

# English Matters

The English Department Newsletter for Rider University

Vol. 1, No. 2, Fall 2018

"Words have no power  
to impress the mind  
without the  
exquisite horror  
of their reality."

Edgar Allan Poe

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**Special Thanks**  
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For formatting newsletter  
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## Course Highlights for Spring 2019

**ENG 351: 19th-century American Literature** Dr. Kelly Ross Learn about the foundational authors of American literature: Edgar A. Poe, Frederick Douglass, Emily Dickinson, Frances E.W. Harper, Walt Whitman, Herman Melville, Charles Chesnutt, and more! You'll be glad you did!

**ENG 363: The Drama** Dr. Jack Sullivan In this exciting course, students see six Broadway shows in New York in Sunday matinees over the course of the semester, both plays and musicals. This year will include *My Fair Lady*, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *Network*, *King Lear*, *Come from Away*, and *Tosca* (at the Metropolitan Opera).

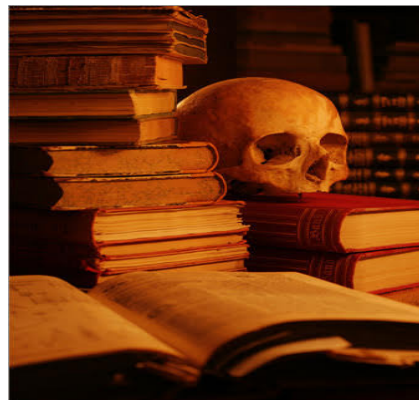
**GSS 300: Feminist Literary Criticism** Dr. Laurel Harris Read writers including Audre Lorde, Charlotte Bronte, Jean Rhys, Nella Larsen, and Virginia Woolf in the course as well as critical work by writers including Gilbert and Gubar, Judith Butler, and Gayatri Spivak.

## Noteworthy Events

**Oct. 24 at 6 to 8 p.m., FA 349:**  
Sigma Tau Delta (English Honors Society)

**Oct. 30 from 1:30 to 2:45 p.m., Cavalla Room**  
Annual Halloween Party

**Oct. 30 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Cavalla Room:**  
"Breaking Barriers: Pioneering Voices in Educational Television with Dr. Loretta Long, Susan from Sesame Street"



## Department Publications

**Laurel Harris** introduced, edited, and annotated, "Letters from Sylvia Townsend Warner to Genevieve Taggard," which came out in the spring 2018 PMLA.

**Cynthia Lucia** recently published "Bob & Carol & Ted & Alice," an capsule DVD review in *Cineaste*, Vol. XLIII, No. 3, 2018, as well as "Natalie Wood: Her Life and Her Legacy," article in *Cineaste*, Vol. XLIII, No. 2, 2018.

**Kelly Ross** will be publishing "Deciphering Dupin: Poe's Ratiocinative Plots" in *The Oxford Handbook of Edgar Allan Poe*. Oxford, Oxford University Press, forthcoming 2018.

## Presentations & Seminars

In June, Dr. **Cynthia Lucia** gave an invited guest lecture on "Natalie Wood: Star Embodiment of Mid-Century Gender and Sexuality Ideology" at New York University, Faculty Resource Network: Gender and Sexuality in Film. Additionally, in March, she gave a panel presentation on "Natalie Wood's Postwar Roles and Their Resonance" at the Society for Cinema and Media Studies. She was also featured as an interview subject on the podcast "Fatal Voyage: The Mysterious Death of Natalie Wood," which has been premiering since July (Treefort Media in association with American Media, Inc. and Panalogy Media).

This November, Dr. **Laurel Harris** will be presenting her paper, "Yes and No: Masochism and Sapphic Desire in Modernist Women's Fiction," at the Modernist Studies Association in Columbus, OH.

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## Venture Fall 2018 Available Now



Venture Literary Magazine  
Fall 2018

Copies available in FA 307.  
Contact [venture@rider.edu](mailto:venture@rider.edu) for more info.

## Faculty Spotlight: Jack Sullivan's New Orleans Remix

After nearly three decades of consist yearly travel to New Orleans, English Department Chair Jack Sullivan recently published *New Orleans Remix*, based interviews and stories revolving around the evolution and contemporary appeal of the New Orleans jazz scene. Dubbed by the New York Times as "fascinating," the successful book's roots actually lay in the students of Rider University. When asked about memorable moments in creating the book, Dr. Sullivan recalled "seeing the excitement in the eyes of my students each year" as some of the most gratifying moments.

## NEW ORLEANS *Remix*



Jack Sullivan

These yearly trips to New Orleans provided not only fantastic memories for Dr. Sullivan and his students alike, but a broad perspective of the continued development of the New Orleans jazz scene. "Every year there were more brass bands, every year there were more female horn players. Everything was becoming more inclusive and more contemporary," says Sullivan about the positive change in the community. In fact, according to Dr. Sullivan, this accelerated after the devastating effects of Hurricane Katrina, proving the art form's resilience and enduring relevance.

Dr. Sullivan and his students had the pleasure of experiencing, and often meeting with, some of the world's most renowned jazz musicians, such as Jon Batiste, Kermit Ruffins, Trombone Shorty, Topsy Chapman, Marla Dickson, Allen Tussaint, The Pinettes, and Michael White. Additionally, several Rider students have joined in the music-making themselves on various stages across the city. This year's group of Rider students have even been invited to walk in the first Mardi Gras parade of 2019. Between Dr. Sullivan's expert guidance and the continued welcome of the New Orleans music community, the Rider-based trip goes beyond the typical tourist agenda, and dives deep into the intricacies of one of the world's most lively music scenes.

For more information on this year's trip, please contact Jack Sullivan at [sullivanja@rider.edu](mailto:sullivanja@rider.edu).

### Presentations & Seminars (*cont.*)

Dr. **Nowell Marshall** presented his paper, "Disguise, Drag, and Transgender Identification in Maria Edgeworth's *Belinda*," at the North American Society for the Study of Romanticism, in Providence, RI in June of this year. Additionally, this September, he presented "Resisting Gender: Ghosting the Transman in Charlotte Dacre's *The Libertine*," at Resistance in the Spirit of Romanticism in Boulder, CO. This month, he will be presenting his paper "James Norris Brewer's (Anti-)Feminist Assemblage: Marriage, Kinship, and the System of Objects in *Secrets Made Public*," at the International Conference on Romanticism in Greenville, SC.

This past May, Dr. **Kelly Ross** presented "The Naked City: Weegee and New York Crime Writers" with Evelio Contreras at the American Literature Association in San Francisco, CA. Additionally, she presented on "Afro-Latinas and the Temporalities of Enslavement" at C19: The Society of Nineteenth-Century Americanists in Albuquerque, NM in March.