

A Word's Worth of News

Department of English
GETTYSBURG COLLEGE

CHAIR CHAT

Punxsutawney Phil has failed to see his shadow, and we, like Chaucer before us, know what that means: When the first hint of spring is in the air, "thanne longen folk to goon on pilgrimage...."

I know, I know, Spring Break is almost upon us, when many of our number will swell the ranks of the devotees of Dionysius, determined to sacrifice themselves upon the altar of excess; but your humble Chair refers to another form of pilgrimage, one a little further off, perhaps, but — one tells oneself — one slightly more Athenic and less Dionysian in nature, as well.... From Hlidskjalf, the Odinic High Seat occupied by the reigning Chair of the English Department, this is the calm before the perfect storm of registration (our topic next newsletter!) when longen folk to study abroad.

I know this because my inbox is filling up as I type with messages from Off Campus Studies requesting that I sign off on a variety of courses from abroad which may count for the English majors and minors.

The English Department is fully supportive of the desire to learn about another culture first-hand, and we work hard to make such opportunities possible for our majors and minors. To that end, offered here are wee reminders to those of you hoping to see a bit of the world.

- If you plan to study abroad in England, your advisor may act in the capacity of the official English Department representative.
- If you plan to study anywhere else, your self-effacing Chair must perform that happy task.
- In most cases, two courses (one 200-level and one 300-level) from a semester-abroad program may count toward an English major or minor. A third course (200- or 300-level) from a full-year abroad program may count, as well.

- Any student expecting 300-level credit for a course taken abroad should be prepared to submit to the Chair of English at Gettysburg the finished written work submitted for that course. If the course taken abroad does not require written work which rises to the expected standard, the student may generally receive only 200-level credit, or may petition the instructor in the abroad program to submit additional written work which would fulfill the Gettysburg English Department expectations for 300-level coursework.
- In general, one literature course in another language may count towards the English major; in practice this course may be taught either in English or in the language of the literature in question.

That's it this time from Hlidskjalf; the Valkyries are roasting some "smale fowles maken melodye," and I want to get mine while they're still hot....

Christopher Fee Chair, Department of English

Summer Internships 101

Earning high grades and being involved on campus is not always enough to land a first job. Many employers look to hire applicants with some level of work experience. As an undergraduate, one of the easiest ways to gain that experience is through a summer internship. For those hoping to pursue a writing-related career, spending a few months working at a newspaper, magazine, or PR firm can provide students with quality writing samples and challenges they will be able to talk about with potential employers.

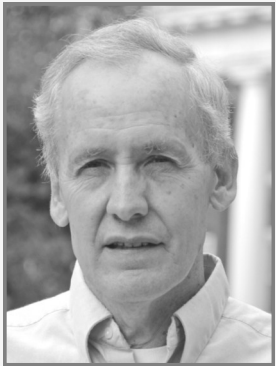
English majors and minors, as well as Writing minors, who would like to experience a summer internship should work with the Center for Career Development to identify possible internships. For information and deadlines on the particular policy of the English Department, students should access the English website at: <http://www.gettysburg.edu/academics/english/student/internships.dot>.

FACULTY NEWS



Nadine Meyer receives tenure in English Department

Dr. Nadine Meyer has been with the Department of English at Gettysburg College since 2007, when she served as the Emerging Writer Lecturer. Since then, she has been teaching creative writing and literature courses, with an emphasis in poetry. Professor Meyer enjoys introducing her students to exciting poets working and publishing today, and she is inspired by her students' growth as writers and as poets. Nadine Sabra Meyer's first book of poems, *The Anatomy Theater*, won the National Poetry Series and was published by HarperCollins in 2006. Her poems have won the *New Letters* Prize for Poetry, the 2011 *Meridian* Editor's Prize, and a Pushcart Prize. She is at work on her second book of poems, *Shadowbox*, and poems from this manuscript have already been published widely. Her new poems have appeared or are forthcoming in *The Southern Review*, *Ploughshares*, *Southwest Review*, *Shenandoah*, *Literary Imagination*, *Boulevard*, *Nimrod*, *North American Review*, *storySouth*, *The Missouri Review*, *Northern Humanities Review*, *Blackbird*, and *Prairie Schooner*.



Robert Garnett releases new book on Charles Dickens

Professor Robert Garnett is the author of *Charles Dickens in Love*, released by Pegasus Books in December 2012. In celebration of Dickens' bicentennial, the book is an intimate and engaging portrait of the great author and the women he loved. When Charles Dickens died in 1870, he was the best-known man in the English-speaking world. Yet, when the first person named in his will turned out to be an unknown woman named Ellen Ternan, only a handful of people knew of her. She was not the first woman who had fired his imagination. *Charles Dickens in Love* narrates the story of the most intense romances of Dickens' life and shows how his novels both testify to his own strongest affections and serve as memorials to the young women he loved. Garnett is a graduate of Dartmouth College and earned his Ph.D. from the University of Virginia. He has been a Professor of English at Gettysburg College since 1981.



Ryan Teitman awarded \$25,000 grant from NEA

The National Endowment for the Arts recently awarded Professor Ryan Teitman, Emerging Writer Lecturer for the Department of English at Gettysburg College, an NEA Creative Writing Fellowship of \$25,000. Professor Teitman was one of forty poets to receive a fellowship from a pool of over 1,000 applicants. Ryan Teitman is the author of the poetry collection *Litany for the City*, selected by Jane Hirshfield as the winner of the A. Poulin Jr. Prize and published by BOA Editions. He earned his MFA in Creative Writing and an MA in English at Indiana University. He was a Wallace Stegner Fellow in poetry at Stanford University and his poems have appeared in *Ninth Letter*, *The Southern Review*, *Sycamore Review*, *Third Coast*, and many other journals.

STUDENTS AT STONEHENGE



Gettysburg students studying abroad on the Advanced Studies in England (ASE) program in Bath took a trip to Stonehenge in early February as part of their orientation week.

For more information about the ASE program and other study abroad opportunities, visit the website of the Study Abroad Office:
www.gettysburg.edu/academics/english/study-abroad or www.studyabroadbath.org.

FRONT ROW:
 Rachel Martinelli '15, Sophia Reid '14, and Kelly Hagerty '14.

SECOND ROW:
 Kate Gulden '15, Tom Bennett '14, Eric Sandwen '14, Mariah Wirth '14, and Ally Taylor '14.

WRITING PRIZES

The Department of English is pleased to announce the annual writing prizes for Gettysburg College students: The Marion Zulauf Poetry Prize, the Stephen Crane Fiction Prizes, and the Virginia Woolf Essay Prizes. These creative writing competitions are open to all Gettysburg College students, with cash prizes offered to the winners.

Deadline for submissions is WED MAR 6, 2012. Visit the English Department website for details.

<http://www.gettysburg.edu/academics/english/student/prizes.dot>

Marion Zulauf Poetry Prize

- \$100 award.
- Submit 1 - 3 poems.
- No line or subject restrictions.
- Provide cover letter to include: name, class year, email, phone.
- Submissions will be reviewed by an outside judge.
- Send submissions to Professor Nadine Meyer, Box 397, or drop off at the English Department, Breidenbaugh 314.

Stephen Crane Fiction Prizes

- \$250 First; \$125 Second; \$125 Third.
- Submit one short story of any length and any genre, double-spaced, typed, single sided.
- Provide cover letter to include: name, class year, email, phone.
- Submissions will be reviewed by an outside judge.
- Send submissions to Professor Fred Leebron, Box 397, or drop off at the English Department, Breidenbaugh 314.

Virginia Woolf Essay Prizes

- \$100 First; \$75 Second; and \$50 Third.
- Submit one work of literary nonfiction on any subject.
- Limit of 5,000 words per essay.
- Provide cover letter to include: name, class year, email, phone.
- Submissions will be reviewed by an outside judge.
- Send submissions to Professor Kathryn Rhett, Box 397, or drop off at the English Department, Breidenbaugh 314.

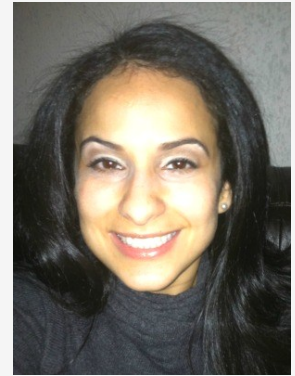
KEEPING UP WITH ALUMS

Jennifer Ramirez '08

Majors: English

Current Job: Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration

I am currently employed by the Social Security Administration interpreting complex social insurance policy to fully adjudicate benefits, conduct interviews, and help claimants develop claims for retirement, survivors, disability benefits, and/or supplemental security income as well as ensuring program integrity and quality through the use of prescribed processes. My favorite part of the job is helping people figure out their benefits and being a resource to them. My time at Gettysburg College, and especially within the English Department, prepared me to analyze, interpret, and annotate important information that is vital to my work.



Hannah Sawyer '12

Majors/Minors: English with Writing Concentration and Environmental Studies minor

Current job: Multiplatform Journalist, York Daily Record

My position is Multiplatform Journalist, which is a fancy way of saying I do a lot of different things. I work on page design and copy editing, and I also report local stories and overnight breaking news using text, photos, and video. Breaking news might mean fires and shootings in York or national stories such as the shooting in Aurora, CO, earlier this year. We break all of our stories on the web first. I also spend a lot of time adding depth to our web coverage by putting in links, video, and information boxes. Critical thinking is a huge part of my job, and I think learning how to problem solve was one of the most important skills I learned at Gettysburg. I also think my creative writing classes in the English Department taught me to look at situations and characters from many different angles -- that helps when trying to be objective or when thinking of new ways to cover a story that's maybe been done before, or even gets done each year. I also think taking environmental science classes for my minor helped me find a niche in the news world. Having a special interest like that has helped me make myself more marketable, and it's also fun to write about something I'm passionate about. I like the fact that the web allows us to tell stories in so much more detail and depth than we often can in print because we're limited by space. It's a really cool opportunity to be asked to tell a story visually, as well as in writing. It keeps things interesting by allowing me to develop my weaker skills and by making me find new angles to every story.



Writing Center Hours

Sun-Thurs 4-10 pm

Fri & Sat Closed

The Writing Center is located on the ground floor of Breidenbaugh Hall.

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WAS WRITTEN AND CREATED BY

Liz Williams '13

ON THE CALENDAR

- **Michael Collier Reading**
Tues, March 26 8:00 pm Lyceum, Penn Hall
- **Dorothy Barresi Reading**
Tues, April 2 8:00 pm Lyceum, Penn Hall
- **English Honors Presentations, Class of 2013**
Tues, April 9 4:30 pm Lyceum, Penn Hall
- **Mercury Reception**
Thrs, April 18 11:30 - 1:00 pm Location TBD
- **Tracy Crow Reading**
Thurs, April 18 8:00 pm Location TBD