

Brief Course Outline

Course Title: **The Storyteller's Art I: Love and Romance**

Course Number and Section:

ENGLISH

1027F 551

Instructor Name(s): Dr. Sarah Blanchette

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Disclaimer: Information in the brief course outline is subject to change. The syllabus posted on OWL is the official and authoritative source of information for the course.

Course Description:

Storytelling defines who we are and our relation to the community, the nation, and the world. This course will delve into the romance genre to explore its key tropes—including the "meet cute," love triangles, enemies-to-lovers, and happily-ever-after. From iconic love stories, like Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*, to contemporary bestsellers, such as Bolu Babalola's *Love in Colour*, students will be introduced to a wide variety of texts, including poetry, short stories, novels, and film. It will consider how storytellers use the romance genre and love plots to explore tensions around gender, sexuality, race, colonialism, and class. This course will focus on allowing students to develop their writing, research, and argumentation skills, which are transferable skills for any discipline.

Learning Outcomes:

- survey the romance genre and its major tropes, themes, and concerns
- improve your critical reading and writing in ways that will enable success in a wide variety of University courses
- explore a wide range of forms of creative expression and further your appreciation of diverse cultural productions and practices
- develop an interdisciplinary perspective on a variety of narrative media: for example, the poem, the novel, and the film
- become capable of identifying, analyzing, and interpreting basic narrative elements, such as plot, character, point of view, theme, setting, imagery, diction, tone, figures of speech, and tropes
- write logically and persuasively in fluent, standard English using the appropriate conventions for scholarly-critical writing
- design strong thesis statements and structured arguments in persuasive (original) essays using MLA format and secondary research material integration (i.e. using quotations and paraphrases)

Textbooks and Course Materials:

Required Textbooks:

Jane Austen's "Pride and Prejudice", Cost: \$12
Bolu Babalola's "Love in Colour", Cost: \$24
Casey McQuiston's "One Last Stop", Cost: \$23

Methods Of Evaluation:

Assignment	Due Date mm/dd/yy	Weight - %
Participation		10
Quizzes		10
Poetry Annotation	09/22/2025	10
Essay One	10/08/2025	15
Essay Two	11/12/2025	20
Final Exam		35

In solidarity with the Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee, Lūnaapéewak, and Chonnonton peoples on whose traditional treaty and unceded territories this course is shared.

Tuesday, August 12, 2025