## Spring 2017 Graduate Seminars (updated 09.23.2016)

ENGL 7001

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ENGL 7423 C. Ware Topics in Folklore (Louisiana Folklore and Folklife)

This course explores verbal, material, and customary folk culture in Louisiana through an ethnographic perspective. With a special emphasis on connections between place and folklife, we will study food customs, folk belief and healing, narrative traditions, and festive events, emphasizing the meanings they hold for participants.

3:00-6:00 T cware1@lsu.edu

ENGL 7714 I. Shport

12:30-3:30 F ishport@lsu.edu

ENGL 7920 S. Weltman

3:00-6:00 T enwelt@lsu.edu

Topics in Sociolinguistics (Investigating Sounds, Intonation, and Rhythm in Local Speech)

This course is focused on the phonetics and phonology of English sounds with a special emphasis on Southern English. Course requirements include discussion of readings and in-class practice of speech analysis. Students will use either a field methods or a laboratory phonology approach to investigate an issue in a local speech community of their interest and write a 20-page paper. MFA students may write a "hybrid" paper consisting of a combination of creative writing, linguistic analysis of the creative piece, and relevant literature review. Undergraduate students with at least one linguistics course under their belt, 75 semester hours, and 3.5 GPA are welcome to join the seminar and develop an individual or group research project.

## **Dissertation Workshop**

This course is a workshop for PhD students who are ABD (All But Dissertation)—in other words, those who have passed their General Exams and are working on their dissertations. Students will present, discuss, and receive feedback on their work in progress. The course will help students to generate and maintain momentum on dissertations while also working toward publication in a scholarly journal or equivalent. Besides functioning as a guided writing group and encouraging students to prepare pieces for publication, the course will help students to position themselves better within the profession. Goals may include submitting abstracts to conferences, proposing conference panels, preparing conference papers, writing a dissertation abstract, and writing a book review. Depending where individual students are in the dissertation process, some will want to work on drafting, selecting, and/or revising an article-length portion of the dissertation aimed at publication. Students will also research and present on important journals in their fields with the goal of submitting an essay to one of those journals, though actual submission is not required for the course. Dissertation-

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**ENGL 7975** I. Lavender III

Novels of the Harlem Renaissance Unofficially, the Harlem Renaissance lasted from 1919 to the early 1930s and refers to the collective artistic spirit of Black writers, artists,

12:30-3:30 W isiahl@lsu.edu