DIGITAL WRITING AND PHOTOGRAPHY

Rationale: On Thursday, April 12, 2012 I attended a Crain-Maling Center of Jewish Culture sponsored event with Avi Steinberg, author of *Running the Books: The Adventures of an Accidental Prison Librarian*. Steinberg's analysis of the transforming nature of writing and reading caused me to rethink the practicality of an English major. His insight as an author gave legitimacy to claims regarding the decline of the physical book and the increase of self-publishing. Steinberg discussed how the writing profession is fundamentally changing, which creates uncertainty as well as new possibilities in this field. In an effort to adapt to this shifting literary environment, I am proposing a multimedia approach to reading and writing. The prevalence of digital literature paired with other forms of narrative, such as photography, is one direction reading and writing is changing. Multimedia narrative will study how these digitals forms operate: the difference between these forms and more traditional forms and how to construct these digital forms. For my committee, I have chosen Alex Vernon, English professor, Maxine Payne, Photography professor, and Tim Lepczyk, Fellow in Digital Humanities.

English:

ENGC 220: Short Fiction

ENGC 280: Literary Analysis

ENGC 301: Creative Writing; Non-Fiction ENGC 306: Exploring Nature Writing

ENGC 303: Creative Writing: Poetry

ENGC 400: "Hybrids" with Tyrone Jaeger OR another class at this level

ENGC 497: Creative Writing Thesis Sr. Seminar

Arts:

ARTS 100: Freehand Drawing

ARTS 250: Beginning Photography

ARTS 350: Intermediate Photography

ARTS 450: Advanced Photography

Digital aspects:

- 1) I will complete an independent study Tim Lepczyk, entitled Technologies of Text.
- 2) Internship with an organization that uses online means of publication. This internship will satisfy the requirements for receiving odyssey credit.
- 3) Participation in *The Treatment: Writing Medicine & Illness*, a digital publication lead by Heidi Julavits, editor of *The Believer*, and Tyrone Jaeger, creative writing professor. Upon completing this project, I will receive an Odyssey credit (SP).

Senior Capstone:

Using WordPress, a blogging tool and content management system, I will create a blog that includes creative writing and photography of my own as well as reviews of music, photography, and literature. I will adapt my manuscript that I will be working on throughout the year in the Creative Writing Thesis Seminar to cohesively and creatively appear on my website. The grade for my capstone will be determined by all three members of my committee: Alex Vernon, Maxine Payne, and Tim Lepczyk. I will develop this blog over the course of my Senior year; thus, my capstone will not be a class.

Alex Vernon (Chair)
Maxine Payne (Faculty) M. Jayne
Tim Lepczyk (Adjunct Faculty Member)
Zoe Calhoun (Student)