Al Ahliyya Amman University  
Faculty of Arts  
Department of English  
Course Description  
English Language and Literature

(771101) English Language (1)  
(3 Credit hours)  
Prerequisite: none  
This course is designed to help students improve the four basic skills in English, namely: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. It provides essential information about grammatical forms and structures used in real communicative situations. Stimulating and informative passages are selected to improve students’ reading comprehension ability. Exercises and semi-guided paragraphs are used to improve their writing skills.

(771102) English Language (2)  
(3 Credit hours)  
Prerequisite: (771101)  
The aim of this course is to further develop students’ ability in the four language skills. The course deals with basic concepts of English grammar and relates them to real situations where tenses, prepositions, singular, plural, clauses, etc, may be seen in action. The passages selected for reading comprehension are stimulating and informative so as to encourage students to express their opinions in both speaking and writing.

(721201) English Grammar (1)  
(3 Credit hours)  
Prerequisite: None  
This course is a treatment of English grammar in some detail. In addition to a structural description of each of the morpheme, the word, the phrase and the sentence, it emphasizes that most important feature of language: the many-to-many relationship between form and function. At the word level, this relationship is illustrated by showing that some word classes can have varying grammatical functions. Different phrase structures are then mapped on to different grammatical functions. Finally different sentence structures are related to variable illocutionary forces. In between, there is a detailed account of complementation and some syntactic argumentation.

(751202) Listening Comprehension  
(3 Credit hours)  
Prerequisite: None  
This course aims at developing students' language skills, especially writing and comprehension. The course covers reading and listening comprehension.
(721203) Conversation
(3 Credit hours)
Prerequisite: None
This course focuses on developing fluency by practicing spoken English through activities such as dialogues, role-plays, small group discussions and oral presentations. Emphasis is also placed on developing listening comprehension, note taking skills and vocabulary building.

(751204) Reading
(3 Credit hours)
Prerequisite: None
This course is intended to equip students with the skills and strategies to expand vocabulary and comprehend reading materials beyond literal meaning. Students study vocabulary weekly using context clues, association, and visualization techniques. Students develop skills in finding main ideas, details, and inference by reading a variety of materials. Students develop critical thinking skills by analyzing, comparing, and contrasting texts.

(721205) Writing (1)
(3 Credit hours)
Prerequisite: None
This course concentrates on sentence and paragraph writing. It deals with sentence types (simple, compound, complex and compound complex). It focuses on paragraph structure: topic sentence, body and conclusion. It also deals with the different methods of paragraph development such as description, comparison and contrast, cause and effect and listing...etc

(722201) Essay Writing
(3 Credit hours)
Prerequisite: (721205)
This course aims at training students in the general organization of the essay: the introduction, the thesis statement, the body and the conclusion. It also aims at introducing students to the types of essay development, including description, comparison and contrast, cause and effect and listing.... etc.

(722302) Introduction to Linguistics
(3 Credit hours)
Prerequisite: (24124)
This course aims at introducing students of linguistics, translation and literature to the basic concepts in linguistics. It is viewed as a stepping stone to more specialized courses such as syntax, semantics, phonology, sociolinguistics, psycholinguistics, discourse analysis and text linguistics. The course investigates the questions of what language is and how it is related to the other human faculties. Viewing language as a cultural, social, and psychological phenomenon, the course tries to pinpoint what is universal about languages, how meaning is negotiated as language interfaces with the wider context, how language is acquired as a first language and learned as a second or foreign language, how the different social contexts of language use inevitably create language variation, which leads to language change.
(24225) English Grammar (2)
(3 Credit hours)
Prerequisite: (24122)
The course is an introduction to the minimalist program as in Chomsky 1995, and other papers. Modern syntactic theory is related to claims about first language acquisition, then a new treatment of categories is given. The rest is a development of modern phrase structure trees from IP trees all the way to rich tree structures illustrating the subject-internal VP hypothesis, AgrS, AgrO, and AgrIO. All the time, the functioning of linguistic universals is demonstrated in the arguments for or against syntactic structures.

(24270) Introduction to Literature
(3 Credit hours)
Prerequisite: (241241)
This course is designed to provide students with a selection of major British writers and their literary works. The teaching approach is historical, political, social, but mostly literary. One of the primary aims of the course is to familiarize the students with the processes through which literature has been shaped by history and specific political and socio-cultural contexts. Each text is supplemented by a suitable background to enable students to read and enjoy literature in its meaningful context.

(24271) Poetry 1
(3 Credit hours)
Prerequisite: (24270)
This introductory course aims at familiarizing students with basic poetic techniques and conventions, such as voice, tone, diction, sound, form, rhyme, rhythm and various figures of speech, including imagery, metaphors and symbols. These elements are demonstrated and analyzed through the introduction of a selection of poems. The course also emphasizes textual strategies and accounts for their components in an attempt to develop further understanding of poetry as both a site for pleasure and a human activity.

(27231) Introduction to Translation
(3 Credit hours)
Prerequisite: (24121)
This course covers basic theoretical principles in the art of translation, qualities of translators, methods of translation, problems involved in translation and analysis of translated texts. It offers practice in translating a variety of texts from various fields of knowledge i.e. commercial, literary, legal, religious and others.

(24347) Semantics
(3 Credit hours)
Prerequisite: (24242)
This course aims at familiarizing students with basic concepts in semantics, such as the types and levels of meaning, the difference between sentences, utterances and propositions, sense and reference, etc. It also introduces students to some semantics formalisms. Finally, it treats such meaning levels as pragmatics and discourse analysis.
(24370) Drama (1)
(3 Credit hours)
Prerequisite: (24270)
This course familiarizes students with basic elements relating to the origin and development of drama as a literary genre through a critical analysis of selected plays by major Greek, British and American playwrights. The analysis focuses on major dramatic elements such as plot, dialogue, theme, language; on basic differences between the two types of drama (tragedy and comedy) and on how works of drama change throughout the different historical eras. Special attention is given to Morality drama as well as Restoration and Eighteenth century comedies.

(24371) Novel (1)
(3 Credit hours)
Prerequisite: (24270)
This course will trace the development of the novel tradition in the different eras by reading a selection of novels from the eighteenth, nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Towards this end, novelists such as Defoe, Austin, Dickens, Joyce, Hardy, Conrad, and others will be analyzed and critically assessed. To be also discussed is the novel as a distinctive literary genre and as a rich nexus of cultural processes. In addition, the course focuses on how the novel’s narrative methods and structure develop to articulate its form and theme.

(24372) Classical Literature
(3 Credit hours)
Prerequisite: (24370)
This course introduces selections of classical literature with a considerably significant impact on English literature. Representative works like The Odyssey, The Oresteia, The Book of Songs, The Bible, Islamic Sufi literature, One Thousand and One Nights and The Divine Comedy will be read and analyzed. How and why some modern works intertextualize with the above mentioned texts will be discussed and assessed. To be also discussed is the question pertaining to why some literary works count as classics. The validity of inscribing canonic criteria will also be critically considered.

(24373) 17th and 18th Centuries Literature
(3 Credit hours)
Prerequisite: (24370)
This course is intended to introduce students to major 17th and 18th Century writers. Special attention will be given to metaphysical poetry, restoration drama, and early 18th Century novelists. The teaching approach is chronological, political, social, but mostly literary. The chronological arrangement of the selected texts is intended to help students develop contextual and analytic notes and commentary. One of the primary aims of the course is to allow students to come to terms with the process through which literature has been shaped by history and specific political and socio-cultural contexts. The necessary background of each text is offered to enable students read and enjoy literature in its meaningful context.
(24360) Phonetics and Phonology  
(3 Credit hours)  
Prerequisite: (24242)  
This course introduces the students to the principles of phonetics and phonology, focusing on the description of English segmentals (consonants, and vowels), and suprasegmentals (stress, intonation and rhythm). It also trains the students to read and write phonetic transcription, and to use Internet files to understand and exercise phonetic points. In addition, the course orients the students to the key concepts and terms of phonetics and phonology, such as phoneme, allophone, syllable, etc. A major objective of the course is to improve the students’ pronunciation.

(24380) Research Methodology  
(3 Credit hours)  
Prerequisite: (24224)  
This is a practical study of research techniques. Students are trained in essential concepts of research: problem identification, review of literature, and formulation of hypotheses/ objectives; research methods and their application to research (library, observational, experimental); constructing a research design; preparing a research proposal, data collection, data analysis (sorting, displaying, and description), the research report format, principles of report writing, making recommendations, and documentation.

(24445) Comparative Linguistics & Error Analysis  
(3 Credit hours)  
Prerequisite: (24242)  
This course is a linguistic analysis of similarities and differences between Arabic and English. It emphasizes phonological, lexical, morphological and syntactic aspects of the two languages. It highlights problems of linguistic and cultural interference and explains major sources of errors made by Arabic learners of English.

(24447) Discourse Analysis  
(3 Credit hours)  
Prerequisite: (24347)  
This course introduces the students to the various senses of the term discourse. It explores the roles of discourse in relation to power and knowledge, and introduces students to the ways in which texts, both spoken and written, are used to express the ideas of particular socio-cultural institutions. Ultimately, this course aims at changing the outlook of students to spoken and written text. It tries to impart a dynamic view of language by training the students to treat strings of linguistic items as candidates for varying interpretations depending on what cultural, social or other contexts they are used in, and what speech acts, conversational principles and text structure are involved.

(24470) Victorian & Romantic Literature  
(3 Credit hours)  
Prerequisite: (24373)  
The course examines a selection of Romantic and Victorian literary writings representing the narratives, poetry, and cultural and social thought of the periods. Students will be introduced to debates over sensibility and concepts of romanticism. They will also be introduced to the role of both the novel and poetry in accounting for the individual, society and history in the Romantic and Victorian eras. Topics to be
highlighted in relation to these eras include ideas of childhood and the novel as a metropolitan form.

(24472) 20th century literature  
(3 Credit hours)  
Prerequisite: (24470)  
The course will emphasize literary achievements of some British and American writers in the twentieth century. Writers like James Joyce, T. S. Eliot, William Yeats, Ernest Hemingway and others will be studied. Close and insightful readings of those writers along with their intellectual positions should enable students to develop critiquing tools and compare attentively literary trends or writers with others from previous centuries.

(24473) Literary Criticism  
(3 Credit hours)  
Prerequisite: (24470)  
The course is of two parts. Part one explores classical literary principles from Plato till the late part of the 19th century. Philosophers like Kant and Hegel, and intellectual strands like humanism and historicism are also introduced. Part two introduces students to various modern critical approaches to literature. Strands in literary criticism such as humanism, formalism, structuralism, psychoanalysis, Marxism, existentialism, post-structuralism, deconstruction, and feminism will be introduced along with avant-garde trends and critiques of modernism. Students will not only be required to understand many of the classical and modern concepts of literature, but they will also be trained to re-read and re-interpret these concepts. They should develop critical visions and readings of their own by way of assessing some ethical and political implications nourished by classical and modern philosophers and theoreticians.

(24474) American Literature  
(3 Credit hours)  
Prerequisite: (24373)  
This course traces the development of American literature from the beginnings to the 20th century. Students will be introduced to many of the basic features which make American literature different from English literature in this period. Students will also be familiarized with various political and social backgrounds that helped shape the selected pieces of literature. The readings represent all literary genres. Writers such as Captain John Smith, Anne Bradstreet, Edward Taylor, Franklin, Paine, Freneau, Irving, Poe, Emerson, Hawthorne, Melville, Dickinson, Whitman, Thorough, Cooper among others will be discussed and analyzed.

(24475) Shakespeare  
(3 Credit hours)  
Prerequisite: (24370)  
This course examines a selection of Shakespeare’s tragedies and comedies. A general background of Shakespeare’s era is provided by way of developing deeper understanding of his plays. Autobiographical notes will also be introduced to help students come to terms with elements at work in the different plays. Shakespeare’s universality and the canonic features of his works are some of the issues to be
underscored. Criticism on Shakespearean plays as developed throughout the different ages will also be included.

(24291) French (2)
(3 Credit hours)
Prerequisite: (24290)
This course is intended to promote the students’ further expressive and communicative abilities by introducing them to more vocabulary and texts relating to both literature and other fields of knowledge that are of specific interest to them.

(24342) Sociolinguistics
(3 Credit hours)
Prerequisite: (24347)
This is an introduction to the relationship between language and society. The course starts by delineating sociolinguistics from other 'formalist' linguistic studies, such as phonology, morphology semantics and syntax, and then it explores the scope of sociolinguistics as mainly a study of variation: codes, speech communities, the relationship between language and such variables as culture, gender and disadvantage. The students are also introduced to methods of sociolinguistic research.

(24374) Poetry (2)
(3 Credit hours)
Prerequisite: (24271)
Dealing mainly with the 20th Century poetry, this course traces the development of techniques, forms and themes in modern poetry. Special attention will be given to significant innovations introduced by major modern poets, such as Pound, Eliot, Auden, Thomas, Dove, Rich, Roethke, among others.

(24375) Creative writing
(3 Credit hours)
Prerequisite: (24224)
This is intended as a sort of workshop introducing the craft of creative writing, whether in the field of fiction or poetry, through the discussion of texts by both professional writers and students. Discussing some of the concepts dealing with what counts, or does not count, as creative writing is one of the themes of the course. A special attention will be given to the art of writing short stories. Students specifically interested in reading literature and in developing their own literary writings are recommended to study this course. During the term, each student is asked to produce two texts demonstrating her/his “creative” ability to write.

(24376) Comparative Literature
(3 Credit hours)
Prerequisite: (24270)
This course aims to impart familiarity with a variety of literary texts from different cultures and periods. Appreciation of the distinctive formal qualities of each text, understanding its content, and providing knowledge of the background from which each text emerges are prior concerns of the course. The above should enable the student to draw parallels and contrasts between individual works and authors, formulate ideas as to the nature and purpose of each text, and assess the limitations
and richness of that text. Interactions between European and non-European literatures need also be examined.

(24377) Medieval & Renaissance English Literature
(3 Credit hours)
Prerequisite: (24370)
This is a survey of English literature from the beginnings to the death of Shakespeare. Emphasis is laid on the historical, religious, social, and intellectual environment of the times as influencing major works such as Sir Gawain and the Green Knight, Chaucer’s “Prologue” to Canterbury Tales and others. Elizabethan sonnets are studied in some detail.

(24378) Drama (2)
(3 Credit hours)
Prerequisite: (24370)
This course demonstrates the development of drama as an evolving and changing literary form across different cultural and geographical spaces. Students will be asked to read selected plays critically. Major dramatists such as Marlowe, Jonson, Sheridan, Ibsen, Strindberg, Show, Brecht, Miller, Beckett and others will be discussed. Acquainting students with new vogues in drama by attributing them to newly emerging contexts is also one of the major aims of the course.

(24449) Applied Linguistics
(3 Credit hours)
Prerequisite: (24347)
This course is an introduction to Applied Linguistics concepts and applications. After a survey of the areas that fall within the domain of this branch of linguistics (language teaching, language testing, language learning, language communication, and intercultural communication) the students study foreign language learning and teaching as an example. Theory and application go hand in hand in presenting this field in an attempt to allow the students to discuss SLA theory with an eye firmly fixed on practice. As a spin-off, the students may end up examining their own foreign language status, in terms of the quality of instruction they have received, or are receiving, in addition to learning the optimal ways of succeeding in learning a foreign language. These activities culminate in the practicum, where the students are asked to do some foreign language teaching themselves.

(24471) World Literature
(3 Credit hours)
Prerequisite: (24373)
This course is intended to introduce students to important European literature in modern times. Different European literary works will be studied both as aesthetic achievements and as embodiments of major literary and intellectual trends. Literature from Germany, Russia, Norway and Italy will be read in English translations, analyzed and commented on. What links this literature with English literature in terms of the development of form and contents will be considered. Also to be considered is how common histories and contiguous spaces can be seen as yet producing some common aspects in literature originally written in different languages.
(24476) Colonial & Postcolonial Literature
(3 Credit hours)
Prerequisite: (24472)
This course looks at the writing, both fiction and theory, in the high imperialist period, concentrating on various colonized terrains like the Arab world and South/Central Africa. Authors studied include Charles Dickens, Conrad, Kipling and others. A wide range of colonial and postcolonial theories, including those by Said, Fanon and Bhabha are read and analyzed. Representations of cultures and the construction of the historical narrative of colonization in (post)colonial novels and intellectual debates are among the areas to be explored. Themes to be considered also include racial and sexual identity and the historical relationship between colonial and colonized cultures. Literary texts will be studied as texts in themselves but also as contextualized socio-cultural and political sites.

(24477) Novel (2)
(3 Credit hours)
Prerequisite: (24371)
Dealing mainly with the development of the novel in the 20th Century, this course, through representative novels, introduces students to the new innovations that modern and postmodernist novelists have introduced to this rich form of literary art. Matters of form, technique, content, as well as themes will be emphasized. Furthermore, the intellectual aesthetic, philosophical and historical influences which have helped to shape the novel in the 20th Century will be further discussed. The novel as a distinctive literary genre and as a rich nexus of cultural processes will also be discussed.

(24478) Women's Literature
(3 Credit hours)
Prerequisite: (24371)
This course will read a selection of important feminist texts, including fiction, theory and criticism. How women express themselves and how they are constructed in their different cultures are some of the issues to be addressed. Also to be considered are whether there is a specific literary female tradition and whether feminists have succeeded in devising their own critical tools. Since feminism is primarily political, an important question continues to emerge in relation to their literary texts: is feminist politics advanced at the expense of the aesthetic value of feminist literary texts? The course will also address the question of whether Western feminism has made claims on behalf of all other subordinate women from within the different non-Western cultures.

(24479) Seminar in Literature
(3 Credit hours)
Prerequisite: (24373)
In this course, students deal with some literary topics selected by the instructor but are also of a special interest to students and not particularly included in the courses which the Department offers. The course is not intended as a survey course; rather it seeks to draw students’ attention to specific controversial literary issues and to promote familiarity with, and deep understanding of, such issues. It also involves submitting a term paper which can be presented and discussed in class.
(27233) General Translation
(3 Credit hours)
Prerequisite: (27232)
The first course in written translation will attempt to hone student’s skills in the art of translating narrative and descriptive texts. Students shall attempt to approach the text from different linguistic stylistic angles before attempting any translation. Texts in both English and Arabic will be included.

(24290) French (1)
(3 Credit hours)
Prerequisite: (none)
This course introduces students to basic French Language Skills including writing – grammar, and conversation. Students will be given the tools to express themselves and practice basic communications skills through involvement in real situations.