Victoria Lehrmann is a senior psychology major and the winner of the 2011 English Research Essay Contest. Victoria had initially written the winning paper for Dr. McWhirter’s Life and Literature of the American South course and he suggested she enter it into the contest. As part of her prize, the English department sponsored her trip to attend the National Undergraduate Literature Conference at Weber State University in Utah. At the conference, Victoria had the opportunity to present her research paper, “The Leopard Cannot Change His Spots: The History and Proliferation of the Myth of the Black Rapist in Southern American Culture,” to fellow conference attendees. Victoria explained that every person at the conference “loved what they were doing and were genuinely interested in the advancement of the field of English.” She received meaningful feedback on her work and engaged with other presenters as well.

Victoria added that her experience at the conference “rekindled my enjoyment of writing and reminded me of how rewarding it is to have made something new rather than just reiterating facts and memorizing figures.”

Sigma Tau Delta is an English honor society “dedicated to fostering literacy and all aspects of the discipline of English.” To qualify, students must have a minimum 3.0 overall GPR and a 3.0 minimum English GPR.

Fall 2012 Inductees

Elizabeth Anderson
Hannah Bellue
Meagan Brown
Christine Brunt
Kacey Eller
Julia Eichel
Margaret Fleming
Mary Gohmann
Grace Kelly
Catherine Lee
Liza Linney
Sharon Mika
Cat Monaco
Leah Plemmons
Alyssa Rivers
Hillary Roegelein
Briana Santiago
Mary Joan Stevenson
Ka’Shantena Wallace
Mallorie Williams
Sarah Williams

Congratulations
Graduating Seniors
Amanda Bahner
Elizabeth Brandeberry
Sharon Mika
Laney Schorp
Brittany Wink
How Far Can Good Grammar Go?
By Meredith Morse

Are you always on the lookout for a comma splice? Do you filter your friends for their ability to distinguish between \textit{to}, \textit{too} and \textit{two}? Does this grammatical error make your teeth itch?

Whether you’re a freshman selecting a major or a senior about to graduate, your future career is always a source of concern. \textit{What can I do with my life? What will I enjoy?} And, if you’re an editing enthusiast, \textit{How can I put my proofreading skills to good use?}

If you’re interested in a career that challenges you to perfect people’s writing and then rewards you with something substantial, useful and long-lasting, like a book, then the field of professional editing can offer you just that.

Texas A&M’s own University Press provides great opportunities for Aggies to gain exposure to the world of publication and editing. Texas A&M University Press’s editorial subjects stretch from nautical archaeology to veterinary medicine to the state of Texas itself.

The Press’s diversity of editorial subjects is also reflected in the employees; members of the staff come from all kinds of backgrounds, but they generally have one thing in common.

“It’s a type of personality,” says Dr. Mary Lenn Dixon, Editor-in-Chief of Texas A&M University Press. “Having an eye for detail, enjoying jigsaw puzzles, that sort of thing.”

Texas A&M University Press offers full-time careers, internships, and student worker positions, but if you’ve set your sights a little farther from home, a career in professional editing can take you anywhere.

“On the ship, it’s 12 hours on, 12 hours off,” explains Alyssa Stephens of her job as a graphics specialist with the Integrated Ocean Drilling Program’s Publications Service. Working alongside engineers, geologists and scientists to sample the rocks and sediment beneath the ocean floor. The work is hectic and high-intensity; samples are collected around the clock, and the team of professional editors must work equally hard to compile all of the data into a cohesive report by the time the mission ends.

An education in editing can help you find exciting employment wherever you may go. A career in professional editing will constantly challenge you in new and interesting ways, provide information about a diverse array of subjects, and allow you to explore the English language in your everyday world.

About the Author
Meredith Morse is a senior English major from Arlington, Texas. Following graduation, she hopes to attend law school and eventually live somewhere very cold. In the meantime, Meredith enjoys teaching LSAT classes at Kaplan.
**SPRING 2013 VARIABLE TOPICS**

**ENGL 301 – Technical Writing for English Majors only**

*With Ms. Hawkins*

Sharpen your writing and page design skills while preparing workplace documents, like grant proposals, reports, manuals and informational pieces for local non-profits! This course is reserved for English majors only!

**ENGL 390 – Urban Letters: London in Literature**

*With Dr. Apostolos Vasilakis*

Using the city of London as a guide this course will examine the reciprocal relationship between literary production and urban space or urban experience. Through a close examination of literary texts spanning the 19th and 21st centuries, and theoretical essays on urban planning and urban experience, we will investigate how the city of London is recorded, transmitted and represented through literature. This class will also take a field trip to London over spring break.

**ENGL 394 – Poetry Writing through the Visual Arts**

*With Janet McCann*

This course will broaden students’ understanding of art in all forms as it guides them in applying methods used by artists in other genres to creative writing. Students will read the stated philosophy of particular movements and individual artists, and examine examples of their work. Students will analyze how modernist poets have applied artists’ techniques in their writing, and how they used art in poetry.

**ENGL 396 – The Child in American Literature, 1650s to 1900**

*With Dr. Lucia Hodgson*

Explore American literature and culture with a focus on childhoods, past and present. Trace the child figure in genres from Native American origin stories, Christian child-rearing manuals, captivity narratives, and sentimental novels to Gothic tales, slave narratives, autobiographies and criminal confessions.

**ENGL 415 – Reading Hitchcock**

*With Dr. Jenelle Troxell*

This course will examine Hitchcock as a great author of the twentieth century whose thematic and aesthetic concerns unify his diverse oeuvre, spanning over a half a century. Over the course, students will examine his sprawling body of work — from his early British silent films to his late Hollywood productions — paying particular attention to his technical, stylistic, and narrative innovations.

**ENGL 415 – Christina Rossetti**

*With Dr. Maura Ives*

In recent years, Christina Rossetti (1830-1894)— author of “Goblin Market”— has been recognized as one of the most important poets of the 19th century. During the semester, students will proceed in loose chronological order through Rossetti’s career, paying special attention to the nature of biographical scholarship on Rossetti.
ENGL 481 – Literature of the Queen’s Court: Queen Elizabeth and Anne of Denmark
With Dr. Margaret Ezell

"Literature of the Queen’s Courts" will focus on the literary culture of the courts of the English queens in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, Queen Elizabeth, Queen Ann, and Queen Henrietta Maria. We will be looking at dramas, letters, poetry, and fiction by them and their courtiers depicting female sovereigns and female authority.

ENGL 481 – Art and Literature in the Industrial Age
With Dr. Susan Egenolf

This course will explore 18th - and - 19th century art and literature and their relationship to industry, including domestic manufacture, foreign trade, tourism and farming. We will read the journals of Captain Cook and other explorers as they charted land and resources for the British Empire, the poetry and images of William Blake as he critiqued the effects of the industrial revolution, and the narratives of slave workings in the British colonies. We will also examine literary and artistic representations of people at work, as well as the products of new industrial methods which enabled antiquities to be reproduced to adorn the living spaces of British citizens.

ENGL 481 – The Russians
With James Hannah

The course will concentrate on 19th and early 20th century Russian prose writers who shaped the form, content, and theory of subsequent fiction. The class will read, in translation, works by Gogol, Dostoyevsky, Tolstoy, Turgenev, and Chekhov.

ENGL 481 – Food and the Transnational Narrative
With Dr. Emily Johansen

In this course, students will examine how food is represented in a variety of fictional and non-fictional texts and films. The texts read in this course draw to the surface many transnational and historical connections between the food we eat and how we understand our place as global citizens.

ENGL 481 – Whitman and Dickinson
With Dr. Jerome Loving

The seminar on Walt Whitman and Emily Dickinson features two of America’s greatest poets. Whitman was America’s first great vernacular poet; Dickinson was not only one of our greatest female poets but one of our greatest poets. There will be an oral report, a term paper, a mid-term, and a final exam. Students will view PBS films of the lives and careers of each poet.
ENGL 481 – Hollywood in the 1930s  
With Dr. Anne Morey  
The 1930s were an extraordinarily productive time for Hollywood, marked by great generic diversity and a willingness to engage with contemporary political or economic concerns. This course will investigate the economic, technical, and social underpinnings of this moment by examining a wide variety of types of filmmaking (musicals), horror films, and crime pictures. Issues to be explored will include organized protest against Hollywood, censorship, how Hollywood dealt with representations of fascism, and models of representing changing sexual mores and economic behavior.

ENGL 481 – Thomas Jefferson & The Classics: Jefferson’s Religious and Rhetorical Roots  
With Dr. Jan Swearingen  
This course will work backwards from the Declaration of Independence to examine the many religious, literary, and philosophical sources that Jefferson drew on in writing the Declaration. Along the way, the course will observe many partnerships of rhetoric, literature, and religion during the founding era, partnerships which continue today in American rhetorical culture.

ENGL 489 – Beowulf  
With Dr. Britt Mize  
Students will read the Old English epic poem Beowulf, in Old English, in its entirety. This is a course in the Old English language. Prerequisite: ENGL 489, Old English (first semester, Fall 2012)

ENGL 489 – Image, Meaning, Text: Composing and Reading in Virtual Space  
With Dr. Laura Mandell  
This course will explore how images bear cultural meanings and how they communicate to people. Students will look at layout and design of textual artifacts and analyze how textual data intermingles with images in various media, from the Gutenberg Bible to the Metropolitan Museum.

Special Courses to Note

ENGL 228: 599  
American Literature Civil War to the Present  
With Dr. Amy Earhart  
WEB- BASED COURSE

ENGL 361 – Young Adult Literature  
With Dr. Elizabeth Robinson  
HYBRID COURSE  
This class will meet once a week in the classroom, and additional coursework will be online.
Cecilia Morales, class of 2014, is an English major and honors student. This year, Cecilia has partnered with Dr. Margaret Ezell on a Undergraduate Professional and Research Experience Project (UPREP). Her research with Dr. Ezell spurred her to participate in the Undergraduate Research Scholars Program (URS).

Dr. Ezell and Cecilia are currently developing classroom text from the works of Mary More and Robert Whitehall. Cecilia meets with Dr. Ezell one hour per week and also does independent research. She equates the workload to that of a regular course. The two primary texts of focus for their research are “The Women’s Right” by Mary More and “The Women’s Right Proved False” by Robert Whitehall. Dr. Ezell and Cecilia are modernizing spellings and punctuations and adding footnotes to make the text more user-friendly for undergraduate students.

Cecilia’s URS project is an extension of her UPREP project. The focus of her URS project is a genre called “Mother’s Legacies.” She is using texts from this genre to examine the writings of women to their children and understand the position of women through the advice mothers passed down. Cecilia draws conclusions about the role of women by reviewing manuscripts written by men and women, and then comparing and contrasting the portrayal of women in both.

If you are interested in applying for a UPREP, visit the English Undergraduate office for the semester offerings. UPREPs are a unique and exciting way to participate in an in-depth research project with a faculty advisor. Some students even carry out their UPREP research into graduate school and beyond!

Apply! Apply! Apply!

Continuing student scholarship applications are now available. Applications are due February 1 and can be found on the financial aid website. Check out the scholarship opportunities for English majors below.

**Carroll Laverty Memorial Scholarship in English**
The Carroll Laverty Memorial Scholarship in English is awarded annually to a junior or senior English major of high achievement and demonstrable need. The recipient must be a full-time student in good standing. The amount of the award ranges from $1000 to $1500.

**Stewart & Anna Morgan Scholarship**
The Stewart and Anna Morgan Scholarship is made available annually to entering and current English majors in amounts ranging from $250 to $2500. Eligibility for current majors is an Honors eligible (3.5) or higher GPA.

**Natalou T. and Kenneth P. Pipes Scholarship**
The Natalou T. and Kenneth P. Pipes ’52 Endowed Scholarship is intended for a junior or senior English major who is a candidate for certification in English to teach at the middle school or secondary level. The recipient must be a full-time student in good standing. Selection is made on the basis of academic performance, involvement in extra-curricular activities, and financial need as determined by the Office of Student Financial Aid. (Students go online at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov) and apply for financial assistance.)
Travel the World

The University Park Campus of the University of Nottingham, recognized as the largest and most attractive campus in the country.

University of Nottingham

University of Nottingham is a public research university located on the outskirts of Nottingham, England. In Spring 2012, four A&M students spent the semester at the university. Although the group was primarily composed of English majors, the students took courses in a variety of subjects. The learning style at Nottingham is very fast-paced because there is a similar amount of material covered in fewer instructional sessions.

The culture of the university is heavily oriented around the people you live with. Elyssa Grant, a senior English major who studied at Nottingham, said, “The people are very friendly everywhere and really interested in learning more about you and where you came from.” During her time abroad, Elyssa also joined the orchestra and played in a quartet for a wedding! For more information about the program, make an appointment with an English advisor.

Spring Break in LONDON

A field trip with English 390: Urban Letters—London in Literature
March 7–March 13, 2013

COST

$3,100 in addition to the cost of tuition for the course
Includes flight, transportation, accommodations, and entrance to museums

The trip will include a guided tour of the British Library, a Bloomsbury walking tour, and visits to several museums including the Charles Dickens, Sherlock Holmes, Tate Modern and British Museums.

If you are considering traveling to London, begin your passport paperwork NOW!
For each edition of The English Aggie, we will feature a section of “favorites.” Students will have the opportunity to respond with their “favorites” on the Texas A&M English Undergraduate Facebook Page.

**Favorite Things: Fall**

“I definitely love raking leaves, jumping in the leaf piles, and then going inside to drink apple cider!” - Rebekah Roorda

“The return of candy corn!” - Elyssa Grant

“Pumpkin soup, pumpkin bread, pumpkin pie!” - Elizabeth Brisby

“That hot chocolate that comes with those tiny marshmallows in the package!” - Michael Hawthorne

“Apple cider and pumpkin pie!” - Catherine Choi Lee

“My favorite fall activities are drinking hot chocolate, dressing in scarfs and boots, and collecting leaves.” - Phylicia Taylor

“Watching Hocus Pocus. Hands down.” - Elise Brunsvold

“No Shave November. And seeing my family’s priceless reaction to it. Every. Year. For all the years.” - David Johnson

“Listening to Christmas music starting November 1st.” - Leah Plemmons

“I usually sit around a fire, drink hot chocolate, and discuss literature with my friends.” - Rachel Weir

**Upcoming Events**

**Research and Rhetoric Essay Contest**

The English Undergraduate program has announced its annual research essay contest. A researched essay, written for a 300-400 level English class, treating any literary subject or writer, between 2500 and 5000 words is eligible for entry. The winner will receive $250 for outstanding undergraduate research writing at Texas A&M University. Applications for graduating seniors are due December 13, and for all other students, applications are due December 17.

To find out more, visit [http://www.english.tamu.edu/undergraduate/](http://www.english.tamu.edu/undergraduate/)

**Continuing Student Scholarships**

Continuing Student Scholarships are available at [https://sfaid.tamu.edu/uwideapp/#Program15](https://sfaid.tamu.edu/uwideapp/#Program15). Applications are due February 1.

**THIS PUBLICATION Brought to You By The**

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**Hours of Operation**

Monday– Friday
8 a.m.— 12 p.m.
1 p.m.— 5 p.m.

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