The Write Place is a free service offered by the Department of Modern Languages. We help students from all disciplines at any stage of the writing process—from brainstorming ideas to helping students learn how to revise and edit their own work. We are committed to helping every student become a better writer by offering Trained Peer Tutors, an ESL Writing Tutor, a Critical Reading Tutor, Creative Writing workshops and feedback, as well as an Effective Writing Instructor. For more information, visit www.kings.uwo.ca/the-write-place/

For more information
Department of Modern Languages
Academic Programs Assistant
Ms. Lois Mansfield
lmansfie@uwo.ca
Dante Lenardon Hall 117
www.kings.uwo.ca/english/

Faculty profile - Coby Dowdell
An assistant professor in the Department of Modern Languages, Dr. Dowdell teaches eighteenth-century British literature, narrative theory, the history of the novel, and the psychology of literature. Dr. Dowdell’s research focuses on the intersection of religious and civic identity, with a particular stress on religious and political extremism during the eighteenth century. Most recently, his research considers how eighteenth-century British Catholic writers negotiated the restrictions placed on their social, political, and cultural freedoms by the Protestant majority by adopting a model of political resistance modeled on the lives of Roman Catholic nuns/monks.

Dr. Dowdell’s classes consider literary prose, drama, and verse alongside less traditionally literary texts such as devotional manuals, medical and philosophical treatises, and political tracts. Stressing the figurative language and rhetorical aspects of non-literary texts alongside poetry and prose, Dr. Dowdell understands literary studies as a process of reading culture.

“Human beings are inherently a story-telling species driven by a powerful motivation to create meaning out of the human condition. I invite my students to explore literature from this perspective, and as a way of developing their own critical citizenship and broadening their understanding of the human condition. With innovative programs such as Foundations in the Humanities, and with fruitful exchanges between departments, students in the humanities are encouraged to fully explore the multi-dimensional richness of the liberal arts education that King’s provides.”
COURSES OFFERED
From an historical and critical perspective:

• Children’s Literature & Culture
• Science Fiction & Fantasy
• Popular Culture
• American Literature & Women Writers
• Psychology & Literature
• Medieval & Renaissance Literature
• Nineteenth-Century Literature
• History of Criticism & Critical Theory
• Canadian Literature
• Post-colonial Literature
• Modern Drama & History of Drama
• Restoration & Eighteenth-Century Literature
• Modern British & Irish Literature
• Shakespeare

Specialized areas:

• Film Studies
• Creative Writing & Academic Writing
• Speech & Communication
• University Writing in English (ESL)

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS
Fourth-year seminars about

• British Spy Fiction: The Popular Thriller and Its Contexts
• Pulp Drama of the Early Seventeenth Century
• Playwrights & Painters
• The Graphic Novel: Comics as Literature
• Menace, Martyr, Majesty: Catholicism in the British Literary Imagination 1670-1814
• The Single Woman: An American Obsession

ENGLISH MODULES

King’s offers all courses leading to Major or Honors degrees, including Medieval and Renaissance.

• The Honors Specialization in English is a 10.0 course module. It requires a 70% average in its principal courses.
• The Specialization in English is a 9.0 course module.
• The Major in English is a 6.0 course module that students may combine with a Major or Minor in another discipline.
• Minor in English Language and Literature (4.5 courses in English).
• Minor in General English (4.0 courses).
• Minor in Dramatic Literature (4.0 courses).
• Minor in English for Teachers (5.0 courses).

NOT IN ENGLISH?

Our world is an interdisciplinary, multicultural place. Broaden your degree scope!

• Enrich your History degree with courses in the Renaissance and the Enlightenment.
• Complement your Sociology studies with courses in Children’s Literature and Women Writers.
• Add force to your Political Science analyses with knowledge of criticism and critical theory.
• Broaden your Business and International Studies horizon through exposure to Postcolonial and Cultural Studies.
• Sharpen your communication skills through advanced study of writing, rhetoric, and argumentation.
• Deepen your understanding of critical and cultural theories as they affect Policy Analysis.

READY FOR THE WORKFORCE:

English graduates are prepared for a variety of professions. In the fast-paced and changeable career dynamics of the 21st century, the skills learned in reading literary and critical texts are basic to success in our knowledge-based economy.

In January 2010, The New York Times, investigating changes at the University of Toronto’s Rotman School of Management, reported on a “radical idea in business education: that students needed to learn how to think critically and creatively every bit as much as they needed to learn finance or accounting. More specifically, they needed to learn how to approach problems from many perspectives and to combine various approaches to find innovative solutions.”

TESTIMONIALS

“My time as a student in the Department of Modern Languages at King’s … laid the foundation for many of the skills that I rely upon every day in my profession. A litigation lawyer’s ability to communicate effectively and persuasively is key to succeeding.”

Anita T. Kain B.A. LL.B
Kain & Ball, Family Law Lawyers

“The professors are what made King’s College so special for me. They are passionate about what they do, and their enthusiasm is infectious. They helped provide me with the knowledge I needed to make use of my English degree.”

Nicole Winstanley
President, Penguin Canada

FACULTY

Claudia Clausius: Modern Drama, Postcolonial
BA, MA Toronto; MLitt Oxford; PhD Toronto

Lorraine DiCicco: American, Women Writers, The Long Poem
BA, MEd., MA, PhD Western

Coby Dowdell: Restoration and Eighteenth-Century, Narrative Theory
BA Guelph; MA Western; PhD Toronto

Krista Lysack: Nineteenth-Century British
BA Trinity Western; MA PhD Queen’s

Brian Patton: Twentieth-Century British, Popular Culture, Film
BA Waterloo; MA, PhD Western

Ian Rae: Canadian, Poetics
BA Queens; MA, PhD British Columbia

Paul Werstine: Shakespeare, Renaissance, Medieval
BA, MA Western; PhD South Carolina
Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada