

TERM: Fall 2026

COURSE NUMBER & CATEGORY: ENGL 6603: Seminar in a Major Writer

COURSE TITLE: Louise Erdrich

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

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Robin Miskolcze

COURSE DESCRIPTION/PRINCIPAL TOPICS:

A semester-long exploration of Louise Erdrich, a Pulitzer Prize-winning contemporary author of over twenty-three books. We will look at the historical and cultural contexts that contribute to Erdrich's work as an Indigenous writer who consistently explores the historical and contemporary lives of Ojibwe families in North America. Included will be course work devoted to feminist Indigenous theory, as well as an examination of debates within Indigenous criticism concerning such issues as aesthetics, cultural realism and settler colonialist appropriation/stereotypes.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

- *Students will explore the corpus of Louise Erdrich, winner of National Book Award for Fiction, the National Book Critics Circle Award and the Pulitzer Prize.
- *Students will understand the benefits of exploring the oeuvre of an author
- *Students will learn how to pose significant research questions about a field of inquiry
- *Students will learn how to limit their topic scope, develop a plan for investigation, and formulate a clear thesis
- *Students will learn to articulate on a resume their communication and analysis skills learned in the course

CLASS LEVEL RESTRICTION:

GRADUATE ONLY

COURSE ATTRIBUTES:

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