THE ENGLISH AGGIE

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ENGL 334: Science Fiction, Present and Past - Dr. Vasilakis
In this course, students will focus on science fiction literature spanning from the 19th to the 21st century. Starting with Mary Shelley’s novel Frankenstein, they will read some of the most important writers and works of the genre, and will explore the evolution of the genre. Students will discuss how these stories satisfy the human desire and imagination to explore other worlds, space, time, and their relationship to the other.

ENGL 351: Advanced Film: Film Noir - Dr. Morey
This course will investigate the phenomenon of the film noir as it appears in American cinema from the 1940s to the present. Film noir production from the early 1940s through the early 1960s will be emphasized, although students will also examine a number of so-called “color noir” films as samples of recent film noir production. Film noir has been variously termed a cycle, a movement, a genre, and a style.

ENGL 392: Twentieth-Century Christian Literature - Dr. Clark
An investigation into the continued vitality of the religious imagination in a time of skepticism and doubt. Major Christian texts in a variety of genres from the United States, Britain, and the Continent will be read within an historical, cultural, and theological context. Special attention will be given to enhancing critical thinking and writing skills.

ENGL 331: Fantasy Literature - Dr. E. Robinson
Beginning with a brief look back at early texts that influenced the development of the fantasy novel, this course primarily explores modern fantasy, a genre which begins to come into its own in the 19th century. Students will explore modern fantasy through a variety of perspectives, from fantasy that has its roots in the epic to that which grows out of German Romanticism. This course will conclude the semester reading a set of novels that exemplify the Warrior Woman that has become a staple of Young Adult Literature.
ENGL 481.902: Victorian Fantasy - Dr. Nelson
This course will examine Victorian fantasy literature (novels, short stories, and poetry) for adults and children. Emphasis will be on the cultural preoccupations that fantasy was used to articulate, as well as on the ideological and social agendas that fantasy was sometimes used to further. Authors studied will include Bram Stoker, Robert Louis Stevenson, H. G. Wells, Christina Rossetti, Dinah Mulock Craik, John Ruskin, Lewis Carroll, and George MacDonald.

ENGL 481.903: Is Writing a Fad? - Dr. Pilsch
This senior seminar explores the question of writing by exploring both ends of written culture: debates about writing in ancient Athens and the perceived decline in literacy brought about by computers. Students will read a variety of works from both periods, exploring them from within the rhetorical tradition, and generally attempting to account for the way media, most prominently writing, structures culture and the transmission of knowledge.

ENGL 481.904: Consumerism and American Culture - Dr. S. Robinson
From at least the middle of the 19th century, American culture has been attempting to come to terms with the ever increasing dominance of consumerism in all aspects of life. Literature, film, and a wide range of nonfiction writing has represented, criticized, made fun of, and celebrated the forms and practices of consumer culture. In this class, students will read fiction and nonfiction and view films that actively engage in questions about the meanings of consumerism.

ENGL 481.905: Narrative Medicine - Dr. Stabile
What does it mean to organize your body’s illness or wellness by symptoms and experience into a narrative? And how do we read other people’s health narratives? Students will study and write critical literary analyses of the cultural constructions of suffering and empathy; of diagnosed and misinterpreted bodies; of scientific and artistic representations of illness.

ENGL 481.906: Diasporic Modernities - Dr. Tuhkanen
This class introduces students to contemporary theories of “modernity,” with particular emphasis on the claim that when we speak of “Western modernity,” we must speak of it as a “diasporic modernity”—that we must recognize the constitutive role that the African diaspora had, and continues to have, in the formation of our modern world. This class will focus on the work of three major thinkers of diasporic modernity: Richard Wright, James Baldwin, and Sylvia Wynter.

For a full list of course descriptions, please visit http://english.tamu.edu/course-descriptions/.
A GUIDE

to the Best Coffee Shops in
College Station

BY
HANNAH LACY MCKEON

Lupa’s Coffee Shop

Arguably the most popular spot in College Station is Lupa’s Coffee Shop. Here at Lupa’s you’ll find THE best baristas in all the land. Personable, professional, and good at making coffee. With big windows to remind you what the sun looks like, multiple rooms so you don’t have fight parking AND seating, and the occasional Friday night concert, Lupa’s is your sweet escape. When at Lupa’s, the Canadian Latte is the move people. Trust me on this one.

Sweet Eugene’s, or more commonly referred to as ‘Sweets,’ will have you completely immersed in the #college #culture. This is the perfect example of all the forms a college coffee shop can take. Late night study sesh? Catch up convo with a friend? Morning bible study? Sweets has it all. With ample couch space, plenty of outlets and movable tables, you’ll find there’s just about nothing this house of java can’t handle. I have to go with a classic Iced White Mocha on this one guys. “But I can get that anywhere!” Oh yeah, I know what you’re thinking. NO ONE knows how to White Mocha quite like Sweets though, promise!
Harvest Coffee Bar is a tranquil little coffee shop nestled into the main strip of downtown Bryan. Harvest boasts in a robust menu, extremely soft couches, and a bumpin’ playlist that will get you on your study grind. The best thing about Harvest, besides its out-of-this-world kind baristas, may very well be the Candlelight Latte. It’s a blend of perfection to pull you through a dreary night of studying. Take my word for it; this one is worth the drive!

Far removed from the traffic-crazy chaotic mess College Station can sometimes be, Point of View, referred to as POV (clever I know!), is quite a safe haven. Okay, aesthetic-lovers, this one is for you! POV’s best quality, hands-down, feet-up, is its incredible architecture and décor. If you have an affinity for exposed light bulbs, high vaulted ceilings, and the greenest lawn you’ve ever seen, POV is the place to be! The gem of the menu, you ask? Definitely the Snowfall Latte! You won’t regret it.

This place truly takes the cake for turning function into fashion. Attached to Connecting Point Church, you can still see the cardboard tables, trippy carpets, and linoleum-flooring characteristic of its parent building. BUT, where The Brew starts to impress us all is the stark contrast between Connecting Point and its warm glow, suspended wooden pallets, and high barstool style vibes! It’s truly like walking into a different world. You can’t leave The Brew without ordering the “Secret Handshake.” If the barista asks you for the password, simply knock on the counter twice and prepare to experience an exclusive drink in a quaint corner of College Station.
NaNoWriMo

Novel Write-in
Every Tuesday

Nov. 6, 13, 20, 27
6:30-9 pm
Evans 210

Free Coffee & Snacks

Sponsored by Department of English and The University Writing Center
“And what do you plan to do with that after graduation?” It’s a statement just about every liberal arts major has heard at least once, if not a thousand times. But before you despair and make the switch to a “more useful” major, check out these reasons why your liberal arts degree can take you much further than a drive-through window.

1. It Teaches You Skills You Can Use for ANY Job

When people wonder what you are going to do with that English, philosophy, or history degree and how it can become a successful career, they’re overlooking the fact that a liberal arts major doesn’t have the same goal as, say, an engineering major. The ultimate aim of a liberal arts education isn’t to train you for a specific job, but to develop life skills that will be useful in any job.

2. You’ll Keep Up With the Rapidly Changing Career World

The career world is changing faster than ever. Many of today’s biggest markets didn’t even exist 10 years ago! If you want to keep up in such a fast-paced environment, a solid education is crucial. The best way to attain this is committing to life long learning, and a liberal arts education provides a strong foundation for continued learning.

3. It Gives You a Worldly Perspective

Liberal arts studies aim to introduce you to as many different subjects as possible. Not only does this broader perspective help you to creatively solve problems, but it also can be a fascinating way to learn about the world around you! At the very least, what you learn from your major could lead to some interesting conversation tidbits; at the best, it leads to a passion for learning that will last your whole life!

4. These All-Stars Were Liberal Arts Majors

The co-founder and CEO of PayPal, Peter Thiel, was a 20th–century philosophy major during his undergraduate career at Stanford. He was also the very first outside investor in Facebook.

Ted Turner founded CNN and TBS, and is also a billionaire with a long list of accolades. He started out with an undergraduate degree in Classics.

Harold E. Varmus, a Nobel Prize winner for his work in cell biology, got a B.A. in English literature and a graduate degree in English before going on to medical school.

Michael Eisner, who was the CEO of Walt Disney Company from 1984 until 2005, never took a single business class.

So, to all the liberal arts majors out there, don’t feel down next time someone tells you to start memorizing, “Would you like fries with that?” Hold your head proud, because the depth and range of your liberal arts earned skills makes you limitless!

Source: https://www.hercampus.com/career/5-reasons-why-your-liberal-arts-major-worth-it
Wishing you had more opportunities to use those excellent essays, creative fiction, and poetry that are languishing on your hard drive or in the back of your mind?

Like “Texas A&M English Undergraduates” on Facebook and follow @TheEnglishAggie on Twitter to stay informed about contests, magazines, and journals to which you can submit your work. Email your work to EnglishAggieStories@gmail.com and you could end up published in The English Aggie!

Thanks & Gig ’Em

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