

# B.A. in English

[Overview](#)

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## Description

Literature and literary studies are at the core of the humanities and at the center of debates concerning culture, politics, education, and language. The program of study in English not only enriches students' appreciation of literature and engages them in cultural debate but helps develop crucial skills in analytical thinking and clear, persuasive expression both in speech and in writing. An English degree is an ideal gateway for careers that emphasize communication and critical thinking including law, business, journalism, public service, and education.

**Minimum Total Credit Hours: 120**

## General Education Requirements

See the 'General Education/Core Curriculum' for the School of Liberal Arts.

## Course Requirements

A major in English for the B.A. degree consists of 30 hours beyond the 200-level literature courses (Eng 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226) required by the College of Liberal Arts. English majors must take Eng 299 (Literary Interpretation) as well as 27 upper-division hours, including at least 12 hours at the 400 or 500 level. In addition to Eng 299, students must take one course in each of five categories as listed below. One of the 400-level courses must be a capstone seminar. See the department website's course descriptions to determine which 400-level courses satisfy the capstone requirement. The following categories must be satisfied:

| Sem Hours | Category                                  | Courses   |
|-----------|---|---|
| 3         | Literary Interpretation                   | Eng 299   |
| 3         | Literature of the Medieval Period         | Eng 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 506, 507, 513  |
| 3         | Literature of the Early Modern Period     | Eng 324, 326, 327, 328, 426, 427, 428   |
| 3         | Literature of the 18th and 19th Centuries | Eng 330, 332, 333, 334, 335, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 343, 344, 361, 431, 434, 435, 438, 439, 442, 443, 445   |
| 3         | Literature of the 20th and 21st Centuries | Eng 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 352, 362, 366, 367, 372, 378, 411, 412, 413, 414, 448, 450, 452, 454, 457, 460, 486  |
| 3         | Counter-Canon and Critical Issues         | Eng 307, 357, 359, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 376, 377, 378, 380, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 388, 389, 391, 396, 407, 412, 458, 462, 465, 468, 469, 472, 473, 474, 476, 478, 479, 481, 483, 486, 488, 489, 490, 491, 493, 494, 495 |
| 12        | English Electives                         | 300, 400 and 500-level Eng courses as well as the following approved electives taught outside the department: Clc 303, 304, 305, 307, 308, 309, 333; Ling 313, 314, 315, 316, 320, 401, 515, 530, 536; Anth 313; TESL 515, 530.                                   |

No more than 12 hours of English department writing courses (Eng 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405) will count toward the major. In lieu of one or two courses during the senior year, a student may take Eng 499 (Senior Thesis) for 3 or 6 credits with approval of the director of undergraduate studies. Students may satisfy the capstone seminar requirement by writing a senior thesis.

English majors may choose a creative writing emphasis by taking 12 hours of creative writing classes. The creative writing emphasis consists of Eng 300 (Introduction to Creative Writing) and three of the following courses: Eng 301, 302, 303, 304, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405.

## Other Academic Requirements

The 6 hours of composition required by the College of Liberal Arts are prerequisites for all 200-level English courses. One 200-level English course is the prerequisite for English courses at the 300 level and above. Some creative writing courses have additional prerequisites.

## Specializations

- [Emphasis - Creative Writing](#)

