



Course title and number ENGL 3XX/6XX EDITING PRACTICUM
Term (e.g., Fall 200X) Fall 2019
Meeting times and location TBA

(ENGL 3xx/6xx) EDITING PRACTICUM

Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.

Hands-on process, principles and techniques of editing and publishing a literary journal, including standards, style, copyediting, comprehensive editing, layout and design, and project management. Topics vary in each section. May be taken three times for credit.

Course Description and Prerequisites

This course will provide a combination of theoretical background and practical, hands-on experience in the field of literary editing and publishing. Students will work together to help produce *Cosmogamy*, an international, open-access, digital journal in Science Fiction and Fantasy published at Texas A&M University. Duties involved in the production of the journal include soliciting and evaluating submissions, editing, proofreading, layout and design for print and for the web, and project management. Though all students will be exposed to all aspects of producing the journal, a particular staff position will be assigned based on student aptitudes, interests, and the needs of the journal.

Learning Outcomes or Course Objectives

At the end of the semester, students will be able to do the following:

- Collaborate with other students in groups to improve critical thinking and editing skills
- Apply principles of layout and design for print and the web
- Discuss roles and responsibilities of editors and small press publishers

Instructor Information

Name Dr. Gabriel Scala
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Office hours TBA
Office location LAAH 319

Textbook and/or Resource Material

Required Texts:

Gross, Gerald C., ed. *Editors on Editing: What Writers Need to Know About What Editors Do*. 3rd ed. Grove Press, 1994.
Lee, Marshall. *Bookmaking: Editing/Design/Production*. 3rd ed. W.W. Norton & Co., 2004.
Lupton, Ellen. *Thinking with Type: A critical Guide for Designers, Writers, Editors, & Students*. 2nd ed. Princeton Architectural Press, 2010.
Morris, Ian and Joanne Diaz, ed. *The Little Magazine in Contemporary America*. The University of Chicago Press, 2015.

Digital Sources:

Apex Magazine, <http://www.apex-magazine.com/>
Book Cover Archive, <http://bookcoverarchive.com>
Clarkesworld Magazine, <http://clarkesworldmagazine.com/>

Cosmogamy, website TBA
Asimov's Science Fiction, <http://www.asimovs.com/>
Fantasy Magazine, <http://www.fantasy-magazine.com/>
Magazine Designing Blog, <http://www.magazinedesigning.com>
Speculations Journal, <http://speculations.squarespace.com/>

Approved Outside Reading (select 3 or 4):

Dunham, Steve. *The Editor's Companion: An Indispensable Guide to Editing Books, Magazines, Online Publications, and More*. Writer's Digest Books, 2014.
Kunakemakorn, Numsiri and Lesha Hurliman, eds. *Without Covers: Literary Magazines @ the Digital Edge*. Purdue University Press, 2002.
Kurowski, Travis, Wayne Miller, and Kevin Prufer, eds. *Literary Publishing in the Twenty-First Century*. Milkweed Editions, 2016.
Saller, Carol Fisher. *The Subversive Copy Editor: Advice from Chicago (or, How to Negotiate Good Relationships with Your Writers, Your Colleagues, and Yourself)*. 2nd ed. University of Chicago Press, 2016.
Striphas, Ted. *The Late Age of Print: Everyday Book Culture from Consumerism to Control*. Columbia University Press, 2009.
Thompson, John B. *Merchants of Culture: The Publishing Business in the Twenty-First Century*, 2nd ed. Penguin Group, 2012

Grading Policies

Incomplete Grading: A temporary grade of I (incomplete) at the end of a semester or summer term indicates that the student has completed the course with the exception of a major quiz, final examination, or single major assignment. The instructor shall give this grade only when the deficiency is due to an approved university excused absence (see Rule 7 of TAMU Student Rules). An incomplete must be removed before the last day of scheduled classes of the next long semester in which the student enrolls in the university unless the student's academic dean or designee, with the consent of the instructor, grants a time extension. Failure to complete the required work in the appropriate period of time, or registering for the course again, will result in the I being changed to an F by the Registrar (Rule 10.6). For more information: <http://student-rules.tamu.edu/rule10>.

Withdrawing from the Course: The last day to withdraw from class and receive a grade of "W" is **April 18**. Students who need to drop or add a course after the open drop/add period should contact their academic dean's office for information on how to submit their request. In most cases students who need to drop a class will need to complete a Q-Drop Request form, which is then processed in the academic dean's office or in the student's major department. Other types of drop requests and all requests to add a course must be submitted to the Office of the Registrar for processing. Go here for more information: <http://registrar.tamu.edu/Courses,-Registration,-Scheduling/Registration-Enrollment-Information/Late-Add-Drop>

Late Work: All work must be turned in on time and during class. **I will not accept late work unless you have made a personal arrangement with me in advance.** If you are unable to turn in an assignment for emergency reasons, please inform me personally as soon as possible. The decision of whether I accept late work, regardless of excuse, is solely mine.

Attendance Policy: see policies in general: <http://student-rules.tamu.edu/rule07>, and policies in particular, Student Rules 7.1.6.1 and 7.1.6.2, and as announced by instructor.

Daily attendance is required for this course. If you miss class on a regular basis and therefore are not present to work with your peers, you will not be able to pass this course. **More than three absences will result in your final grade being lowered by one letter. More than five absences is cause for failure in the course.** If you are absent from class, it is expected that you will obtain the information you missed from your classmates.

Assignments and Grading Scale

Your final grade in this course will be based on the following point scale. Each assignment will be worth a varied amount of points as is noted below. Once all points have been awarded, add the total together and use the following scale to determine your final grade for the course:

A = 90-100
B = 80-89
C = 70-79
D = 60-69
F = <60

This is a stacked course. The following assignments are for **undergraduate students only**:

Annotated Bibliography 15 - including proper citation and **250-word** annotation for a selection of **THREE** texts from the list of approved outside reading titles

Weekly eCampus Discussions 15 – all discussions are due on Friday of each week and must be a minimum of **250 words** each

Two-Page Magazine Spread 25 - including headline, image, image caption, pull quote, body copy, subheads, and folio

Book Cover 25 - including front and back cover, spine, image, title, subtitle, author/editor name, ISBN and barcode, back jacket blurb

Participation/Attendance 20 – regular attendance and participation in class and weekly editors' meetings

The following assignments are for **graduate students only**:

Annotated Bibliography 15 - including proper citation and **500-word** annotation for a selection of **FOUR** texts from the list of approved outside reading titles

Weekly eCampus Discussions 15 – all discussions are due on Friday of each week and must be a minimum of **500 words** each

Two-Page Magazine Spread 25 - including headline, image, image caption, pull quote, body copy, subheads, and folio

Book Cover 25 - including front and back cover, spine, image, title, subtitle, author/editor name, ISBN and barcode, back jacket blurb

Participation/Attendance 20 – regular attendance and participation in class and weekly editors' meetings

Course Topics, Calendar of Activities, Major Assignment Dates

Daily Syllabus: Keep in mind that this is a tentative schedule, subject to change at my discretion should the need arise. This provides an outline for the direction of the course—for the most current changes and information, please check the announcements on eCampus.

Week	Topic	Required Reading
1	<p>MON: Introduction to <i>Cosmogamy</i> & small press publishing</p> <p>WED: Discussion of assigned reading and <i>Cosmogamy</i></p> <p>FRI: <i>Cosmogamy</i> Editor's Meeting / eCampus discussion due</p>	<p>Cosmogamy website: Issue 0; Morris, Part 2: Politics, Culture, and the Little Magazine; Gross, Ch. 31: Editing the Science-Fiction and Fantasy Novel – the Importance of Calling Everyone Fred</p>
2	<p>MON: Becoming an Editor: setting standards and criteria</p> <p>WED: Discussion of assigned reading, <i>Apex Magazine</i>, and <i>Fantasy Magazine</i></p> <p>FRI: <i>Cosmogamy</i> Editor's Meeting / eCampus discussion due</p>	<p>Cosmogamy website: policies and standards section; Morris, Part 1: The Editor as Visionary, Morris, Part 4: The University Magazine; Apex Magazine; Fantasy Magazine</p>
3	<p>MON: There's more than one kind of editor: managing editors, acquisition editors, copyeditors, content editors, and more!</p> <p>WED: Discussion of assigned reading, <i>Clarkesworld Magazine</i>, and <i>Speculations Journal</i></p> <p>FRI: <i>Cosmogamy</i> Editor's Meeting / eCampus discussion due</p>	<p>Gross, Ch. 1-4: What is an Editor?, The Evolution of the American Editor, An Open Letter to a Would-be Editor, and Are Editors Necessary?; Clarkesworld Magazine; Speculations Journal</p>
4	<p>MON: Communicating with Contributors: solicitations, rejections and contracts</p> <p>WED: Discussion of assigned reading and <i>Asimov's Science Fiction</i></p> <p>FRI: <i>Cosmogamy</i> Editor's Meeting / eCampus discussion due</p>	<p>Lee, Ch. 17-19: Concept & Acquisition; Working with Marketing, Working with Manuscripts; Gross, Ch. 10: What Editors Look for in a Query Letter, Proposal, and Manuscript; Cosmogamy materials: solicitation letters, rejection slips and publishing contracts; Asimov's Science Fiction</p>
5	<p>MON: An introduction to design</p> <p>WED: Practice with InDesign</p> <p>FRI: <i>Cosmogamy</i> Editor's Meeting / eCampus discussion due</p>	<p>Lynda.com Introduction to Graphic Design: goo.gl/GuvDzZ; Begin reading selection 1 for the annotated bibliography</p>
6	<p>MON: Introduction to Cover Art</p> <p>WED: Practice with InDesign</p> <p>FRI: <i>Cosmogamy</i> Editor's Meeting / eCampus discussion due</p>	<p>Lee, Ch. 29, 13: Cover Graphics, Sample Covers; Binding; Book Cover Archive</p>
7	<p>MON: Introduction to Typography</p>	<p>Lee, Ch. 5-7: Typography, Composition, Illustration</p>

	WED: Practice with InDesign	
	FRI: <i>Cosmogamy</i> Editor's Meeting / eCampus discussion due	
8	MON: Typography Continued WED: Practice with InDesign FRI: <i>Cosmogamy</i> Editor's Meeting / eCampus discussion due	Lupton , Section 1: Letter, pp. 10-82; Begin reading selection 2 for the annotated bibliography
9	MON: Introduction to Layout and Adobe InDesign WED: Practice with InDesign FRI: <i>Cosmogamy</i> Editor's Meeting / eCampus discussion due	Lynda.com "Introducing InDesign" and "InDesign for Editors"
10	MON: Magazine Layout in InDesign WED: Practice with InDesign FRI: <i>Cosmogamy</i> Editor's Meeting / eCampus discussion due	Lynda.com "Designing a Magazine Layout"; Magazine Designing blog
11	MON: Magazine Spread Project WED: Practice with InDesign FRI: <i>Cosmogamy</i> Editor's Meeting / eCampus discussion due	In-class work in InDesign; Begin reading selection 3 for the annotated bibliography
12	MON: Magazine Spread Project WED: Practice with InDesign FRI: <i>Cosmogamy</i> Editor's Meeting / eCampus discussion due	In-class work in InDesign
13	MON: Layout & Design for the Web: The Vega Publishing Platform WED: Practice with Vega Publishing FRI: <i>Cosmogamy</i> Editor's Meeting / eCampus discussion due	In-class practice working with Vega Publishing Platform; Begin reading selection 4 for the annotated bibliography (GRAD students only)
14	MON: I've worked on a journal for a semester, what now? WED: Discussion of assigned reading FRI: <i>Cosmogamy</i> Editor's Meeting / eCampus discussion due	Morris , Part 5: Today's Magazines and the Future; Gross , Ch. 8: Doing Good—And Doing It Right: The Ethical and Moral Dimensions of Editing
15	Two-Page Magazine Spread project due	

Cover Design project due
Annotated Bibliography due

Other Pertinent Course Information

"The University views class attendance as the responsibility of an individual student. Attendance is essential to complete the course successfully. University rules related to excused and unexcused absences are located on-line at <http://student-rules.tamu.edu/rule07>."

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact Disability Services, currently located in the Disability Services building at the Student Services at White Creek complex on west campus or call 979-845-1637. For additional information, visit <http://disability.tamu.edu>.

Academic Integrity

"An Aggie does not lie, cheat, or steal, or tolerate those who do." For additional information please visit: <http://aggiehonor.tamu.edu>