

TERM: Fall 2025

COURSE NUMBER: ENGL 5000.06

COURSE TITLE: Theory of Teaching Writing and Literature

SECTION TIMES/DAYS: M 4:30-7:00 pm

INSTRUCTOR: Aimee Ross-Kilroy

COURSE DESCRIPTION/PRINCIPAL TOPICS:

This course explores the theory and practice of teaching writing and literature. We will investigate the history of composition studies and pedagogical approaches to better understand current trends and movements. We will consider theories of language learning and critical pedagogy, and these explorations will inform our discussion of practical issues such as grading, classroom management, and diversity. We will discuss the (sometimes problematic) relationship between teaching literature and writing. We will also focus specifically on the Jesuit Rhetorical tradition and teaching rhetoric at LMU. This course is designed for those interested in teaching literature and composition, especially graduate teaching fellows who will eventually teach in the First Year Seminar and Rhetorical Arts programs.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

- Understand the history of rhetorical instruction and composition studies.
- Develop a theoretical framework that informs pedagogical decisions.
- Evaluate pedagogical theories, practices, and classroom approaches.
- Develop an understanding of practical classroom skills.
- Develop a working knowledge of writing pedagogies, applications of writing theory, and methods.
- Demonstrate professional competence through writing assignments and presentations

CLASS LEVEL RESTRICTION:

Graduate Only

RECOMMENDED/PREREQUISITES:

N/A

COURSE ATTRIBUTES:

- Critical Methodology
- Contemporary Critical Theory
- Major Writer / Genre / Literary Period
- Literature Elective
- Theory Elective
- Creative Writing Seminar
- Rhetoric / Composition Theory and Practice
- Linguistics OR Reading Theory