

Lit Practicum Section 80

ENGL 291

Fall 2024 Fully Online 4 Unit(s) 08/21/2024 to 12/09/2024 Modified 01/16/2025

Contact Information

Practicum Supervisor:	Dr. Selena Gambrell Anderson
Office Location:	FO 105
Email:	selena.anderson@sjsu.edu
Office Hours:	Mondays & Wednesdays 1:00-2:00 PM
Class Days/Time:	Thursdays 7:00-9:45 PM
Classroom:	Virtual (Zoom)

Course Information

“You think your pain and your heartbreak are unprecedented in the history of the world, but then you read. It was books that taught me that the things that tormented me most were the very things that connected me with all the people who were alive, who had ever been alive.”

— James Baldwin

Course Description

This 4-unit CR/NC practicum course prepares Creative Writing graduate students to take the MFA Comprehensive exam; also, to develop and begin writing an MFA thesis. The practicum will provide a forum for peer review to assist MFA candidates as they customize the MFA exam reading list and prepare to take the MFA comprehensive exam. The practicum will also provide a forum for MFA candidates for drafting the thesis abstract and thesis preface. MFA candidates will consult with their individual thesis directors and thesis readers on their Thesis Committees at the start of the semester to create a thesis completion plan. The candidates will be guided by their MFA thesis directors during the semester, sharing thesis drafts with other students in the same primary genre via Canvas. Students will post texts of their thesis abstracts and

introductions and portions of their thesis project. During the semester, students will receive comments on their drafts from other MFA candidates working in the same genre, and from the candidate's thesis director and thesis readers.

Course Description and Requisites

This course prepares Creative Writing graduate students to take the MFA exam and develop and begin writing an MFA thesis, customize the MFA exam reading list, prepare to take the MFA comprehensive exam, draft the thesis abstract and thesis preface.

Prerequisite: Approval of thesis proposal.

CR/NC/I Graduate

Classroom Protocols

Classroom Protocol

Students are expected to log in to the Zoom sessions on time and be ready to work at the beginning of class.

Course Methods and Activities

At the start of the practicum course, the group of MFA candidates enrolled will meet with the practicum supervisor for a group course orientation. Each candidate will subsequently meet with and coordinate their semester's activities with their individual MFA thesis directors and thesis committee members. Each candidate will work with their individual MFA thesis director to devise a thesis completion schedule. Each candidate will also work with their MFA thesis director to customize their MFA exam reading lists, and to determine when (Fall or Spring term) they will take the MFA comprehensive exam. Each candidate will prepare for their MFA exam, making notes on the works they've chosen from the reading lists. During the semester, the MFA candidates in the course will write portions of their MFA theses, including their thesis abstract, thesis introduction, and portions of the creative work that shall comprise the primary substance of their thesis manuscript.

Practicum Symposiums: Visits from Writers, Editors, Agents, and Publishers

The practicum will be conducted online! We will regularly host symposiums by industry professionals and special guests who will take part in Q&As about matters pertinent to the course material.

MFA Comprehensive Exam Reading Lists:

<https://www.sjsu.edu/english/graduate/mfa/reading-list.php>

ON-LINE RESOURCES:

Canvas	<p>The course homepage. Contains up to date course information, the syllabus, class activities and announcements, thesis drafts, and the MFA exam reading lists.</p> <p>https://sjsu.instructure.com/courses/1591491</p>
Lit Hub	<p>Large resource on contemporary literature, writers, events, issues, etc.</p> <p>lithub.com</p>
Associated Writers and Writing Programs (AWP)	<p>AWP provides community, opportunities, ideas, news, and advocacy for writers and teachers of writing. They also host a yearly conference complete with readings, parties, craft talks, and a large room full of literary magazines.</p> <p>awpwriter.org</p>
Poets & Writers Online	<p>Information, support, and guidance for creative writers. Here you can find contests, grants, fellowships, jobs, small presses, advice from agents and editors, and much more.</p> <p>pw.org</p>
Los Angeles Review of Books	<p>A West Coast literary review journal covering the American and international book scenes. It contains some very interesting takes on literary trends such as "autofiction" and is notorious for its scathing author profiles.</p> <p>lareviewofbooks.org</p>

Substack	An American online platform that provides publishing, payment, analytics, and design infrastructure to support subscription newsletters. There are some great writers on here—Mary Gaitskill, Sterling Holywhitemountain, Garth Greenwall, and Joy Williams to name a few—who generously share reviews as well as their musings on various literary topics. substack.com
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Grading

This course is graded on a CR/NC basis. Completing the practicum projects according to candidates' thesis completion plan will result in a CR grade. Not completing the projects will result in a NC grade.

Workload

Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of 45 hours over the length of the course (normally 3 hours per unit per week) for reading works in preparation for the MFA comprehensive exams; meeting with thesis directors and committee members; drafting and re-writing creative material and the introduction for the MFA thesis; and participating in other course related activities. Other graduate course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus (see SJSU Academic Senate Policy S12 - 3).

Because this is a 4-unit course, students can expect to spend a minimum of twelve hours per week preparing doing the reading, writing, and online Canvas participation expected for this class and completing required course activities. Careful time management will be required to maintain an intensive schedule of reading and writing appropriate for this course, to comment on work posted by other MFA students writing a thesis in the same genre as yours and allowing sufficient to during the semester to complete an MFA thesis draft on schedule.

Participation

Students are expected to attend regularly and thoughtfully engage in class discussion.

Late Assignment Policy

It is important that students submit/post any and all assigned work on time. Late work will not be accepted if no prior arrangement has been agreed upon with the instructor.

Attendance

Students are expected to attend each scheduled Zoom session. Allowances will be made for students who have issues with computer access and other problems that impede online attendance. These issues should be made known to the professor in a timely and professional fashion.

Scholastic Honesty: Turning in work that is not your own, or any other form of scholastic dishonesty, will result in a major course penalty, possibly failure of the course. This standard applies to all drafts and assignments, and a report of the incident will be submitted to the appropriate Dean's office on campus. The use of generative AI tools is not permitted in this course.

University Policies

Per [University Policy S16-9](#), relevant university policy concerning all courses, such as student responsibilities, academic integrity, accommodations, dropping and adding, consent for recording of class, etc. and available student services (e.g. learning assistance, counseling, and other resources) are listed on the [Syllabus Information web page](https://www.sjsu.edu/curriculum/courses/syllabus-info.php) (<https://www.sjsu.edu/curriculum/courses/syllabus-info.php>). Make sure to visit this page to review and be aware of these university policies and resources.

Accessibility

I strive to implement universal design in my courses while recognizing that each student has unique learning needs. If you encounter any barriers to access in my class, please feel free to reach out to me during office hours or via email—I'm here to help! Additionally, the university and the San Jose community provide various support services to assist you.

- **Accessible Education Center** is online at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aec/> and on Facebook. You can also reach them at 408-924-6000 (voice) or by email at aec-info@sjsu.edu. AEC is the office that handles requests for accommodations (<http://www.sjsu.edu/aec/current-students/accommodation-information/index.html>). Their office is in the Administration Building (110), and they offer a variety of services to facilitate access for students at SJSU:
 - **Accessible Software and Training** (<http://www.sjsu.edu/aec/current-students/center-for-accessible-technology/accessible-software-and-training/index.html>)

- Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services (<http://www.sjsu.edu/aec/current-students/deaf-and-hard-of-hearing-services/index.html>)
- **Gender Equity Center** is online at <http://www.sjsu.edu/genec/> and provides a variety of spaces and services including drop-in social spaces, free condoms, pads, and tampons, a lactation room, as well as events throughout the year. They are located in the Student Union, First Level, Room 1650. You can also reach them at 408-924-6500 or via email at sjsugenec@gmail.com
- **MOSAIC Cross Cultural Center** is online at <http://www.sjsu.edu/mosaic/> and on Facebook. They provide support and services for students from historically underrepresented groups, including educational and leadership opportunities through programming and training, a resource library and database of speakers, funding opportunities, and a space to study or connect. You can find them on the 1st floor of the Student Union Main Building. You can also reach them at 408-924-6255 or via email at mosaic@sjsu.edu
- **Pride Center** is online at <http://www.sjsu.edu/pride/> and provides support on campus to LGBTIQQA students. Their library has a variety of resources and the space is also available for meeting, studying, or socializing. They are located in the Student Union in the Main Section on the 1st
- **Student Counseling and Psychological Services** is online at <http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling/> and are located in the Student Wellness Center, Third Floor (300B). You can schedule an appointment by calling 408-924-5910 or email them at services@sjsu.edu. You can also access their after hours crisis service by calling their main number, and pressing 4. If you are experiencing an emergency you can also reach the police at 911, campus police at 408-924-2222, the County Suicide and Crisis Line at 855-278-4204, or text ANSWER to 839863 to get a response from the Crisis Call Center.
 - **SCPS** has also compiled a list of local and community resources including resources for mental health, addiction issues, legal aid, and community and cultural groups, including veterans etc., which you can find at: http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling/students/Off-Campus_Assistance/Community_Resources/index.html - alcohol
- **The Office of Student and Faculty Success** is online at <http://www.sjsu.edu/sfs/> and they have a wide range of services to provide support for the campus community, including:
 - **#FinishIn4** (<http://www.sjsu.edu/californiapromise/>)
 - **Project Succeed** (<http://www.sjsu.edu/projectsucceed/>)
 - **Academic Advising and Retention Services** (<http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/>)
 - **CommUniverCity** (<http://cucsj.org/>)
 - **E-Campus** (<http://www.sjsu.edu/ecampus/>)
 - **Peer Connections** (<http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu/>) offers peer mentoring and tutoring services
 - **Student-Athlete Success Services** (<https://sjsuspartans.com/sports/2018/8/3/ot-sjsu-academic-services-html.aspx>) offers academic and study skills services for student athletes
 - **Office of Supported Instruction** (<http://www.sjsu.edu/supportedinstruction/index.html>) offers courses in Math and Writing to first year students for college success.
 - **TRIO ASPIRE Program** (<http://www.sjsu.edu/aspire/index.html>) offers support services to students from underrepresented groups.
- **Student Health Center** is online at <http://www.sjsu.edu/studenthealth/>. In addition to general medicine, they also have a Wellness and Health Promotion Unit which provides support relating to nutrition, substance abuse, body image, sleep, sexual health, and violence prevention. Appointments can be made online, or you can call them at 408-924-6122.

- **YWCA Silicon Valley** (<https://ywca-sv.org/>) is a community center providing shelter and resources for survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and dating violence. Their 24-hour # is: 800-572-2782
- **San José State Writing Center** is online at <http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter/> and offers free consultations about student writing. They're not line editors, they're way better: trained writing instructors who can help you at any point in your writing process. You can schedule an appointment online or contact them at 408-924-2308. They are located on the second floor of the MLK library, as well as offering drop-in tutoring in Clark Hall 126.

Program Information

The following statement has been adopted by the Department of English for inclusion in all syllabi: In English Department Courses, instructors will comment on and grade the quality of student writing as well as the quality of ideas being conveyed. All student writing should be distinguished by correct grammar and punctuation, appropriate diction and syntax, and well-organized paragraphs. The Department of English reaffirms its commitment to the differential grading scale as defined in the SJSU Catalog ("The Grading System").

Grades issued must represent a full range of student performance:

- A = excellent;
- B = above average;
- C = average;
- D = below average;
- F = failure.

Within any of the letter grade ranges (e.g. B+/B/B-), the assignment of a +(plus) or - (minus) grade will reflect stronger (+) or weaker (-) completion of the goals of the assignment.

Program Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the MFA in Creative Writing, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate a high level of ability to propose and complete a publishable, full-length work of literature in a primary genre concentration (fiction, creative nonfiction, poetry, or scriptwriting).
2. Demonstrate high level of proficiency to write works of literature in a secondary genre concentration (fiction, creative nonfiction, poetry, or scriptwriting).
3. Demonstrate an appropriate level of knowledge of literary history, literary theory, and craft and theory of creative writing.
4. Demonstrate critical and analytical skills in the evaluation and interpretation of literary texts.
5. Demonstrate a command of written academic English, including the abilities to:
 - a) organize and present material in a cogent fashion;
 - b) formulate and defend original arguments;
 - c) employ effectively the language of their discipline;
 - d) write under time constraints.

Department Information:

Department Name: English and Comparative Literature

Department Office: FO 102

Department Website: www.sjsu.edu/english (<https://www.sjsu.edu/english>)

Department email: english@sjsu.edu (<mailto:english@sjsu.edu>)

Department phone number: 408-924-4425

Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs)

Course Goals and Student Learning Objectives

A degree candidate in the MFA program must complete a book-length work of publishable quality in the candidate's primary genre (or a full-length play or screenplay). Also, an MFA candidate must demonstrate a substantial ability to articulate and analyze the literary influences on their writing.

To gain such an understanding, MFA candidates will accomplish the following objectives in this practicum course:

- Devise an MFA thesis completion plan, assisted by your thesis director.
- Customize the MFA exam reading list to prepare for taking the MFA comprehensive exam, consulting with your thesis director (if you haven't taken the exam).
- Take the Fall MFA comprehensive exam or sign up to take the Spring MFA
- Write an MFA thesis abstract—may be revised if your thesis project changes substantially after you finish writing.
- Draft the Preface to your thesis, reflecting on and analyzing important literary influences on your Base your introduction on your MFA thesis proposal.
- Post your thesis introduction on Canvas for other candidates to read on comment on.
- Revise MFA abstract and thesis Preface in response to peers' and thesis committee members' comments.
- Post sections (chapters, scenes, poems,) of your thesis on Canvas for other MFA candidates in the practicum to read and comment on.
- Consult during the semester with your MFA director and thesis readers on the progress you're making to complete your thesis.
- Submit portions of your thesis manuscript to journals for publication.

Learning Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

Student Learning Objectives	Skills & Knowledge Acquired	Activities

<p>SLO 1: Students will demonstrate a high-level of ability to write and complete a publishable, full-length work of literature in a primary genre concentration (fiction, creative non-fiction, poetry, or a scriptwriting).</p>	<p>1. Recognize what makes a successful MFA thesis abstract and introduction.</p> <p>2. Recognize what material works for your MFA thesis; recognize what material needs to be revised.</p>	<p>1. Write an MFA thesis abstract and thesis introduction.</p> <p>2. Draft material (chapters, stories, scenes, essays, poems, etc.) for your MFA thesis.</p> <p>3. Comment on peer's MFA thesis sections posted to peer group forums on Canvas.</p>
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<p>SLO 3: Students will demonstrate an appropriate level of knowledge of literary history, literary theory, and craft and theory of creative writing.</p>	<p>1. Recognize historically relevant trends in modern and contemporary works of creative writing (fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and dramatic writing).</p> <p>2. Identify developments within creative writing genres, and the development of individual authors and schools/styles of writing.</p>	<p>1. Read works from the MFA exam reading lists (in candidate's primary and secondary genre) to prepare for taking the MFA exam.</p> <p>2. Research works and authors which have significantly influenced the MFA candidate's thesis project.</p> <p>3. Self-selected candidates take the Fall MFA exam.</p>
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<p>SLO 4: Students will demonstrate critical and analytical skills in the evaluation and interpretation of literary texts.</p>	<p>1.</p> <p>2. 1. Apply and improve close reading skills.</p> <p>3. Recognize and apply formal terms to describe and analyze literary elements and qualities in the works read.</p> <p>Apply close reading skills to evaluate the quality of peers' and published literary texts.</p>	<p>1. Read texts from the MFA exam reading list under the supervision of MFA thesis director.</p> <p>2. Take the Fall MFA exam or prepare to take Spring MFA exam.</p> <p>3. Write introduction to your MFA thesis.</p> <p>4. Write MFA thesis introduction works cited list.</p>
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<p>SLO 5: Students will demonstrate a command of written academic English, including the abilities to:</p> <p>a) organize and present material in a cogent fashion;</p> <p>b) formulate and defend original arguments;</p> <p>c) effectively employ the language of their discipline; write under time constraints.</p>	<p>1. Recognize elements necessary to be present in a successful MFA thesis abstract and MFA thesis introduction.</p> <p>2. Recognize rhetorical and literary elements, and literary styles used in successful literary essays commenting on works by modern and contemporary authors.</p> <p>3. Understand criteria used for evaluation of MFA exam essays.</p>	<p>1. Write an MFA thesis abstract and MFA thesis introduction, and post on Canvas for peer comments and comments by MFA thesis director and thesis committee members.</p> <p>2. Close read works on candidate's customized MFA exam reading list.</p> <p>3. Self-selected students to take the Fall MFA exam; others prepare to take and sign up for the Spring MFA exam.</p>
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Course Requirements and Assignments

Course Methods and Activities

At the start of the practicum course, the group of MFA candidates enrolled will meet with the practicum supervisor for a group course orientation. Each candidate will subsequently meet with and coordinate their semester's activities with their individual MFA thesis directors and thesis committee members. Each candidate will work with their individual MFA thesis director to devise a thesis completion schedule. Each candidate will also work with their MFA thesis director to customize their MFA exam reading lists, and to determine when (Fall or Spring term) they will take the MFA comprehensive exam. Each candidate will prepare for their MFA exam, making notes on the works they've chosen from the reading lists. During the

semester, the MFA candidates in the course will write portions of their MFA theses, including their thesis abstract, thesis introduction, and portions of the creative work that shall comprise the primary substance of their thesis manuscript.

Practicum Symposiums: Visits from Writers, Editors, Agents, and Publishers

The practicum will be conducted online! We will regularly host symposiums by industry professionals and special guests who will take part in Q&As about matters pertinent to the course material.

MFA Comprehensive Exam Reading Lists:

<https://www.sjsu.edu/english/graduate/mfa/reading-list.php>

ON-LINE RESOURCES:

Canvas	The course homepage. Contains up to date course information, the syllabus, class activities and announcements, thesis drafts, and the MFA exam reading lists. https://sjsu.instructure.com/courses/1591491
Lit Hub	Large resource on contemporary literature, writers, events, issues, etc. lithub.com
Associated Writers and Writing Programs (AWP)	AWP provides community, opportunities, ideas, news, and advocacy for writers and teachers of writing. They also host a yearly conference complete with readings, parties, craft talks, and a large room full of literary magazines. awpwriter.org
Poets & Writers Online	Information, support, and guidance for creative writers. Here you can find contests, grants, fellowships, jobs, small presses, advice from agents and editors, and much more. pw.org

Los Angeles Review of Books	A West Coast literary review journal covering the American and international book scenes. It contains some very interesting takes on literary trends such as “autofiction” and is notorious for its scathing author profiles. lareviewofbooks.org
Substack	An American online platform that provides publishing, payment, analytics, and design infrastructure to support subscription newsletters. There are some great writers on here—Mary Gaitskill, Sterling Holywhitemountain, Garth Greenwall, and Joy Williams to name a few—who generously share reviews as well as their musings on various literary topics. substack.com

✓ Grading Information

Grading

This course is graded on a CR/NC basis. Completing the practicum projects according to candidates’ thesis completion plan will result in a CR grade. Not completing the projects will result in a NC grade.

Workload

Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of 45 hours over the length of the course (normally 3 hours per unit per week) for reading works in preparation for the MFA comprehensive exams; meeting with thesis directors and committee members; drafting and re-writing creative material and the introduction for the MFA thesis; and participating in other course related activities. Other graduate course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus (see SJSU Academic Senate Policy S12 - 3).

Because this is a 4-unit course, students can expect to spend a minimum of twelve hours per week preparing doing the reading, writing, and online Canvas participation expected for this class and completing required course activities. Careful time management will be required to maintain an intensive schedule of reading and writing appropriate for this course, to comment on work posted by other MFA students writing a thesis in the same genre as yours and allowing sufficient to during the semester to complete an MFA thesis draft on schedule.

Participation

Students are expected to attend regularly and thoughtfully engage in class discussion.

University Policies

Per [University Policy S16-9 \(PDF\)](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf) (<http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf>), relevant university policy concerning all courses, such as student responsibilities, academic integrity, accommodations, dropping and adding, consent for recording of class, etc. and available student services (e.g. learning assistance, counseling, and other resources) are listed on the [Syllabus Information](https://www.sjsu.edu/curriculum/courses/syllabus-info.php) (<https://www.sjsu.edu/curriculum/courses/syllabus-info.php>) web page. Make sure to visit this page to review and be aware of these university policies and resources.

Course Schedule

ENGL 291: Fall 2024 Schedule

NOTE: The calendar lists work assigned by week. Syllabus is subject to change. Any modifications will be announced in class and reflected in Modules on Canvas.

Week 1	Welcome & Introductions. Course Overview. All candidates enrolled will meet with Practicum Supervisor for an overview of the work required during the semester. Topics Covered This Session:
Aug. 22	Forming a Thesis Committee
	Drafting and submitting a Thesis Proposal
Zoom	Preparing for the MFA Exam

<p>Week 2</p> <p>Aug. 29</p> <p>Zoom</p>	<p>May 2025 Graduates:</p> <p>Ask faculty members and experts in the field to serve on thesis committee (Director, Second Reader, Third Reader)</p> <p>Dec. 2024 Graduates:</p> <p>Complete first draft of thesis manuscript.</p> <p>Sept. 1 is the deadline to file or reactivate application for graduation with GAPE (do this through MySJSU).</p>
<p>Week 3</p> <p>Sept. 5</p> <p>Zoom</p>	<p>May 2025 Graduates:</p> <p>Post names of your Thesis Committee members (Director, Second Reader, Third Reader) to Canvas assignment.</p> <p>In “Thesis Proposals” Discussion, post the first draft of your MFA Thesis Proposal.</p> <p>Dec. 2024 Graduates:</p> <p>Send draft of your thesis, including Preface, to your Thesis Director</p> <p>Post same draft to “Thesis Drafts” Discussion.</p> <p>MFA Comprehensive Exam planning:</p> <p>Confer with your MFA Thesis Director if you wish to add any works to the Reading List.</p> <p>Read works on the Reading List.</p>

<p>Week 4</p> <p>Sept. 12</p> <p>Zoom</p>	<p>May 2025 Graduates:</p> <p>Read and comment on Thesis Proposals by other students in your concentration.</p> <p>Readings:</p> <p>Continue reading works on the Reading List.</p> <p>Thesis Completion Plan is due to Canvas.</p>
<p>Week 5</p> <p>Sept. 19</p> <p>Zoom</p>	<p>Visit from Steinbeck Fellow // Alexia Nader</p> <p>Candidates Taking Fall 2024 MFA Comprehensive Exam:</p> <p>Sept. 23: Sample MFA Exam questions emailed individually to candidates.</p> <p>May 2025 Graduates:</p> <p>Revise Thesis Proposal based on peer review</p> <p>Begin filling out Petition for Advancement to Graduate Candidacy form.</p> <p>Readings:</p> <p>Continue reading works on the Reading List.</p>

<p>Week 6</p>	<p>Visit from SJSU MFA Alumni & Debut Author // Darrell Dela Cruz</p>
<p>Sept. 26</p>	<p>Candidates Taking Fall 2024 MFA Comprehensive Exam:</p> <p>Oct. 15: Questions distributed by email (9:00 AM)</p>
<p>Zoom</p>	<p>Oct. 18: Essays due (5:00 PM)</p> <p>May 2025 Graduates:</p> <p>Oct. 1 is deadline to file Petition for Advancement to Graduate Candidacy form.</p> <p>Send Thesis Proposal draft to committee members for review.</p> <p>Readings:</p> <p>Continue reading works from the Reading List.</p>

<p>Week 7</p>	<p>Visit from Noelle Brada Williams // Thesis Proposals & Thesis Manuscripts Q&A</p>
<p>Oct. 3</p>	<p>Dec. 2024 Graduates:</p> <p>Oct. 15 is deadline to deliver completed thesis manuscript (with necessary revision) to Second Reader and Third Reader.</p>
<p>Zoom</p>	<p>Readings:</p> <p>Continue reading works from Reading List.</p>

<p>Week 8</p> <p>Oct. 10</p> <p>Steinbeck Center</p> <p>MLK 590</p>	<p>MFA Faculty Reading: Brook McClurg (non-fiction), Steinbeck Center MLK 590 7:00PM</p> <p>Dec. 2024 Graduates:</p> <p>Oct. 15 is deadline to deliver completed thesis manuscript (with necessary revision) to Second Reader and Third Reader.</p> <p>May 2025 Graduates:</p> <p>Revise thesis proposal based on comments from committee members.</p> <p>Readings:</p> <p>Continue reading works from Reading List.</p>
<p>Week 9</p> <p>Oct. 17</p> <p>Hammer Theatre</p>	<p>CLA Reading: Tommy Orange (fiction), Hammer Theatre, 6:30PM</p>
<p>Week 10</p> <p>Oct. 24</p> <p>Zoom</p>	<p>Visit from James Yeh // Editor Q&A</p> <p>Dec. 2024 Graduates:</p> <p>Finalize thesis manuscript for submission.</p> <p>Secure electronic signatures from committee members.</p> <p>May 2025 Graduates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Oct. 31 is deadline for submitting signed Thesis Proposal to Department Graduate Coordinator, Dr. Krishnaswamy (revathi.krishnaswamy@sjsu.edu). · Finalize Thesis Proposals. Secure electronic signatures from committee members.

<p>Week 11</p> <p>Oct. 31</p> <p>Zoom</p>	<p>May 2025 Graduates:</p> <p>Oct. 31 is deadline for submitting signed Thesis Proposal to Department Graduate Coordinator, Dr. Krishnaswamy (revathi.krishnaswamy@sjsu.edu).</p> <p>Post Final Thesis Proposal to the Canvas assignment.</p>
<p>Week 12</p> <p>Nov. 7</p> <p>Zoom</p>	<p>CLA Reading: Jaime Cortez & Dino Enrique Piacentini (fiction), Hammer Theatre, 6:30 PM</p>
<p>Week 13</p> <p>Nov. 14</p> <p>Zoom</p>	<p>Dec. 2024 Graduates:</p> <p>Nov. 11: Deadline for submitting thesis manuscript to Graduate Studies.</p> <p>May 2025 Graduates:</p> <p>Post Thesis Writing Plan to Canvas.</p> <p>Begin (or continue) drafting your thesis. Post chapters to Thesis Drafts discussion as appropriate.</p>

<p>Weeks 14</p> <p>Nov. 21</p> <p>TBA</p>	<p>Book Party Celebrating Mara Olivas' Debut Novel <i>Sundown in San Ojuela</i> at TBA at 7PM.</p> <p>May 2025 Graduates:</p> <p>Continue drafting your thesis. Post chapters to Thesis Drafts discussion as appropriate.</p> <p>Readings:</p> <p>Continue reading works from the Reading List.</p>
<p>Week 15</p> <p>Nov. 28</p>	<p>NO CLASS – THANKSGIVING DAY</p>

<p>Week 16</p> <p>Dec. 5</p> <p>Zoom</p>	<p>May 2025 Graduates:</p> <p>Continue drafting your thesis. Post chapters to Thesis Drafts discussion as appropriate.</p> <p>For candidates taking Spring 2025 MFA Comprehensive Exam:</p> <p>Dec. 5 is deadline to notify MFA Director of your intention to take the Spring MFA Comprehensive Exam. As a courtesy, you should also notify your thesis committee members, as they will be grading your exam.</p>
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