

## **English 215.202: Introduction to English Studies**

“The Otherworld—The Other’s World”

This course fulfills the General Education Requirement for Humanities (HU) / Oral & Written Communication B (OWCB).

Spring 2021

This class will be taught asynchronously online.

### Course Description:

In this course we will read a wide range of texts, from different genres (poetry, fiction, drama, nonfiction), different time periods (the Middle Ages to the present day), and by authors from different backgrounds and geographical areas. We will explore what it means to engage critically with a text by considering form, language, social and historical context, and cultural perspective. The theme for the course is “The Otherworld—The Other’s World”. All the texts we will read deal, in one way or another, with questions that arise when we encounter a world with which we are not familiar—whether that is the world of ghosts and fairies; a place whose culture strikes us as alien; or a textual terrain that does not follow that literary conventions to which we are used. This approach will allow us to think about the roles played by, among other things, psychology, race, gender, politics, religion, geography—and the imagination.

### Required Texts

William Shakespeare, *The Tempest*. Norton Critical Editions. W.W. Norton. ISBN 0393978192.

E.M. Forster. *Where Angels Fear to Tread*. Dover Thrift (Mass Market). ISBN 0486277917.

Marina Carr. *By the Bog of Cats*. Dramatists Play Service (<https://www.dramatists.com>). ISBN 9780822218562.

Jeanette Winterson. *Sexing the Cherry*. Grove Press. ISBN 0802135781.

Additional texts will be available on Canvas.