Course Renumbering: ENGL 575. Secondary Genre; ENGL 625. Critical Essay
Update to 2017 MFA Student Handbook
(effective Fall 2018)

To comply with federal financial aid regulations, the optional Secondary Genre Semester and the Critical Essay Semester, which were both formerly subsumed under the repeatable course number ENGL 570, will now have their own course numbers. The following updated list of semester course numbers and descriptions expands and replaces the list found on MFA Student Handbook Page 10; note that residency course numbers and descriptions (ENGL 520, 525, 530, 535, 540, 545, 655) are unchanged. Other Handbook pages that are affected by this course renumbering update are noted below.

ENGLISH 570. Semester Project in Fiction, Poetry, or Creative Nonfiction. 8 hrs. Students plan their semester projects with their faculty advisor. The project entails twenty-five hours per week of work on the packets of writing exchanged with the advisor. A booklist of 20-25 books relevant to the craft and theory of the chosen genre will be assembled and documented in an annotated bibliography, five packets of writing will be exchanged throughout the semester, and a final portfolio will be submitted at the semester’s end. The faculty advisor may refer the student to other readings in addition to those on the agreed-upon reading list. May be repeated for a total of 16 hours credit. Prerequisites: Completion of 4 hours of residency courses (ENGL 520/525, 530/535, or 540/545) immediately preceding this semester course, as appropriate to student’s genre.

[optional] ENGLISH 575. Semester Project in Fiction, Poetry, or Creative Nonfiction: Secondary Genre. 8 hrs. Students plan their semester projects in a secondary genre with their faculty advisor. The project entails twenty-five hours per week of work on the packets of writing exchanged with the advisor. A booklist of 20-25 books relevant to the chosen secondary genre will be assembled and documented in an annotated bibliography, five packets of writing will be exchanged throughout the semester, and a final portfolio will be submitted at the semester’s end. The faculty advisor may refer the student to other readings in addition to those on the agenda-upon reading list. Prerequisites: Completion of minimum 16 hours of ENGL 570; completion of 4 hours of residency courses (ENGL 520/525, 530/535, or 540/545) immediately preceding this semester course, as appropriate to student’s secondary genre. (Students are eligible for the secondary genre concentration at second-year standing; students may enroll in ENGL 575 before or after ENGL 625: Semester Project: Critical Essay.)

ENGLISH 625. Semester Project in Fiction, Poetry, or Creative Nonfiction: Critical Essay. 8 hrs. Students plan their semester projects with their faculty advisor. The project entails twenty-five hours per week of work on the packets of writing exchanged with the advisor. A booklist of 20-25 books relevant to the craft and theory of the chosen genre and focused on the student’s Critical Essay inquiry will be assembled and documented in an annotated bibliography, five packets of creative writing and drafts of the Critical Essay will be exchanged throughout the semester, and a final portfolio and Critical Essay of 20-25 pages will be submitted at the semester’s end. The faculty advisor may refer the student to other readings in addition to those on the agreed-upon reading list. Prerequisites: Completion of minimum 16 hours of ENGL 570; completion of 4 hours of residency courses (ENGL 520/525, 530/535, or 540/545) immediately preceding this semester course, as appropriate to student’s genre.

ENGLISH 650. Thesis Manuscript Preparation. 8 hrs. The student will complete the Creative Thesis of publishable quality under the supervision of the faculty advisor. For prose writers, both fiction and nonfiction, the manuscript should be 100-125 pages; for poetry writers, the manuscript should be 48-60 pages. Prerequisites: Completion of a minimum 8 hours of ENGL 625; completion of 4 hours of residency courses (ENGL 520/525, 530/535, or 540/545) immediately preceding this semester course, as appropriate to the student’s genre.
Page 8: PROGRAMS OF STUDY

Programs of Study: A minimum of 49 credit hours are required for the MFA degree. Requirements include completion of four residencies and a fifth thesis-presentation residency, and completion of the following required courses:

Poetry Track: ENGL 540 (four times), ENGL 545 (four times), ENGL 570 (two times), ENGL 625, ENGL 650, and ENGL 655.
Fiction Track: ENGL 520 (four times), ENGL 525 (four times), ENGL 570 (two times), ENGL 625, ENGL 650, and ENGL 655.
Creative Nonfiction Track: ENGL 530 (four times), ENGL 535 (four times), ENGL 570 (two times), ENGL 625, ENGL 650, and ENGL 655.

(ENG 520, 525, 530, 535, 540, 545, 655 are satisfied during the residency period; ENGL 570, 575, 625 and 650 are satisfied during the semester of apprenticeship-model correspondence study.)

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MFA DEGREE WITH A SECONDARY GENRE CONCENTRATION (minimum of 61 credit hours)

Poetry Concentration adds ENGL 540, 545, 575 to Fiction or Nonfiction Track.
Fiction Concentration adds ENGL 520, 525, 575 to Poetry or Nonfiction Track.
Nonfiction Concentration adds ENGL 530, 535, 575 to Fiction or Poetry Track.

Page 40: INCOMPLETES AND ACADEMIC PROBATION

The ENGL 570 policy for Incompletes extends to ENGL 575 and ENGL 625.