Stretch your faith and your reason by journeying into the challenging worlds and words of others.

Go beyond required composition and literature courses into a department rich in writing and globally conscious literary study. Join a Westmont professor and 24 classmates for a semester in England, where literature comes alive in context. Be transformed by close encounters with novels, poems, short stories, plays, and essays from around the world. Explore creative writing, film studies, journalism, gender studies, ethnic studies, teacher preparation, and internships. Easily add a second major to broaden your education.

SELECTED COURSES

- American and British Novelists and Poets
- Creative writing workshops
- Ethnicity and Race in American Literature
- Global Narratives
- Postcolonial Literature
- Seminars on major authors
- Women Writers

*CEnglish major (standard) or English major with a writing concentration

*English minor and Writing minor also available

CAREER PATHS

- Book, magazine, and online publishing
- Creative production in poetry, fiction, non-fiction, and screenwriting
- Grant writing for non-profits
- Journalism
- Law
- Medicine
- Ministry
- Psychological counseling
- Teaching at all levels (college, secondary, or elementary)
- Teaching English overseas
Opportunities Abroad

- Westmont’s England Semester
- Westmont’s Europe Semester
- Westmont in San Francisco
- Westmont in Northern Europe
- Westmont’s London Theatre Mayterm

Alumni

A content strategist, Ben Taylor ’09 has focused on bringing an editorial mindset to the tech world. He currently writes and edits digital texts to highlight Facebook’s integrity efforts. For three years, he directed the team creating the voice of Dropbox; that team defined the brand’s written style and explained its features in simple language. Before Dropbox, he worked at Graphiq, a Santa Barbara startup that provides insights on topics from sports to health to politics. He successfully pitched and created an in-house editorial team of 12 people that published hundreds of data-driven, journalistic stories in major online publications, including TIME, AOL, MSN, Yahoo, Fox News, The Huffington Post and Sports Illustrated. While a Westmont English major, Ben studied theatre in London, attending over 50 plays and reading hundreds of reviews from top critics while crafting his own reviews, “an experience that shapes [his] writing to this day.”

Lizzy LeRud ’07 is a scholar and teacher of American poetry whose research focuses on the cultural histories of poetic forms and genres. Currently a postdoctoral fellow at the Georgia Institute of Technology, she earned a doctorate in English literature at the University of Oregon and completed a postdoctoral fellowship at Emory University after exploring career opportunities in law, marketing, and creative writing. Her current book project, Against Prose: The Fear of Decline in American Poetry Since Reconstruction, uncovers the sociopolitical history of the poetry-prose dichotomy to explain a century of anxiety over poetry’s flagging cultural status. She is also at work on a second project exploring recent anti-racist poetic forms, tentatively entitled Radical Rule-Makers.

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