of God, Guilt, the aasee lake, The Lull Account, Good Riddance, and many more. His interviews about music have been published in academic texts and magazines such as: *Straight Edge: Clean-*



Living Youth, *Hardcore Punk*, and *Social Change* (Rutgers University Press), *We Owe You Nothing: Punk Planet Collected Interviews* (Akashic), and *Burning Fight* (Revelation Records).



Prentiss Clark (Ph.D., State University of New York at Buffalo) works in American literature, focusing on the prose, poetry, and intellectual history of the 19th century, philosophy and literature, and the value of literature for human life and civic existence. She has specific interests in the questions pressed by American Transcendentalists, the poetries of Whitman, Dickinson, and Wallace Stevens, and the philosophical and political work of aesthetics in writers

ranging from Herman Melville to Rebecca Harding Davis to Edith Wharton. Current projects include a monograph titled *Measures of Intimacy: Emerson to Du Bois to Baldwin*, an essay titled "'Perception at the pitch of passion' in Henry James and James Baldwin," and an essay on aesthetics and ethics in the writing of Henry David Thoreau and William James. Clark has published articles in *Arizona Quarterly* and *Nineteenth-Century Literature* and she recently accepted the position of Book Review Editor for the *Emerson Society Papers*. Past graduate courses include "Writing the 'American Renaissance' from the 19th Century to Now," "Investigating the Ethical Life in Literature," "Emerson & Du Bois," and "Women Wording the American 19th Century."



Paul Formisano (Ph.D., University of New Mexico) teaches courses in Western American literature, environmental literature, and composition, and, as the director of writing, also teaches the fall and spring pedagogy courses for new teaching assistants. Where possible, Formisano seeks to incorporate field experiences into his courses, whether hiking at Spirit Mound or walking along the Missouri River. He has advised a range of projects, including a graduate thesis project on California literature and a dissertation on Harriet Monroe, Mary Austin, and Willa Cather. His research focuses on

water issues in the American West across varied periods and genres, and he has published work in *The Journal of Ecocriticism*, *Landscapes: The Journal of the International Centre for Landscape and Language*, *Iperstoria*, and *Western American Literature*. These articles examine works by Frank Norris, Craig Childs, Colorado River runners, and Charlotte Perkins Gilman, respectively. He is currently working on two book projects: a manuscript about marginalized discourses of the Colorado River Basin and an anthology of the literature about dams.



Benjamin Hagen (Ph.D., University of Rhode Island) studies the history of criticism and theory, philosophy of education, affect theory, and British and Irish modernism. His work on Virginia Woolf has appeared in *Modernism/Modernity* ("A Car, a Plane, and a Tower: Interrogating Public Images in *Mrs. Dalloway*" [2009]) and "Feeling Shadows: Virginia Woolf's Sensuous Pedagogy" is in *PMLA* (2017). In other work, appearing in *Twentieth-*

Century Literature, he explores preoccupations with growing old and the late styles of American modernist poets: "A Future Not One's Own: Thinking Aging in Two of Wallace Stevens's Winter Lyrics" (2013). Despite Dr. Hagen's focus on modernist literature, his interests stretch forward to postmodern and metamodernist literature as well—for example, writings of David Mitchell, Zadie Smith, Alan Hollinghurst, Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, and Derek Walcott. He has led graduate seminars entitled, "Finding Love in Twentieth-Century Fiction, Theory, and Philosophy" and "Modernist Literature, History of Pedagogy, Philosophy of Education."



Heather Love (Ph.D., Indiana University) specializes in early 20th century American and transatlantic modernism, and her interests also include literary theory, cultural studies, and interdisciplinary approaches to literary analysis (such as technology studies and the medical humanities). Her current book project is titled *Cybernetic Aesthetics: Modernism's Networks of Information and Data*; it argues that experimental works by authors like Ezra Pound, John Dos Passos, Gertrude

Stein, Virginia Woolf, Sophie Treadwell, and James Joyce are connected—through their efforts to navigate large-scale quantities of data—to the information processing technologies that emerged during World War II and eventually led to modern-day computers. Articles based on this project have appeared or are forthcoming in *Modernism/modernity*, *The Journal of Modern Literature*, and *Technology & Society*. Love teaches courses in modernism and technology, twentieth-century American literature and culture, and the narrative dimensions of health and illness. She has supervised (or is serving on committees for) theses and dissertations on modernist literature and obstetrics, the blurred boundaries between fiction and autobiography in Sylvia Plath's work, twentieth-century and contemporary war narratives, and creative projects that explore posthumanism, historiographic metafiction, and writing about the experience of being unwell.



Leah McCormack (M.F.A., City College of New York, CUNY; Ph.D., University of Cincinnati) teaches creative writing (fiction and nonfiction) graduate seminars at USD. Her research interests include historiographic metafiction, postcolonial theory, magical realism, graphic narratives, and trauma studies. McCormack's scholarly and creative work appears or is forthcoming in such journals as *New England Review*, *Redivider*, *Prairie Fire*, *North Dakota*

Quarterly, *Hotel Amerika*, *Fiction*, *The Portland Review*, *REAL: Regarding Arts & Letters*, and *Making Connections: Interdisciplinary Approaches to Cultural Diversity*, among others. She is currently working on her book, *House of Pregnant Man*, a memoiristic novel partly informed by her critical interests in historiographic metafiction, postcolonial theory, and trauma studies. In her graduate seminars, she guides students through careful readings of published works, teaching them to read like writers. During workshop, students learn how to improve their own writing and to offer helpful feedback on each other's work, with the goal of producing publishable material.



Lisa Ann Robertson (Ph.D., University of Alberta)

researches and writes about theories of mind, body, and imagination in British Romanticism; the intersection of science and literature; and cognitive science, historical and contemporary. Her 19th century British literature seminar examines representations of mind and body in scientific, political, and literary texts. Dr. Robertson also teaches a graduate 18th century course that moves from

sensibility to Gothic to abolitionist texts, tracing the body as a trope throughout. She has published widely on topics such as materialist pedagogy, embodied transcendence, and brain science in the Romantic period. Her publications appear in journals such as *Romantic Circles Pedagogy Commons* and *Prose Studies*. A forthcoming book chapter examines Samuel Taylor Coleridge's theory of knowledge in conjunction with 21st century cognitive theory. Currently, she is revising her book manuscript, *The Embodied Imagination*, for Palgrave Macmillan's Literature, Science, and Medicine series. Robertson is also the 2015 recipient of *European Romantic Review's* best article annual prize, for "'Swallowed Up In Impression': Humphry Davy's Materialist Theory of Embodied Transcendence and William Wordsworth's 'Tintern Abbey.'"



Department of English Colloquium Series on Literature

The English department hosts a fall colloquium series open to the public and scheduled for one hour on Monday afternoons. These well-attended lectures (with question and answer periods) are delivered by members of the department and outside speakers and organized each fall semester as a series on literary history, themes, or approaches to literature. The lectures have ranged in period from “The British Renaissance and Forms of Poetry” to “Twenty-first Century Poetics” and in approaches from cybernetics and affect to environmental criticism. Graduate students may enroll as members of the colloquium course for one-credit, although the majority of the 30–50 attendees are not enrolled. This lecture series provides graduate students an opportunity to become acquainted with the work of faculty members, offers an on-going conversation in literary studies, and engages graduate students in thinking both within and outside their own areas of specialization.



The University Writing Center is located on the main floor of the library and is affiliated with the English department. While many of the consultants in the writing center are upper-level undergraduates from a range of disciplines, graduate students in English have opportunities to gain valuable experience working in the Writing Center, helping others to become stronger, more confident writers. Teaching assistants from the English department may become graduate co-coordinators, a leadership position that combines consulting and administrative work. Specialized training in working with non-native speakers of English has been especially useful to consultants. Graduate students have noted many benefits to working in the Writing Center, such as improved skills in collaboration, teaching, and time management.



John R. Milton Writers' Conference is a three-day literary event that includes readings and book signings by award-winning featured authors, scholarly panel sessions exploring a particular conference theme, as well as creative writing panels, criti-creative presentations, and pop culture sessions. Prior year's conferences have brought in well over 100 attendees, with presenting writers and scholars coming from all across the region and nation—including even the occasional international conferee. Graduate students have the opportunity to present their creative and critical work alongside published authors, professors, and other graduate students, as well as to assist in various aspects of literary conference planning and administration. Featured authors for the conference have included Maxine Hong Kingston, Pam Houston, Susan Power, Kwame Dawes, Natalie Diaz, and Chris Abani, among others.



COURSE OFFERINGS

The Department of English offers a robust rotation of graduate courses to allow graduate students to engage with ideas, theories, texts, and approaches that will be useful to their larger projects. Full listings of recent course offerings are available from the department by emailing English@usd.edu.

ENGL-734-U015 Seminar: 20th Century Studies: Cybernetics, Literature and Information Management

Heather Love

In 1948, M.I.T. mathematician Norbert Wiener coined the term “cybernetics” to describe a new techno-scientific discipline invested in large-scale, high-speed data processing and feedback response mechanisms. By creating “cybernetic machines” that could “learn” from the past—like anti-aircraft guns and automated chess-playing devices—Wiener and his colleagues sought to harness the power of statistics in an information-saturated world. In this course, we will explore cybernetics as part of an emergent 20th century “culture of information management” that boasts not only technological, but also aesthetic dimensions. Our readings will cover a range of scientific, literary, theoretical, and critical perspectives, and our goal will be to draw these different disciplinary frameworks into conversation with one another.

ENGL-792-U015 Topics: Finding Love in 20th Century Literature, Theory, and Philosophy

Benjamin Hagen

Disturbed by the wide appeal of online dating-sites and representations of romance on television and in popular films, French philosopher Alain Badiou claims that love needs to be “re-invented” in the 21st-century and that “it is the task of philosophy, as well as other fields, to rally to its defence.” Whether or not love needs defending, Badiou’s call-to-arms provides an occasion to ask what the study of literature might contribute to a potential re-invention or re-theorization of love. Might we theorize love as a discourse, a politics, a pedagogy, a creative activity, and a condition of thought? And how might we conceptualize its relation to matters of gender, sexuality, sex, and various modes of (or obstructions to) human and nonhuman intimacy? Through the study of 20th century literature, theory, and philosophy, we will quickly learn that interest in amorous arrangements and attachments recurs across feminism, psychoanalysis, queer studies, affect studies, and animal studies.

ENGL-537-U015 English Romantic Literature: Radicals and Reactionaries

Lisa Ann Robertson

The Romantic period (roughly 1789–1830) was marked by political revolutions, rapid advances in the sciences, and transformations in literary form, as well as colonial expansion into various parts of the globe and coincident debates about slavery. While Romanticism was once defined in terms of a small group of male poets (the Big Six), during the last quarter of the 20th century feminist, new historicist, and cultural critics challenged this narrowly defined canon. Their work brought to light the work of diverse women and men who were thinking and writing about the tumultuous times in which they lived. In addition to literary and aesthetic concerns, such as poetic form or the beautiful and the sublime, this class will explore a range of critical issues in the period. These include revolutions and the rights of man, the rights of woman, abolition and the slave trade, advances in science, and debates about mind, body, and imagination.

ENGL-793-U015 Workshop: Contemporary Poetics

Lee Roripaugh

Contemporary Poetics is a graduate level seminar in poetry criticism and poetics. The course will combine a blend of historical context, aesthetic and stylistic discussion, and current writings and conversations on contemporary poetics. Course requirements will include weekly responses to assigned readings, book reviews, and critical essays participating in current conversations within contemporary poetics, as well as thoughtful and engaged participation in course discussions. Readings include a representative spread of historically influential essays in contemporary poetics, various position pieces representing discourse in recent poetic controversies/arguments, and a sampling of newly-published books in contemporary poetry and poetics.



University Libraries

The University Libraries includes the I.D. Weeks Library on the Vermillion, South Dakota, campus and the Wegner Health Science Information Center on the USD Sanford School of Medicine campus in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. The University Libraries is a member of both regional and national consortiums including Minitex, OCLC, and Lyris, and thus is able to connect students and scholars to collections and resources from across the United States.

The University Libraries actively seeks to support scholarship in literary studies and creative writing by investing in faculty-selected monographs and literary works, ensuring 24/7/365 electronic access to research tools including the Modern Language Association (MLA) International Bibliography, JSTOR and Project MUSE, and developing collections of works from fine and independent presses. For example, the Department of English has actively built an impressive collection of small press poetry books through library purchasing.



The Archives and Special Collections and the South Dakota Oral History Center, both located in I.D. Weeks Library, specialize in historical and cultural resources for research related to the peoples, politics, arts, and environment of the Northern Plains.

Archives and Special Collections also

holds both manuscripts and rare and fine books dating from the 16th century through the 20th century. Research librarians at I.D. Weeks Library are available to guide students in navigating the collections and resources.

About Campus



Muenster University Center

- Completed 2014.
- Added retail franchises: Chick-Fil-A, Qdoba and Einstein Bros.



Wellness Center

- Completed early in 2011 is a campus hub of recreation, fitness and intramural sports.
- *Men's Health* rated USD's Wellness Center as one of "The Coolest College Recreation Centers in America."



Coyote Village

- Completed in 2011.
- Four-story, 175-unit complex provides suite-style and apartment living for 546 students.



Old Main

- Built in the late 1800s, originally housed the entire university, including dorms, classrooms, offices, and dining facilities.
- Completely restored in 1997, the campus landmark now houses the Honors Program and the Oscar Howe Gallery.



Sanford Coyote Sports Center

- Completed in 2016, the complex houses a science, health and research lab building to accommodate kinesiology and sport management, occupational therapy, physical therapy and physician assistant studies.
- A 6,000 seat arena for basketball and volleyball is a main feature of the complex.
- A nine-lane, NCAA certified outdoor track and soccer complex with two soccer fields was added.

Did You Know?



COST OF LIVING
11% LOWER
THAN NATIONAL AVERAGE

COST OF HOUSING
24% LOWER
THAN NATIONAL AVERAGE

SOUTH DAKOTA
GENERAL SALES TAX
21% LOWER
THAN NATIONAL AVERAGE

NO SOUTH DAKOTA
STATE INCOME TAX
100% LOWER
THAN NATIONAL AVERAGE

Vermillion boasts a low cost of living compared to the national average.

Graduate Assistantship

Graduate assistants and student fellows shall be assessed discounted tuition rate for all on-campus courses, in addition to 100% of the general activity fee and discipline fees. The waived tuition is part of the compensation for the graduate work.

The minimum stipend for M.A. is \$12,000/year and Ph.D. is \$14,500/year.

Life in Vermillion



Warm and Welcoming

Residents, students, and visitors to Vermillion have enjoyed the city's warm and welcoming charm for more than 150 years. Today, about 10,000 adventurers, farmers, manufacturers, professionals, and scholars call Vermillion their home.



Easily Accessible

Downtown restaurants, movie theaters, cafés, and specialty shops are all within walking distance of the campus. But if you're up for a road trip, you can make Sioux Falls or Sioux City in less than an hour, Omaha in about two, and Minneapolis in five.

Seasonal Adventures

Choose a season, select your adventure. Shop at the local farmer's market. Kayak on the Missouri River, or sail on Lewis & Clark Lake. Bike along the river or hike at Spirit Mound. Golf at The Bluffs or attend the summer Shakespeare Festival at Prentis Park. And if it happens to snow, ski or snowboard at nearby Great Bear Recreational Park.





Master of Arts in English (M.A.)

Creative Writing

The M.A. program with a specialization in Creative Writing provides students a chance think about writing in an open way, to experiment with subject, form, and sound, to focus on writing first and categorization later. We offer classes in poetry, fiction, nonfiction, memoir, hybrid forms, and publishing. Our workshops integrate frequent writing projects with substantial reading lists as a way of reimagining the workshop model.

Literature

The M.A. program with a specialization in Literature provides students with opportunities to explore a wide range of English literature with a span of periods and genres. We offer classes in British and American literature, from Shakespeare to the postmodern novel. The program emphasizes a solid foundation in general literary studies that provide our students with the broad knowledge to be able to work on their own areas of thesis specialization.

Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL)

The M.A. program with a specialization in TESOL is unique in that students are socialized into the world of English literature while taking a range of applied linguistic courses. Students have opportunities to work closely with our Intensive English Program and Writing Center, providing graduates with valuable and relevant work experience that can be applied to their future professional contexts. With an M.A. in English with a TESOL specialization, graduates are competitive in an expansive job market, both in the United States and abroad.



Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.)

Literary Studies: Creative

The Ph.D. program with a creative writing specialization is built around the English department's seminar offerings in creative writing, including poetry, fiction, creative nonfiction, and publishing, as well as 19th and 20th century British and American literature. Students construct their own plans of study to reflect their interests and to prepare them for their dissertation. The selective nature and small size of the Ph.D. program ensure that students receive the mentorship they need. Creative writing Ph.D. students are also given the opportunity to teach a range of courses, including introductory creative writing classes, to help them develop their professional credentials.

Literary Studies: Critical

The Ph.D. program with a critical specialization is built around the English department's seminar offerings in 19th and 20th century British and American literature, taught by faculty members publishing work on naturalism, Virginia Woolf, Ralph Waldo Emerson, and cybernetics and modernism, to name but a few of the topics. Students construct their own plans of study to reflect their interests and to prepare them for writing their dissertation. The selective nature and small size of the Ph.D. program ensure that students receive the mentorship they need. Ph.D. students are also given the opportunity to teach a range of courses in order to help them develop their professional credentials.

For more information about our programs, please visit the Department of English online at www.usd.edu/english.



UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTH DAKOTA
COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

414 East Clark Street • Vermillion, SD 57069-2390

Admissions Requirements

1. Completed Graduate Application
2. \$35 application fee
3. One official transcript verifying degree(s)
4. Three (3) letters of recommendation
5. Statement of Purpose
6. Official copy of GRE scores (Ph.D. only)
7. 10–15 page critical writing sample (15–20 pages for Ph.D. applicants)
8. Creative writing students must submit an additional 15–20 page creative writing sample (20 page minimum for Ph.D. applicants)
9. Applicants with degrees from countries other than the United States: a TOEFL score of at least 105 (Internet-based test), 620 (paper-based test) or 260 (computer test); an IELTS score of at least 7.0; or a PTE score of 70.
10. Application for teaching assistantship (optional)

For detailed admission requirements, please refer to English in the current graduate catalog at catalog.usd.edu.

For More Information

For more information about the graduate English programs offered at USD, contact:

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