

# English One Major

## *endless possibilities*

- \$250,000 in Scholarships
- Study in Person or Online
- **NEW** 4 + 1 Master's Program
- Flexible Degree Paths
- Internships & Certificates
- Small Classes & Dedicated Faculty
- Dynamic Events Schedule
- Support & Community

LEARN MORE 



University of Idaho  
Department of English

**Our English Degrees (BA or BS)** offer classes in creative writing, literature, editing and publishing, grammar and rhetoric, literary and cultural theory, screenwriting and film studies, professional writing, the environmental humanities, applied linguistics, education and literacy, and more.

**Our classes** live at the intersections of critical thinking, cultural literacy, artistic expression, practical marketplace skills, and epistemology (which is to say, answering the question: *How do you know what you know?*).

**Our Majors and Minors** are challenged to learn, think, argue, write, create, and listen with criticality, curiosity, and empathy. These elements help students bridge the gap between who they are and where they want to go, whether that's to study literature, work for ad firms, write novels, work in publishing, get their MBAs, attend Law School, or write for TV and film.



**WE AWARD**  
**\$250,000**  
**IN SCHOLARSHIPS**  
**EACH YEAR** (Yes, you read that right.)

**Our English alums** have gone on to successful and dynamic careers in wildly different fields. It's due to their annual giving, endowments, and scholarship funds that **we are able to offer our undergraduate majors an average of \$250,000 in merit- and needs-based scholarships each year.** All of us at the University of Idaho celebrate the support of our alums and donors, and we take pride in awarding these funds to our deserving students. Our English donors allow us to carry out the central charge of our land grant institution: to **open doors for the students** of our state and region.

# The Palouse (/pəˈlus/ pə-LOOSS)

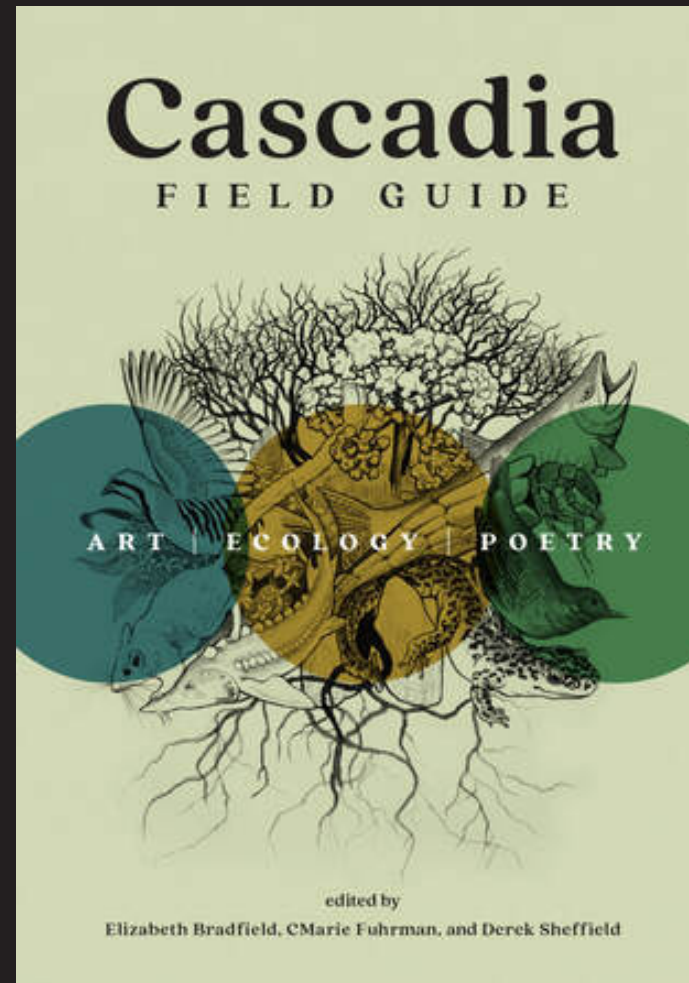
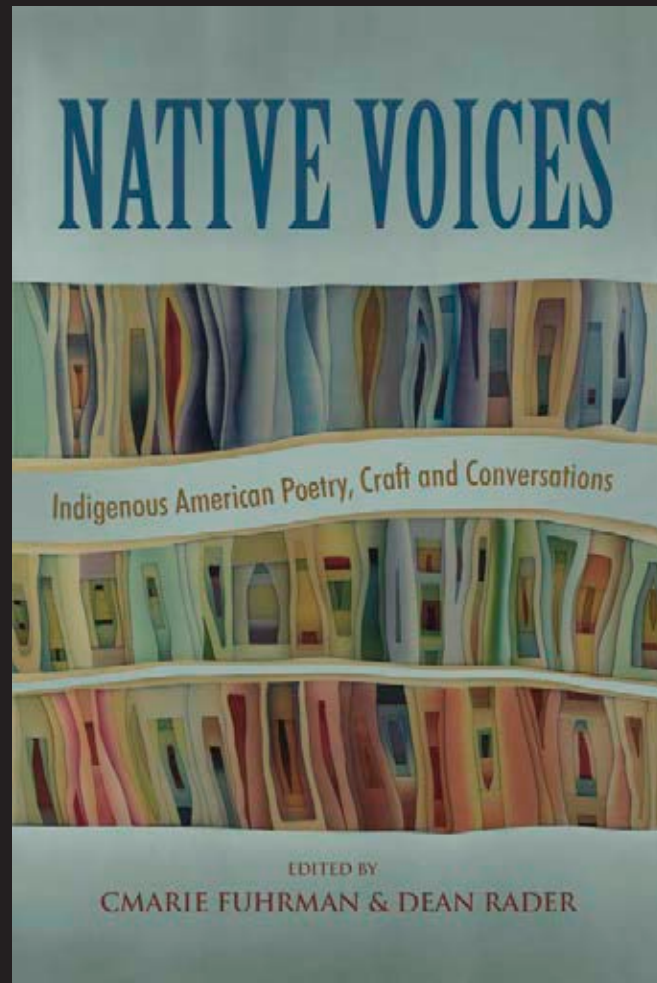
Situated in the foothills of Moscow Mountain amid the rolling terrain of the Palouse (formed by the ancient silt beds unique to the region), our location in the vibrant community of Moscow, Idaho, is like no other. The ancestral homelands of the Nez Perce (Nimiipuu) and Coeur d'Alene (Schitsu'umsh) nation converge in the Palouse, making it rich in tribal culture. Moscow is replete with independent bookstores, coffee shops, art galleries, and restaurants, not to mention an historic art house cinema, organic foods co-op, and renowned seasonal farmer's market. Ten minutes from campus lie 110 miles of four-season multi-use wilderness trails (maintained by our local mountain bike association, MAMBA) that offer access to moose sightings, creeks, waterfalls, pine forests, and cedar groves. Outside of town, we're lucky to have many opportunities for hiking, swimming, skiing, rafting, camping, and general exploring — from nearby Kamiak Butte to renowned destinations like Glacier National Park, the Snake River, the Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness Area, and Nelson, BC. As for more urban getaways, Spokane, Washington, is only a ninety-minute drive, and our regional airline, Alaska, makes daily flights to and from Seattle that run just under an hour.

THE PALOUSE IN EARLY SPRING, JUST SOUTH OF CAMPUS





# Author. Editor. Educator. Alum.



**CMarie Fuhrman**  
**BA, Class of 2015**

**CMarie Fuhrman** has authored *Camped Beneath the Dam: Poems* and co-edited two significant anthologies, *Cascadia Field Guide: Art, Ecology, and Poetry* and *Native Voices: Indigenous Poetry, Craft, and Conversations*. She hosts *Terra Firma*, a podcast from Colorado Public Radio, and has published poetry and nonfiction in multiple journals, including *Terrain.org*, *Emergence Magazine*, *Platform Review*, *Northwest Review*, *Yellow Medicine Review*, *Poetry Northwest*, and several anthologies. CMarie is a regular columnist for the *Inlander*, former Idaho Writer in Residence, and the Elk River Writers Workshop Director. She is the Associate Director and Director of Poetry for the Graduate Program in Creative Writing at Western Colorado University, where she teaches Nature Writing. CMarie resides in the Salmon River Mountains of Idaho.

# Earn a **BA** or **BS** in English

Our two degree paths are designed to offer students maximum flexibility as they explore their passions, build expertise, and gain marketable skills

## **BA**

- Take courses and internships across our disciplines (Literature, Creative Writing, Technical Writing, etc.)
- Add certificates to your degree, if desired
- 120-credit degree path

### What's the Same?

- Take courses and internships across our disciplines (Literature, Creative Writing, Technical Writing, etc.)
- Add certificates to your degree, if desired
- 120-credit degree path

## **BS**

## **BA**

- The majority of classes must be taken *in person* in Moscow
- No minor required
- Like all BA degrees, a foreign language *is* required
- Requires introductory course in literary genres
- The senior capstone course is a literature and humanities-based research project
- Degree is geared toward those studying Creative Writing, Literature, Cultural Studies, and other humanities subdisciplines

### What's Different?

- Many courses can be taken online (excluding most Creative Writing and Literature Courses)
- You must complete a minor
- Like other BS degrees, a foreign language *is not* required
- Requires introductory course in Technical Writing
- The senior capstone course is a client-based Professional Writing project
- Degree is geared toward professional and technical writing

## **BS**



Learn more about the BA requirements



Learn more about the BS requirements



# Double Major

Due to the flexible nature of our degree path, many students, with proper advising, complete their coursework for the English major in 6 or 7 semesters, giving them ample space in their schedules to double major or add minors (or take advantage of U of I's Travel Abroad Program).

Many of our upper-division courses (such as those in Creative Writing, for example) are repeatable for credit, which also allows focused students extra time to work closely with professors and gain mentorship before applying to graduate school or taking their first steps into a professional field.

LEFT: THE HISTORIC ADMIN BUILDING AFTER A LIGHT SNOWFALL



# Transferring to **Idaho**?

## **We welcome transfer students!**

The University of Idaho has created transfer pathways to make the transfer process easy for students. Through these pathways, we have agreements with other institutions that outline a clear route to earning a bachelor's degree by starting at your local community college and completing the degree with us within two years.

## **Feel free to reach out to us directly.**

Please email the Department Chair, Professor Tara MacDonald, at [tmacdonald@uidaho.edu](mailto:tmacdonald@uidaho.edu) with specific questions. She'll happily talk with you regarding how your credits will transfer to our BA or BS degrees.



Scan for complete details







# Certificate Programs

In addition to earning your BA or BS in English, you may also complete one of our certificate programs (with little or no adjustment to your degree path). Earning a certificate signals to future employers, Master's and PhD programs, and other professionals that you have taken the steps to build skills relevant to your future.

**The Technical Writing Certificate** is suitable for students and for those already employed who want to add to their existing skills. Classes focus on writing and visual and verbal communication, with an emphasis on translating discipline-specific discourses for a range of audiences. The certificate is available either fully online or in-person in Moscow.

**The Creative Writing Certificate** is suitable for students and for those already employed who want to add to their existing skills. Classes focus on creative writing across the genres (poetry, fiction, and creative non-fiction) as well as courses and internships in Publishing and Editing. The certificate is only available in-person on our Moscow campus.



# Internships

Internships offer undergraduate students real-world opportunities to gain, develop, and hone marketplace skills across a variety of subdisciplines within our department.

## Fugue Literary Journal

Screen writing submissions for our storied national literary journal, working directly with the editorial staff.

## Confluence Lab

Assist field-leading scholars who work at the intersection of the humanities and natural sciences.

## English Ambassadors Program

Gain hands-on experience by working directly for the Department of English on various projects and initiatives.

## Prison Education Initiative

Assist professors across English and Criminology to develop online classes for incarcerated students.

## Linguistics

Gain practical experience in locations that serve multilingual communities, such as our International Programs Office on campus.



# **Sigma Tau Delta**

## **An International Honors Society for English Majors**

**Sigma Tau Delta**, International English Honor Society, was founded in 1924. The Society strives to confer distinction for high achievement in English language and literature in undergraduate, graduate, and professional studies; provide, through its local chapters, cultural stimulation on college campuses and promote interest in literature and the English language in surrounding communities; foster all aspects of the discipline of English, including literature, language, and writing; promote exemplary character and good fellowship among its members; exhibit high standards of academic excellence; and serve society by fostering literacy.

Our University of Idaho chapter, **Eta Chi**, is student-run, and carries out service projects, community initiatives, and serves as a meeting place for like-minded students whose campus and departmental citizenry reflects the values of the Society. Enrolled members of Sigma Tau Delta-Eta Chi may apply for exclusive external scholarships, publications, and national volunteer opportunities.



**Aaron Schab** | Faculty Advisor, Senior Instructor



# Literature

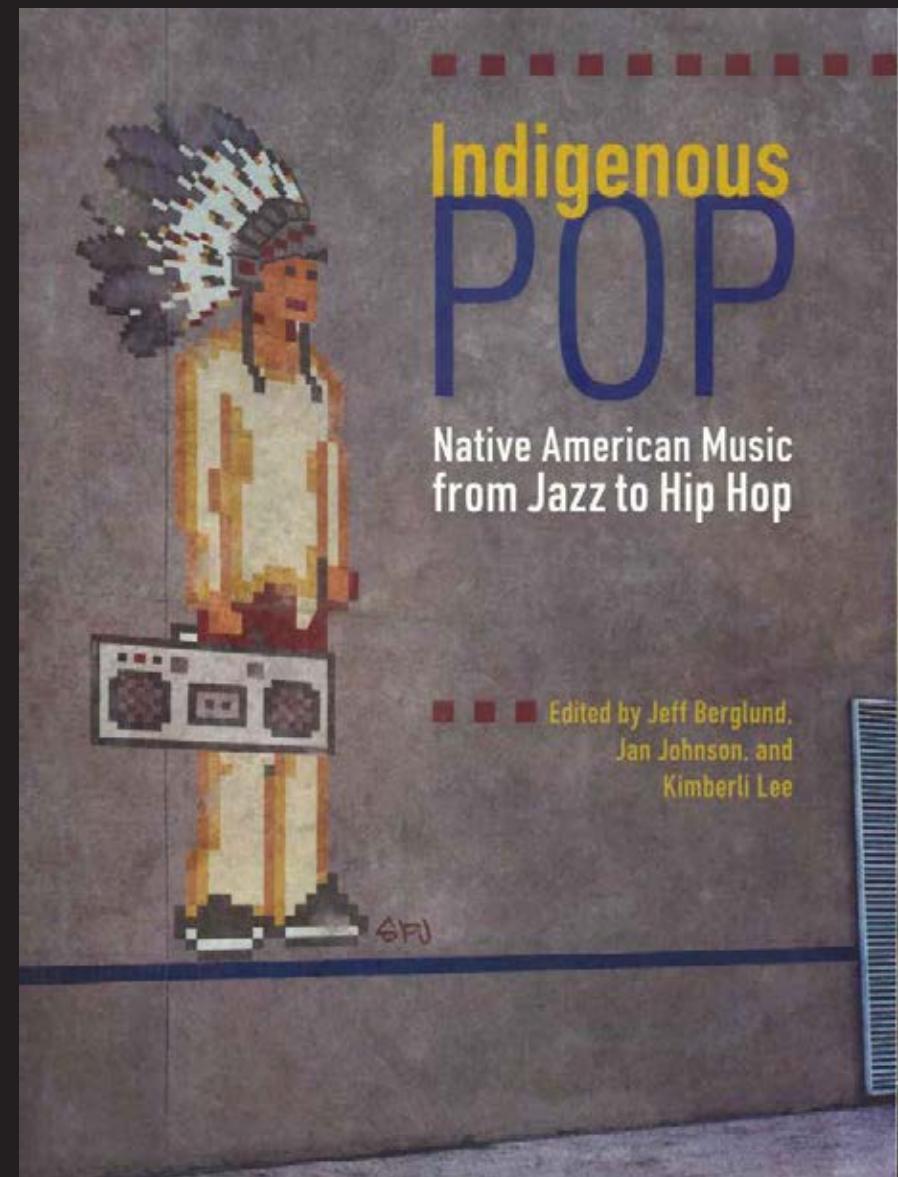
Studying literature at the University of Idaho means reading gothic novels, climate change fiction, experimental poetry, graphic novels, dystopian fiction, and Shakespeare plays, in addition to literature from Black and Indigenous authors. Literature, in our department, is alive and put into conversation with the everyday world. Why do we read? What role does it play in our humanity? What does it teach us?

After taking ENGL 215: Introduction to English, students take literature classes at the 200, 300, and 400 level, which become increasingly specialized. Upper division classes focus on a range of topics, such as Afrofuturism, Women and Poetry, Literature of the Land, and Horror.

In all classes, our students learn both close reading skills as well as the ability to synthesize big ideas. Our students go on to become teachers, lawyers, writers, editors, and, yes, professors, too.



Jan Johnson | Author, Professor, Director of Black Studies Program





# Environmental Humanities

Expertise in the Environmental Humanities is a clear strength of our department. Faculty members Erin James and Jennifer Ladino are internationally recognized leaders in this field and have won awards for their scholarship on place-based writing, the emotions and affects of environmental crises, and the potential uses of contemporary narratives in environmental activism and policy making. Our literature faculty regularly offer course on topics as varied as ecocriticism and environmental humanities theory, rural American literature, travel writing, postcolonial environmental narratives, dystopia and apocalypse, animal studies, and climate change fiction. We also value interdisciplinary and innovative environmental research, especially when produced in collaboration with colleagues working on environmental issues across our campus and region. This emphasis on innovation extends to student work; recent environmentally focused projects by English students include mapping caribou extirpation in our state, the collection and analysis of first-hand testimonies of the experience of wildfire, and the publication of original climate change fiction.

Founded by professors Ladino and James and College of Natural Resources professor Teresa Cavazos Cohn, [The Confluence Lab](#) incubates and implements creative interdisciplinary research projects that bring together scholars in the humanities, social sciences, and sciences to engage environmental issues in the state of Idaho.



confluence **LAB**



Erin James (TOP) | Author, Professor  
Jenn Ladino | Author, Professor



# Professional Writing

Under the guidance of [Karen Thompson](#), our professional writing courses give students marketplace skills that can be directly applied to all fields, from the humanities to the hard sciences and beyond. They include but are not limited to technical writing, business writing, digital writing, visual rhetoric, grant writing, and more. These classes are offered in both face-to-face and online modalities (as well as during the summer sessions), which offer maximum scheduling flexibility. Additionally, our students have the unique opportunity to work directly with local and regional clients on major projects, which are incorporated in the core curriculum. These popular classes help build resumes, add to students' networking portfolios, and carry out our institution's land-grant mission by connecting the university and its students directly to clients and business stakeholders across the state.



[Karen Thompson](#) | Instructor, Director of Professional Writing Program | [Recipient of the Award for Teaching Excellence](#)



# Screenwriting

Taking courses with writer, filmmaker, and instructor **Ben James** offers students a unique opportunity to learn from an artist deeply immersed in the practice of the cinema arts. In our cross-listed classes, students can expect direct, hands-on experience with everything from theory and concept to production. These popular courses give English students a path to take their relationships to story and transform them into skills and scripts that are ready for the marketplace.



Watch Ben James' TEDx Talk  
"What Use Is Horror?"



**Ben James** | Writer, Filmmaker, Instructor



**WAKE**<sup>®</sup>

Written and directed by Benjamin James



# Linguistics

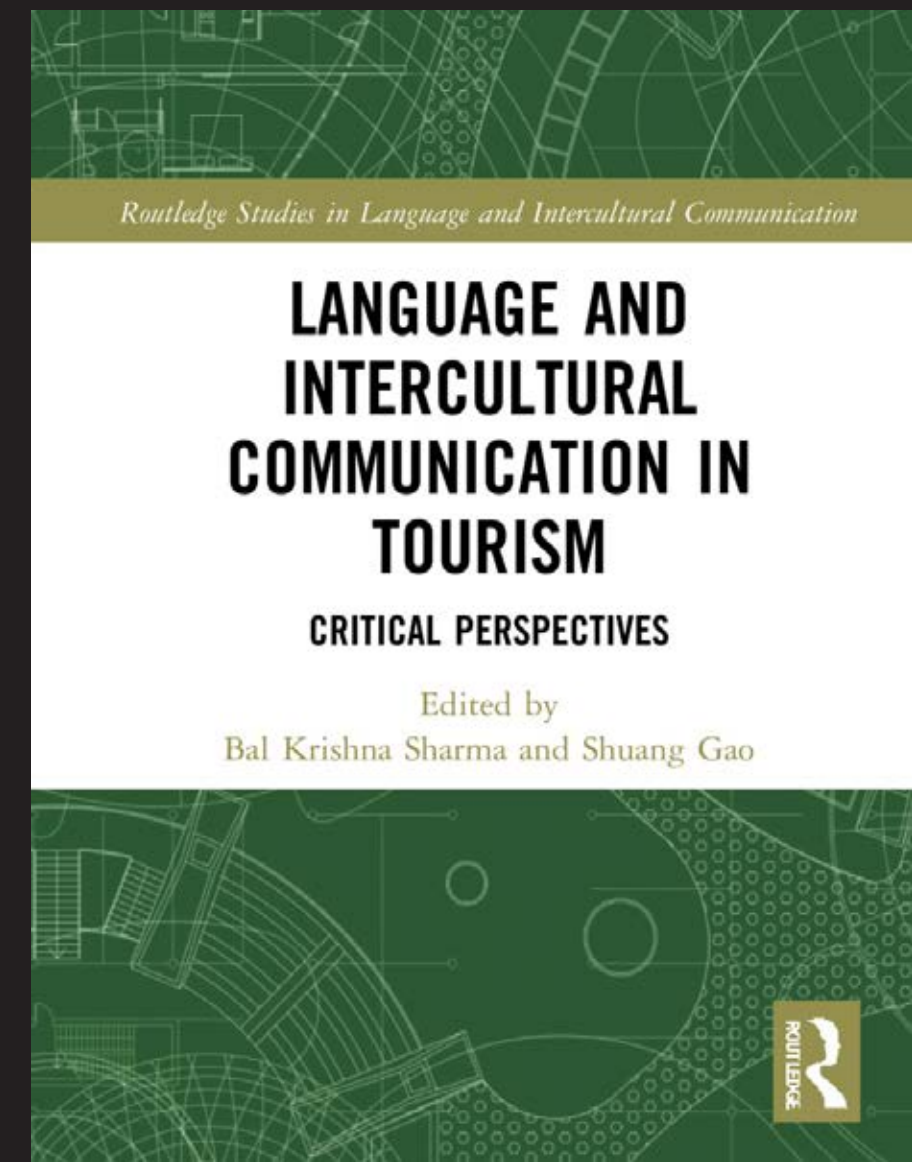
Our program in Linguistics offers an exploration of language as a scientific study and covers essential areas such as phonetics, syntax, semantics, and pragmatics. Students will not only learn more about these core components but also discover how they apply to diverse areas including forensic science, language pathology, cognitive science, technology, and (second) language teaching. Our interdisciplinary approach encourages students to navigate the relationships between language and other fields, such as history, literature, education, social media, and intercultural communication.

Students gain practical experience through internships in locations that serve multilingual communities, such as our International Programs Office. These opportunities allow students to apply their linguistic knowledge in real-world settings and help them prepare for diverse career paths. For those interested in teaching English as a foreign language abroad, our program offers specialized courses that equip students with both the content knowledge and innovative pedagogical skills needed to meet the needs of linguistically and culturally diverse learners.

Professor **Bal Krishna Sharma** is a key member of our faculty who specializes in applied linguistics and sociolinguistics. His research focuses on areas such as language and identity, language ideology, and the sociolinguistics of globalization. Professor Sharma has a strong background in analyzing how language practices are shaped by social, cultural, and political factors, particularly within multilingual and transnational settings. His extensive publications cover subjects such as language and social media, language education, and the impact of global English on local languages. His scholarship provides students with valuable insights into the complexities of contemporary language use.



**Bal Krishna Sharma** | Author, Professor







# First-Year Writing

Our [First-Year Writing Program](#) uses a real-world genre approach to prepare University of Idaho students with the writing skills that they'll need, both professionally and academically. In this year-long, six-credit sequence, students write book reviews, op eds, academic research papers, and more. With each new writing project, we ask Who is this written for? What is it meant to do? How can we fit ourselves into this conversation?

Students will finish their first year with a set of writing and research skills, as well as the ability to approach new genres with confidence. Writing is a lifelong skill that everyone needs, whether it's writing a professional email or publishing an academic article or keeping a journal. Our teaching reflects this philosophy by meeting each new writer where they are, working with them to develop long-term, reproducible skills.



**Tyler Easterbrook** | Professor, Director of First-Year Writing



# Creative Writing

Poetry • Fiction • Nonfiction

Any student at the University at Idaho can study with the Creative Writing Program's award-winning authors. Those majoring or minoring in English are especially poised to hone their craft with our field-leading faculty in the genres of Poetry, Fiction, and Creative Nonfiction. In addition to taking creative writing classes, undergraduate students have the opportunity to earn invaluable publishing and editing skills through internships with *Fugue*, the national literary arts journal published through the Department of English, and *Thistle*, our undergraduate literary arts journal exclusively designed, edited, and published by and for U of I students.

Your time with us starts in English 290: Introduction to Creative Writing, where you read, write, and study fiction, poetry, and creative nonfiction alongside a small group of your peers. This popular gateway class is designed for a broad range of students, from those new to (or just curious about) creative writing to those already dedicatedly working on their first books. Completing Introduction to Creative Writing allows you take a broad range of specialized intermediate and advanced courses across the literary genres.



**Idaho is a writer's school. Full stop.**

**Add your voice to it.**



# Distinguished Visiting Writers Series

For over 30 years, the Department of English and Creative Writing Program have brought notable authors to campus through our [Distinguished Visiting Writers Series](#), including Pulitzer Prize winners and MacArthur “Genius” Grant recipients. In addition to attending readings and Q&A sessions with these writers, students have the opportunity to attend their on-stage craft conversations, which are designed to give our U of I community exposure to some of the finest literary artists at work today.

**Recent Distinguished Visiting Writers:** Maggie Nelson, Roger Reeves, Luis Alberto Urrea, Brian Evenson, Kate Zambreno, Dorianne Laux, Teju Cole, Tyehimba Jess, Claire Vaye Watkins, Naomi Shihab Nye, David Shields, Rebecca Solnit, Gabrielle Calvocoressi, Susan Orlean, Marcus Jackson, Natasha Tretheway, Jo Ann Beard, and William Logan, among several others. Below, from left to right: Luis Alberto Urrea, Maggie Nelson, Roger Reeves.





### Get published in *Thistle*

Students writers are invited, each year, to submit their original works of creative writing to *Thistle*, our undergraduate literary journal. *Thistle*, which is printed each spring semester, is edited, designed, and published by and for students.



### Join the editorial staff of *Thistle*

English 468, offered each Spring, is the production course where students edit *Thistle*. Students may earn upper-division credit to work on the journal, or they may apply to serve as Lead Fiction, Poetry, or Nonfiction Editor or Editor-in-Chief.

### Intern at *Fugue*

Students may earn internship credit by reading submissions, participating in the acquisitions process, and working under the national editorial staff of *Fugue*, the renowned literary journal housed in the Department of English.



Learn about *Fugue*



# World-Class Programming for Students & the Community

Professors Alexandra Teague and Michael McGriff (below) serve as co-directors of the Creative Writing Program. Together with their colleagues, they collaborate to bring fresh and exciting voices to campus. Featured to the right is poet and street photographer Marcus Jackson delivering a poetry reading and exhibition talk for the opening of his photography show *Love's Austere and Lonely Offices*, which premiered at Moscow Contemporary.



# The Mary Clearman Blew Undergraduate Writing Prize

The **Mary Clearman Blew Prize** is our prestigious undergraduate creative writing award. This honor (and cash prize) is given to a single writer each year and is open to all genres. The winning writer is invited to read at our year-end awards ceremony.

**Mary Clearman Blew** co-founded the Creative Writing Program at the University of Idaho, where she mentored students from 1994 to 2016. She is the author of many novels and memoirs, including *Think of Horses*, *Waltzing Montana*, *Sweep Out the Ashes*, *Ruby Dreams of Janis Joplin*, *This Is Not the Ivy League*, *Jackalope Dreams*, *Balsamroot*, and *All But the Waltz*. The Mary Clearman Blew Undergraduate Writing Prize is funded in perpetuity by an endowment established by the author in 2023.





# The Writing Center

The Writing Center is dedicated to providing writing support to all members of the Vandal community, including students, faculty, staff, and alumni. Through one-with-one appointments, workshops, online resources, and group writing events, writers can receive help at all stages of their writing process, from brainstorming to revision of drafted papers. Writing Center tutors assist with any kind of writing, from research papers, to presentations, to personal statements for applications. We prioritize the goals of each writer and are committed to ensuring a safe space for all people to take risks, encounter and process new ideas, and express themselves.

The Writing Center not only supports writers through one-with-one appointments, it also offers professionalization opportunities for University of Idaho students who enjoy talking about writing, and who want to learn more about working closely with other writers. Students who work in the Writing Center learn the fundamentals of peer tutoring practice through English 402: Internship in Tutoring Writing and start to apply what they are learning right away.

Additionally, Writing Center tutors attend regular staff meetings and collaborate with each other and other campus partners to deliver public workshops and academic conference presentations. Recent workshops offered through the University of Idaho Writing Center include Writing through Anxiety, and Digital Skills for Writers. Recent conference presentations include the panel “Creative Writing Centers,” organized by three undergraduate students for the National Conference of Peer Tutoring of Writing.

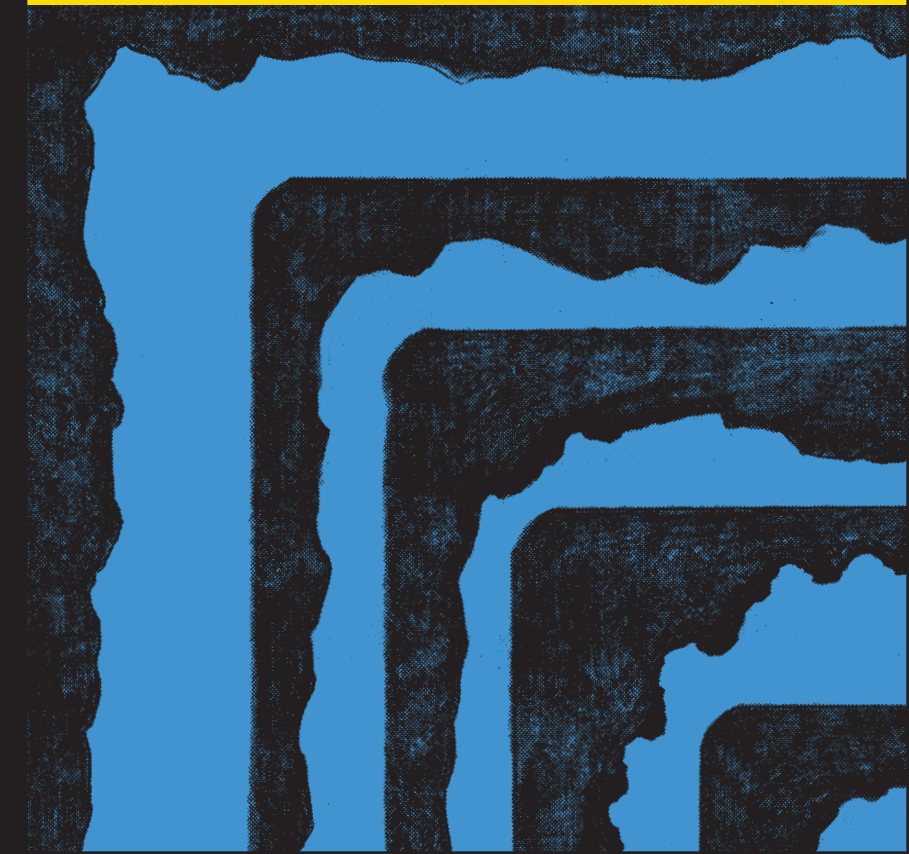


Emma Perry | Author, Instructor, Director of The Writing Center



**BLOCKS WORLD**

Emma Catherine Perry



# THE WRITING CENTER'S Creative Writing Circle



The Creative Writing Circle is a student-run group that meets every Friday afternoon in the Writing Center and throughout the week in an online chat. During Creative Writing Circle meetings, students come together to write and share their enthusiasm for writing in the company of their peers. Student leaders and CWC members generate prompts to facilitate new ideas, write collaboratively to build community, and even share their work for feedback. While sharing is not required, many students in the CWC find a supportive audience of avid readers here—a crucially important step for aspiring writers.

The Creative Writing Circle also offers involved students a way to connect with writers and readers outside of this group, as well. The CWC offers annual workshops for student writers hoping to publish in *Thistle*, the University of Idaho's undergraduate literary journal, and features student creative work in the Writing Center space.

Past members of the Creative Writing Circle have traveled to national conferences to present on their work with the CWC, sharing news of their contributions to a culture of creativity and creative writing at the University of Idaho.



# One of the many unforgettable classes you will take in the **Department of English**

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This course examines Western Civilization’s earliest and most beautiful attempts to understand itself through written language. We will reach back at least 4,000 years to find our ancestors struggling with the same questions each of us must answer: Who am I? What is love? What is God? Why do we suffer? What is happiness and how can I find it? How can I build a moral and just society? What becomes of us when we die? Will a buried Twinkie really last 1,000 years?

We will try to see our history and the seeds of our own culture not as a series of events but as an experience lived by individuals who loved, hated, yearned, grieved, and often sinned with all the passionate intensity each of us brings to our own lives.

We might subtitle this course “suffering and love” or “love and death” or, simply, “life,” because when we refer to “the literature of Western Civilization,” we’re really referring to the chronicle of what it means to be alive, to feel the human experience.

At times we’ll find the seeds of our civilization planted

so deeply, in such exotic soil, that we often cannot even recognize the place as Earth, but overall this chronicle will likely remind us that the human experience is essentially always the same, no matter where it takes place. No matter the time or place, we all must find our place in an uncertain world, confront the monsters and demons of our times, ask what mysteries the heavens hold, weep and shake with terror in the face of death, and risk everything for love.

The characters we will meet are you and me, our parents, siblings, and friends: they destroy themselves with blinding lust, greed, and pride; brothers, best friends, and lovers betray each other over fear and jealousy; valiant soldiers conquer their fear and die too young in distant lands.

Basically, our task is to better understand the worldviews that created these texts, better understand the world the texts created and, most importantly, better understand our own worldviews in relationship to the events, texts, and authors who created them, and in that process, created us.



Tom Drake | Senior Instructor | **University Excellence in Teaching Award** | Alumni Award for Excellence

## Tom Drake’s Literature of Western Civilization

*... the chronicle of what it means to be alive ...*

Since 1997, Tom Drake has taught literature classes that challenge and inspire, spark debate and conversation, and deepen our understanding of the world.



**Major:** English, Business Minor

**Home town:** Zillah, WA

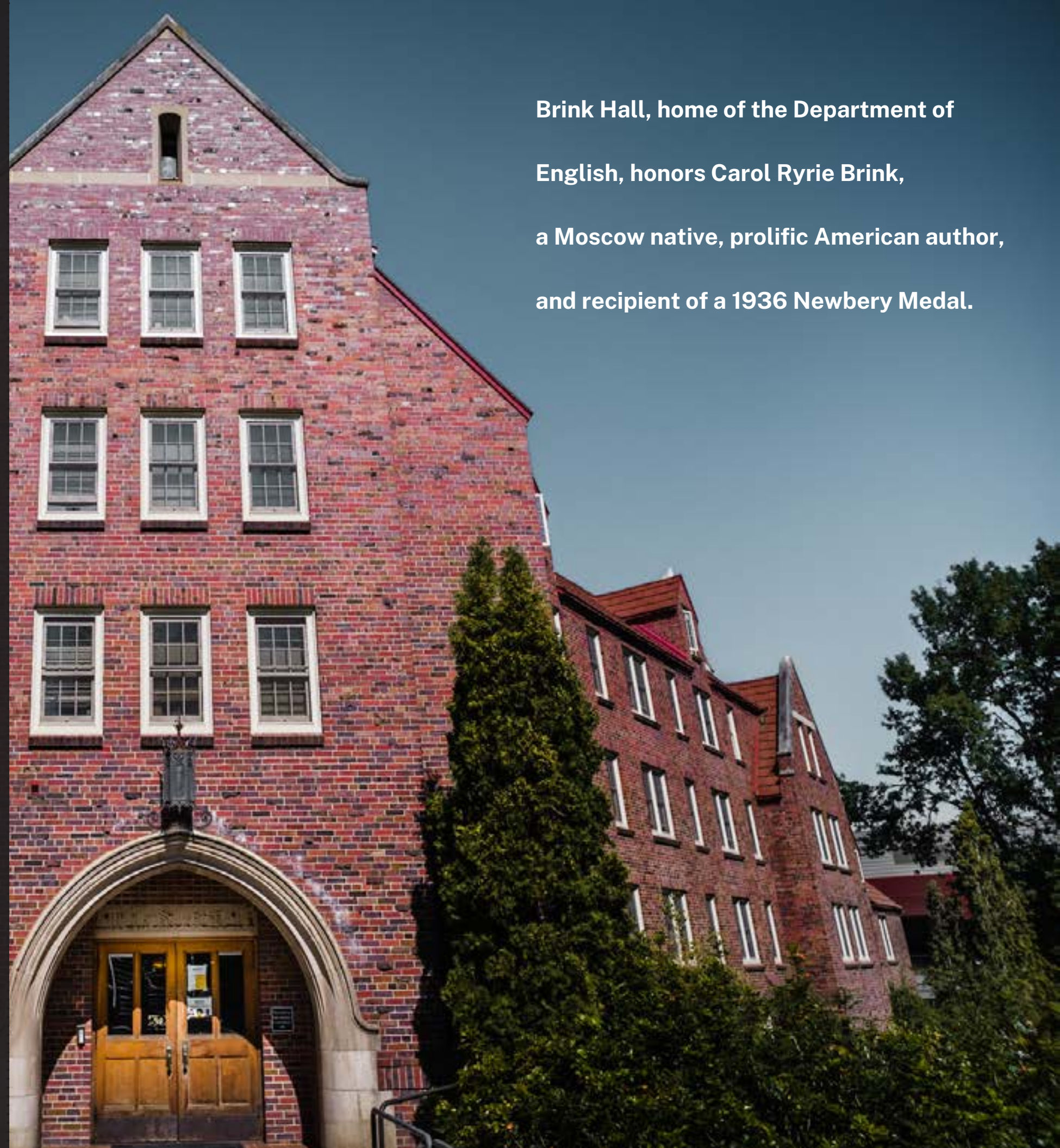
**Passions:** Music and Visual Art

**Future Plans:** Graduate School



## Aineka Carlson, Class of '23

I originally came to the University of Idaho planning to study the performing arts, but after taking a Creative Writing class with Alexandra Teague, I was hooked! Every English class I've taken has given me invaluable tools and encouraged me to push creative and academic boundaries. I've had the opportunity to do study-abroad research in Hawaii with a publication team, travel to Tennessee for a writing conference, and was published for the first time in the university's very own undergraduate literary magazine, *Thistle*. The University of Idaho is special because the faculty encourage their students to work hard and follow their dreams. I've watched my peers grow and do incredible things during my time here; this growth is made possible because of the wonderful, insightful, and welcoming literary community that both the professors and students cultivate.



Brink Hall, home of the Department of English, honors Carol Ryrie Brink, a Moscow native, prolific American author, and recipient of a 1936 Newbery Medal.

# Preparing Teachers for the Classroom



I came to the U of I not sure what I wanted to do with my life, but something about the welcoming environment of ENGL 102 as an “intro to the university” helped nudge me in the right direction. I decided to take a risk and take another English class the following semester, and I fell in love. I quickly found that I wanted to be in an environment where people and relationships mattered. After completing my undergraduate studies, I was fortunate enough to be accepted to the M.A. TESL program, and this program that helped me understand the complexities of academia and how to make a meaningful impact in a professional setting. I met some of my most cherished friends and colleagues while in graduate school, and the teaching opportunities that the MA programs provided helped me find a passion for teaching writing and making a difference in the lives of my students. While teaching high school is a much different environment than the first-year writing classroom, I know how vital it is to build relationships and the impact they can make in a person’s life. Looking back on the seven years I spent with the University of Idaho’s Department of English, I am thankful for the relationships and people who have inspired and invested in me as a person and professional.

**BA English** | 2015

**BS Secondary Ed** | 2015

**MA TESL** | 2017

**MA English** | 2018



## Zach Williamson

English Teacher | Lake City High School | Coeur d’Alene

# Preparing Teachers for the Classroom

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My time in the English Department at the University of Idaho profoundly influenced my journey as an educator. Beginning with an internship at the Writing Center during my second year, I began to take advantage of the unique opportunities afforded to English majors. I had the privilege of working with a diverse group of students, including international and graduate students, as well as first-year writers. One of the most rewarding experiences the English Department gave me was the opportunity to collaborate with the Writing Center Director to help Moscow High School establish its own program. The lessons I gained through that partnership deeply contributed to my pedagogical development. Additionally, I was honored to receive the Grace V. Nixon scholarship, which alleviated some financial pressure and allowed me to focus on my academics. The variety of courses I took — taught by professors who were deeply knowledgeable and passionate — helped me gain a strong understanding of the content I now teach. These experiences have shaped my ability to teach a wide array of secondary English courses, including Dual Credit English 101 and 175 for Lake City High School’s Outdoor Studies Program.



**Madison Seymour**

English Teacher | Lake City High School | Coeur d’Alene

**BA | Class of 2017**



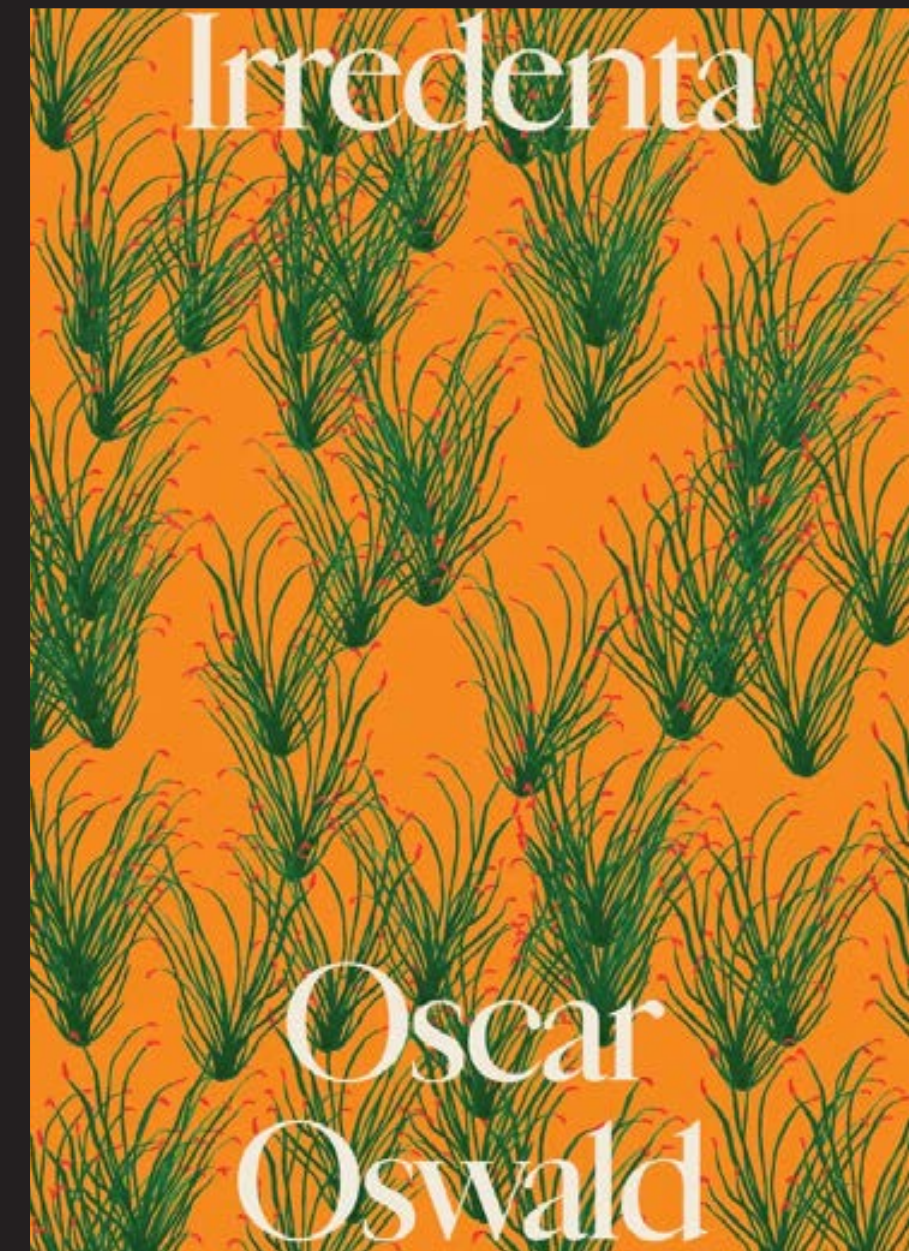
# Director of Undergraduate Recruitment & Retention

Fostering undergraduate success within and beyond the university is a priority of the Department of English. Faculty member **Oscar Oswald** organizes professional events and seasonal parties for English students throughout the year in his role as the Director of Undergraduate Recruitment & Retention. Throughout the semester, we invite faculty, alumni, and community members to offer advice for graduation and the workplace. We also host parties and gatherings to showcase the English degree, from informative discussions about course offerings to annual year-end celebrations including awards and readings and pizza. In English, majors and minors exercise a range skills, from editing and analysis to writing and teaching, and we provide professional contexts to put these passions into practice. We also collaborate with other departments in the university as well as partners around Idaho to develop internships beyond English. Students can work with the Prison Education Initiative through the department of Culture, Society, and Justice; students can also mentor with members of the Education department to gain experience in tutoring and teaching; and we have internships with businesses in Moscow and elsewhere in marketing, copywriting, administration, and more. Students walk into this supportive community and its professional network at the beginning of their degree. English students even have their own space in our department building, a bright room with windows on the second floor with free books, snacks, and beverages. Our degree and our department prepare students for scholarship in English and demonstrates the application of these studies to academic and professional careers.

Oscar teaches the course English 215: Introduction to English Studies. This class is designed exclusively for English students to come together early in their degree to learn the tricks of the trade together with their peers. By taking a tour of the greatest hits of our department, English 215 not only hones the critical thinking and reading central to the English field, it also provides support and encouragement for students to pursue extracurricular and professional development around the university.



**Oscar Oswald** | Author, Instructor, Director of Undergraduate Recruitment & Retention



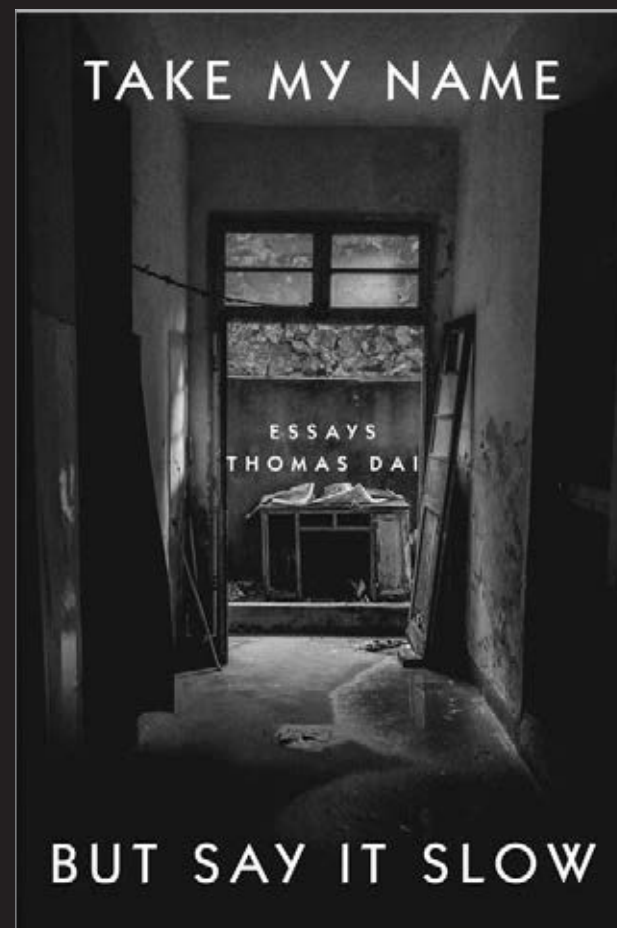
# New Faculty Spotlight



Thomas Dai | Author, Professor

“

I encourage students to approach writing and craft as impure, contingent, and shaped by their social and cultural contexts: writing as a way into the world and not a silo within it.



Students and faculty bundle up in the late Fall to read from their original work at the Palouse Clearwater Environmental Institute.



# A Note from Tara MacDonald Department Chair



In the Department of English at the University of Idaho, you will find friendly and dynamic students and faculty. What is most important to us is that you get the degree you want! Our BA and BS degrees in English are flexible and allow you to explore a range of classes and topics. In addition, students are encouraged to take internships that allow them to gain experience in key skills like research, editing, grant writing, tutoring, and teaching. We have endless events and student clubs, too.

If you like to write, read, and be surrounded by people who will support you, then the University of Idaho is your place, and the Department of English is your home.



Tara MacDonald | Author, Professor, Department Chair

NINETEENTH-CENTURY AND  
NEO-VICTORIAN CULTURES

NARRATIVE, AFFECT  
AND VICTORIAN  
SENSATION



WILFUL BODIES



Department of English | 2025 | University of Idaho  
College of Letters, Arts & Social Sciences