



Debate doesn't really change things. It gets you bogged in deeper. If you can address or reopen the subject with something new, something from a different angle, then there is some hope.... That's something poetry can do for you, it can entrance you for a moment above the pool of your own consciousness and your own possibilities.

—Seamus Heaney (b. 1939)

A Cruel Month?

A cruel month? The cruelest month? I don't *think* so! Around the English Department, April is a month of non-stop activities as we conclude a busy semester and start, at least for the purposes of course planning, to look ahead to fall.

First, the matter of registration: summer term registration began last week, and as of press time, there were still openings in 22 courses. Check www.newpaltz.edu/summer for the very latest opportunities. Summer is a great time to focus on a single course or two, catch up, or even get ahead. Second, autumn 2008 pre-registration began on April 14 for graduate students and will begin April 21 for undergraduates. Your registration time slot is listed in your personal mynewpaltz account. It's definitely in your best interest to register as soon as you are permitted. Don't put off registration; courses close up and under-enrolled

in the Humanities and Social Sciences. All four are graded pass-fail and meet for five evening sessions.

New detailed descriptions of most upper-division English courses are given at www.newpaltz.edu/english/page1.html, or just follow the link on the departmental home page.



Finally, don't miss the great literary and cultural events coming up in the final weeks of the semester, from the Graduate Symposium to the Friends of the Library Booksale (see above and page 4)!

—Thomas G. Olsen, Chair of English

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classes are subject to early cancellation. You will do yourself and your classmates a great favor by selecting your courses as soon as you can.

Next fall the English Department is also offering four 1-credit modular courses. Check out the online fall schedule of classes for Contemporary Asian Cinema, Writing for Publishing, Understanding Poetry, and Research Methods

Upcoming Events

- Graphic novel exhibit at the library, April 9-May 2
- Celebration of Writing on April 24 at the Honors Center
- *Our Town* at McKenna Theatre opens April 24
- Graduate Symposium, April 28

W O R K S C I T E D
C U L T H I S T R I P

New Faculty Introduction: Professor Michelle Woods

The joke growing up was that you could always find her in the house by following the trail of books and papers; a half-century later and nothing has changed except the venue: in 2005 Michelle Woods moved from Ireland to New York, having managed (finally) to put all her books at least in one place.

Movement, immigration and translation have been central to Professor Woods's research and teaching; having grown up with parents from two different cultures and languages (Irish and Czech), issues of mixed linguistic and cultural identity are something of a life-long interest and led to her writing a Ph.D., and then a book, on the exiled Franco-Czech writer Milan Kundera. She will be teaching Kundera, along with other European and world writers, in



“Contemporary World Fiction” this semester and in “The Novel” and “Analysis and Interpretation of Literature” next semester.

After finishing her Ph.D. at Trinity College Dublin in 2002 (where she also got her B.A. in English and Russian), she spent a year at Columbia University on a Fulbright grant, being incredibly nosy in a couple of translators' archives, and then held a post-doc at Dublin City University in Ireland. She has been teaching at New Paltz since last year and also at Bard College. Reading, believe it or not, is a big leisure-time activity: novels, newspapers, and the backs of cereal boxes. Her other favorite thing is going for walks with her husband, Michael, and their two dogs, Harry and Blazie, in the countryside around their new home, in Cold Spring, New York.

Usage Tip: HYPHEN vs. DASH

Often confused, the hyphen and the dash are distinctly different punctuation marks, each with its own proper usage and symbol. Do not insert a space before or after a hyphen or dash.

Hyphen: symbolized in word processing by one short line (-).

Usages:

- In certain compound words. Consult a dictionary to determine whether to treat a compound word as hyphenated (*water-repellant*), one word (*waterproof*), or separate words (*water table*).
- Connecting two or more words functioning together as an adjective before a noun. Note that compound adjectives that follow nouns *do not* get hyphenated.
Ex.: *Well-chosen* textual evidence helps ensure that an essay will be *well argued*.
- With written fractions (*one-fourth*), certain prefixes (*self-help*, *all-encompassing*), and to avoid creating confusing words (*re-creation* as opposed to *recreation*).

Dash: symbolized in word processing by two short lines, or hyphens (--). Most word processing programs today will convert the double hyphen into a single long line.

Usages:

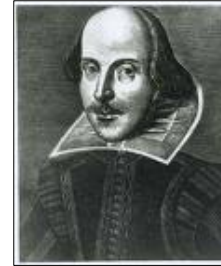
- To set off material that deserves emphasis.
Ex.: Though they are close together—separated by only a few blocks—the two neighborhoods could be in different countries.
- To introduce a list.
Ex.: Along the wall sit the bulk liquids—honey, safflower oil, and peanut butter.
- To signal a dramatic shift in tone or thought. Use sparingly, for best effect.
Ex.: Kai took a few steps back, came running full speed, kicked a mighty kick—and missed the ball.

Authors' Birthdays in April



21 Charlotte Bronte

| | | |
|-------------------------|----|--------------------|
| Hans Christian Andersen | 2 | 13 Seamus Heaney |
| Washington Irving | 2 | 15 Henry James |
| William Wordsworth | 7 | 16 Kingsley Amis |
| Beverly Cleary | 12 | 17 Thornton Wilder |
| Samuel Beckett | 13 | 26 Bernard Malamud |
| Eudora Welty | 13 | 28 Harper Lee |



William Shakespeare 23

Marianne Hirsch to Speak at English Graduate Symposium

The twentieth annual SUNY New Paltz English Graduate Symposium, "Holocaust Literature: History, Memory and Representation," will take place on April 28, 2008. The graduate student presentations will be held in JFT 1010 and begin at 3:30. The first session will focus on first-generation voices; the second, starting at 5:00, will address the second-generation and beyond. Presenters will include Nicholas Wright, Stacy Dore, Marissa Caston, Alexandra Wojcik, Lea Weiss, and Lucas Kane. This year's invited scholar, Dr. Marianne Hirsch, Professor of English and Comparative Literature at Columbia University, will provide commentary after their presentations.

In addition, Dr. Hirsch will be the Holocaust Memorial and Graduate Symposium speaker. Her lecture entitled "Street Photographs: 'Before, During and After' the Holocaust" will show how photographs taken by street photographers on the main avenues of Cernauti, Romania, challenge the "before, during, and after" timeline of



Holocaust historiography that we have come to accept as a given. The evening's lecture will be sponsored by the Louis and Mildred Resnick Institute for Jewish Studies, directed by Dr. Gerald Sorin, and the English Department.

Professor Hirsch was born in Romania, and educated at Brown University, where she received her B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. degrees. Before moving to Columbia University, she taught at Dartmouth College for many years. Her recent publications include *Family Frames: Photography, Narrative and Postmemory* (1997), *The Familial Gaze* (1999), a special issue of *Signs* on "Gender and Cultural Memory" (co-edited in 2002), and *Teaching the Representation of the Holocaust* (co-edited in 2004). Over the last few years, she also has published numerous articles on cultural memory, visibility and gender, particularly on the representation of World War II, and the Holocaust in literature, testimony and photography. Currently she is writing a book with Leo Spitzer, *Ghosts of Home: The Afterlife of Czernowitz in Jewish Memory*.

Rediscover a Beloved Classic: Thornton Wilder's *Our Town*

The Department of Theatre Arts's production of the Pulitzer Prize-winning play *Our Town* (1938) will run April 24-May 4. Set in a small-town community at the turn of the twentieth century, the play follows a girl and boy as they grow up, fall in love, face tragedy, and in so doing discover the fleeting beauty of ordinary life. Always a crowd-pleaser, the play as produced by SUNY is sure to delight, by incorporating faces from our

own little town: President Steve Poskanzer will play Howie Newsome, the local milkman, and various other deans and professors will make guest appearances as well. Nancy Saklad will direct, and Dr. Frank Trezza, Chair of the Department of Theatre Arts and producer of the play, will also play the role of the Stage Manager.

Purchase tickets online (www.newpaltz.edu/theatre) or at the Parker Theatre box office.



SUNY's Writing and Tutoring Center: The Best Deal in Town

One of the best-kept secrets on this campus might be our excellent Writing and Tutoring Center, housed in the basement of Old Main, adjacent to the computer lab. There, students can simply walk in for assistance in writing essays, or make an appointment to work with a trained tutor in almost any subject. Graduate students in English and senior English majors are available Monday through Thursday 10-6 and Friday 10-4 to help students on writing assignments for content area and writing-intensive classes—but students should remember that the Center does not provide a drop-off editing service. Rather, its tutors are trained to help students plan and organize drafts, and revise these drafts into polished final essays.

Mark Bellomo, who has headed the Writing and Tutoring Center for the past year and half, credits extensive professional training and high hiring standards for the success of the tutoring program. Peer tutors must have received an “A” in the subject in which they wish to tutor and provide a letter of recommendation from a pro-

fessor in the same subject in order to apply to the Center. Then, tutors receive hours of training in everything from the ethics of tutoring to helping students with ADHD or Asperger Syndrome. Such training enables our tutoring program to carry national accreditation.

Qualitative research conducted by Bellomo at the end of every semester provides clear evidence that the Writing and Tutoring Center programs work: students who use the programs report earning at least a half-grade higher than they were earning in the course before seeking help. And perhaps most compelling: these programs are free to SUNY students. For more information, call the Center at 257-3580, or stop by.



Photo: Natalie Lozinski (left) tutors Lilliam Araque in the Writing Center

Around the Department

Plan Ahead for Fall Semester

If you have not already done so, be sure to meet with your English advisor before your pre-registration slot! Your advisor has your ARN and can help you think through all your options, but advisors are busy at this time of year. Call ahead and make sure to bring your DARS (advising) report and a draft schedule.

Calling All Bibliophiles!

The semi-annual Friends of the Library Booksale begins at 8.30 a.m. Thursday, May 1. This spring's sale will be of particular interest, since all books are just \$1 each. Or for \$5 you can take away a whole bagful of anything you like. This is going to be a really great event for cash-strapped literature-loving students (and faculty!).

Footnotes

1. Fall registration began **April 14** for graduate students and opens **April 21** for undergraduates. Be sure to register early to avoid disappointment.
2. Registration for summer classes began on **April 14**. Many classes still have spots available!
3. If you plan to graduate in December of 2008, you must register with the Records and Registration Office by **July 31**.
4. Don't miss our special **valedictory issue of *Works Cited***: the final issue for Spring 2008 will be printed in color, photo-enlivened, and full of parting words from your classmates.

Works Cited is published approximately four times per semester by the

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It is also available online:
www.newpaltz.edu/english/workscited.

For questions, ideas, and contributions, please contact Mary Holland at workscited@newpaltz.edu or in JFT 206.

Next issue: May 12
Submission deadline: May 5