ENGLISH LITERATURE MAJOR (B.A.)

https://cola.unh.edu/english/program/ba/english-literature

Description

The English literature major serves those students who want to focus particularly on the study of literature — its many forms and styles, its rich history and the range of approaches to its analysis. The English literature track is an especially attractive major for those who plan to go on to graduate school in English or other fields in the humanities, but it is also an excellent program for those who want to develop an in-depth knowledge of literature in English in all its formal, historical, cultural and theoretical dimensions.

As an English literature major, a student will learn about various literary traditions, both British and American literature as well as traditions organized around other principles, such as post-colonial literature, women’s literature, African-American literature and genres like poetry and drama. Courses are designed to expose students to many different sorts of works and to help them develop questions and strategies of critical thinking that will make all kinds of literary expression meaningful. And the works students will study will provide many ways of looking at the world and enrich their quality of life. What’s more, students have many opportunities to hone critical writing and research skills and to practice the art of presenting research findings to a group, all skills in high demand in today’s workplace. The English literature major is an excellent way to combine development of interpretive and writing skills with an exciting, in-depth encounter with some of the very best writing ever produced in the English language.

Requirements

As an English literature major, you must complete a minimum of 60 credits at the 600 level or higher. ENGL 419 Writing About Literature is the only 400-level class that may count towards the English literature major. ENGL #403 Exploring Literature will NOT count towards this major.

500-Level Literature Courses

Select one course and at least one of the following:

ENGL 512 British Literature I Age of Heroes: Beowulf to Dr. Faustus
ENGL 513 British Literature II Age of Revolutions: Shakespeare to Austen
ENGL 514 British Literature III Revolts, Renewals, Migrations
ENGL 515 American Literature I Conquest and Nation: First Contact to the Civil War
ENGL 516 American Literature II Money, Migration, and Modernity: Huck Finn to Beloved

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ENGL 516 American Literature II Money, Migration, and Modernity: Huck Finn to Beloved

Pre-1800 Literature Courses

Either two advanced courses (600-level and above) or one advanced course and either ENGL 512 British Literature I Age of Heroes: Beowulf to Dr. Faustus or ENGL 513 British Literature II Age of Revolutions: Shakespeare to Austen. Choose from:

Post-1800 Literature Courses

Either two advanced courses, or one advanced course and one of the following: ENGL 514 British Literature III: Revolts, Renewals, Migrations, ENGL #515 American Literature I: Conquest and Nation: First Contact to the Civil War or ENGL 516 American Literature II: Money, Migration, and Modernity: Huck Finn to Beloved.

Other courses may count. Please see your advisor if you have questions about other courses that might fulfill this requirement.

Coursework must meet the following distribution requirements (a single course may satisfy multiple requirements):

ENGL 419 Writing About Literature ¹
Select two 500-level literature courses (select from list below)
Select two pre-1800 literature courses (select from list below)
Select two post-1800 literature courses (select from list below)
ENGL 714 Critical Approaches to Literature
Select one American literature course at the 600/700 level
Select one British literature course at the 600/700 level
Select one course that addresses race, the construction of race, and racial theories in a U.S. context (select from list below)
Select one course that investigates Anglophone literature in a global or transnational context (select from list below)
Select one course in a specific genre including, poetry, memoir, nonfiction, drama, fiction, and film with the exception of ENGL 533 (select from list below)
Capstones:
ENGL 787 English Major Seminar

Credits

1 This must be completed with a minimum grade of “C.” ENGL 419 Writing About Literature is the only 400-level class that may count towards the English literature major. ENGL #403 Exploring Literature will NOT count towards this major.
English Literature Major (B.A.)

ENGL 744 American Literature, 1915-1945 4
ENGL 745 Contemporary American Literature 4
ENGL 746 Studies in American Drama 4
ENGL 747 Studies in American Poetry 4
ENGL 748 Studies in American Fiction 4
ENGL #749 Major American Authors 4
ENGL #750 English Romantic Period 4
ENGL 771 English Victorian Period 4
ENGL 772 English Victorian Period 4
ENGL 773 Literary Modernisms: Return, Revolt, Recycle 4
ENGL 774 Modern & Contemporary British Literature: New Departures 4
ENGL 775 The English Novel in the World 4
ENGL 784 English Novel of the 19th Century 4

1 If topic is appropriate. Please see your advisor if you have questions about other courses that might fulfill this requirement.

Courses that Investigate Anglophone Literature in Global or Transnational Contexts

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<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 581</td>
<td>Introduction to Postcolonial Literatures in English</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENGL 681</td>
<td>Introduction to African Literatures in English</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENGL 773</td>
<td>Literary Modernisms: Return, Revolt, Recycle</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENGL 775</td>
<td>Modern Irish Literature: A Changing Landscape</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENGL 777</td>
<td>The English Novel in the World</td>
<td>4</td>
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Other courses may count. Please see your advisor if you have questions about other courses that might fulfill this requirement.

Courses that Address Race, the Construction of Race, and Racial Theories in a U.S. Context

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<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 517</td>
<td>Introduction to African American Literature and Culture</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENGL 520</td>
<td>Introduction to the Literature and Culture of Race</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 609</td>
<td>Ethnicity in America: The African American Experience in the 20th Century</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENGL 690</td>
<td>Introduction to African American Literature in America</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENGL 693</td>
<td>Special Topics in Literature (topic R)</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENGL 738</td>
<td>Topics in Asian American Studies</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENGL 739</td>
<td>American Indian Literature</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL #740</td>
<td>Indigenous New England</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENGL 797</td>
<td>Special Studies in Literature (topic R)</td>
<td>4</td>
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Courses in a specific genre including poetry, memoir, nonfiction, drama, fiction, and film 1

Choose from:

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<tr>
<th>Code</th>
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<tr>
<td>ENGL #530</td>
<td>Poetry</td>
<td>4</td>
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<td>ENGL #531</td>
<td>Introduction to Drama: How to Read a Play</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENGL 555</td>
<td>Science Fiction</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENGL 575</td>
<td>Sex and Sensibility: The Rise of Chick Lit from Jane Austen to Bridget Jones</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENGL 616A</td>
<td>Studies in Film/Genre</td>
<td>4</td>
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<td>ENGL 616B</td>
<td>Studies in Film/Authorship</td>
<td>4</td>
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<td>ENGL 616C</td>
<td>Studies in Film/Culture and Ideology</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENGL 616D</td>
<td>Studies in Film/Narrative and Style</td>
<td>4</td>
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Other courses may count. Please see your advisor if you have questions about other courses that might fulfill this requirement.

Candidates for a degree must satisfy all of the University Discovery Program requirements in addition to satisfying the requirements of each individual major program. Bachelor of arts candidates must also satisfy the foreign language proficiency requirement.

The required minimum overall GPA in major coursework is 2.0.

English literature majors may use one major-required course to satisfy one Discovery category requirement.

Majors may only count one online course toward their English major requirements.

Students interested in majoring in English literature should consult Carla Cannizzaro, Coordinator of the Department of English, 230F Hamilton Smith Hall, (603) 862-1313 or the director of the English literature program.