

UW - Stevens Point at Wausau
English 205: Literary Magazines
Spring 2023

course description and information:

Study contemporary literary magazines, including national and student publications produced in print and online. Students collaborate to produce their own literary publication(s). May be repeated for credit.

Prerequisites:

Completion of either Eng 101 or Eng 150.

General Education Designation(s):

Associate: CCT

Credits: 1-3

*Note: When taken/offered for 1 credit, this class works as an independent study. A branch campus student might take this for 1 credit three semesters in a row, earning a total of 3 credits that could transfer well to the Writing, Editing, and Publishing major at UW Stevens Point.

instructor information:

Jill Stukenberg, Associate Professor of English, (*she/her*), can be reached at jstukenb@uwsp.edu.

Spring office (#305 on the Wausau campus) hours: WF 11 -12 and at other times.

learning outcomes:

Critical and Creative Thinking (CCT) courses extend your ability to analyze issues and produce responses that are both systematic and innovative. The CCT requirement can be fulfilled with qualifying coursework in any discipline. If you are in CCT classes you can expect to:

- Identify and investigate problems;
- Execute analytical or creative tasks;
- Combine or synthesize existing ideas, images, or expertise in ways that result in a unique and identifiable product.

how this class will work:

Students in English 205 will generally:

- Run for an editorial role on the *Musb* magazine staff, joining this Wausau campus club that produces *Musb* magazine. (Some of those roles are: Editor-in-Chief, Managing Editor, Fiction Editor, Art Editor, Poetry Editor, Social Media Editor, Layout Editor...).
- Once in that role, the student should attend *Musb* meetings and do their tasks in that role, and (as needed) schedule any additional one-on-one conferences with the instructor and/or other 205 students or *Musb* editors to accomplish their tasks or project(s).
- Students working for Eng 205 credit should also identify a project: 1) meet with the instructor early in the semester to determine their project(s) undertaken for credit, and 2) submit a report by the end of the 8th week (midterm) on their progress, and 3) submit a final reflection on their work and learning, connecting to the CCT learning outcomes.

Some types of projects:

Meet with the instructor early in the semester to decide together on the type of work and project(s) you will undertake appropriate for your role in the club and for 205 credit. This might depend on what role you are voted into by other club members, and/or what work needs to be done—but by working together we will find the best learning experience for you!

Because the magazine usually collects submissions in the fall, and produces the annual issue in the spring, the types of projects undertaken depend on the semester. Here are some ideas:

Fall

- 1) Read a few recent *Mush* back issues and make a recommendation to the rest of the club about what we might consider this year when it comes to voting on pieces. Does it seem we are producing issues with enough variety? Diversity? Risk? Any suggestions for how our voting process could work better for producing the next final product? (This is a good fall project for an Editor-in-Chief—or anyone).
- 2) Examine some existing literary magazines online and in print and offer/design a draft of a new “Call for Submissions” to the rest of the club members, and/or other ideas about what we could try “new” this year.
- 3) Design a process for solving any problems from the year before: did we need a better way to keep track of votes and submissions? A better way to run meetings? (This might be a good job for the Managing Editor—or anyone).

Spring

- 1) Work with accepted authors to offer editing suggestions on their pieces. If this your project and matches your role (Fiction or Poetry editor), take on more of the pieces to edit, and meet with Jill to discuss some approaches to editing and to set up a timeline for editing.
- 2) Lay out the magazine using the InDesign program (Run for Layout Editor). Meet with Jill to look at how some other literary magazines consider issues of interior design.
- 3) Examine some other existing literary magazines, in print and online, and design a marketing campaign for our issue release based on what seems like useful ideas others are doing. (Do we need to make a book trailer? Some TikToks?)

grading:

Learning will be assessed through the midterm report and final report. These can be completed in writing or completed in a conference with the instructor where we reflect together and produce a written document that will help you to track your learning from this experience.

The final report should show your progress in the learning outcomes of the class. Arrange due dates with the instructor.

final exam:

There is no final exam in this one credit class.