

ENGLISH MAJOR (B.A.)

<https://cola.unh.edu/english/program/ba/english>

Description

Our general English major has two objectives: provide our students with a common core of literary experience and expertise, and offer them the opportunity to shape a course of study suited to their personal interests. By offering flexible requirements, we encourage students to devise a path through coursework that has an intelligent rationale. Students whose primary interest is in literary studies can focus on our many offerings in that area; those who have a special interest in writing can take multiple writing courses in fiction, creative nonfiction and poetry writing (in addition to literature courses). Alternatively, they can match up courses from different areas in the department (say, literature and writing courses focused on poetry). Our major requirements encourage students to sample a range of courses in literature, linguistics, creative or nonfiction writing, and English teaching, so that students become familiar with the various strands of inquiry that compose contemporary English studies. The guiding principle of the general English major, then, is that it is open and liberal by design. It allows students to sample a variety of courses in order to study the operation of language from many perspectives.

If you're interested in majoring in English please contact Carla Cannizzaro, Senior Academic Advisor, Department of English, 230F Hamilton Smith Hall, (603) 862-1313.

Requirements

Degree Requirements

Minimum Credit Requirement: 128 credits

Minimum Residency Requirement: 32 credits must be taken at UNH

Minimum GPA: 2.0 required for conferral*

Core Curriculum Required: Discovery & Writing Program Requirements

Foreign Language Requirement: Yes

All Major, Option and Elective Requirements as indicated.

*Major GPA requirements as indicated.

Major Requirements

1. Students must complete a minimum of 40 credits of with a minimum grade of C-.
2. The required minimum overall GPA is 2.0.
3. Only one online course may count toward major requirements.
4. Capstone must be completed with a minimum grade of C.
5. ENGL courses may not be double-counted across English major requirements.

| Code | Title | Credits |
|-------------------------|---|---------|
| Required Courses | | |
| ENGL 419 | How to Read Anything (Minimum grade of C) | 4 |

| Code | Title | Credits |
|---|--|---------|
| Foundational Surveys | | |
| <i>Select one course in Early Literature from the following:</i> | | 4 |
| ENGL 512 | British Literature I Age of Heroes: Beowulf to Dr. Faustus | |
| ENGL 513W | British Literature II Age of Revolutions: Shakespeare to Austen | |
| ENGL #515W | American Literature I Conquest and Nation: First Contact to the Civil War | |
| <i>Select one course in Modern Literature from the following:</i> | | 4 |
| ENGL 514W | British Literature III: Revolts, Renewals, Migrations | |
| ENGL 516W | American Literature II Money, Migration, and Modernity: Huck Finn to Beloved | |
| ENGL 581 | Reading the Postcolonial Experience | |

| Code | Title | Credits |
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| A. Linguistics & Writing | | |
| <i>Select one course from the following:</i> | | 4 |
| ENGL 501 | Introduction to Creative Nonfiction | |
| ENGL 502 | Professional and Technical Writing | |
| ENGL 503 | Persuasive Writing | |
| ENGL 526 | Introduction to Fiction Writing | |
| ENGL 527 | Introduction to Poetry Writing | |
| ENGL 534 | 21st Century Journalism: How the News Works | |
| ENGL 623 | Creative Nonfiction | |
| ENGL 625 | Intermediate Fiction Writing Workshop | |
| ENGL 625A | Intermediate Fiction Writing Workshop: Screenwriting | |
| ENGL 627 | Intermediate Poetry Writing Workshop | |
| ENGL 701 | Advanced Fiction Writing Workshop | |
| ENGL #703T | Travel Writing | |
| ENGL 729 | Special Topics in Composition Studies | |
| ENGL 752 | History of the English Language | |
| ENGL 791 | English Grammar | |

| Code | Title | Credits |
|--|---|---------|
| B. Genres or Theory | | |
| <i>Select one course from the following:</i> | | 4 |
| ENGL 510 | Introduction to the Digital Humanities | |
| ENGL 518W | Bible as Literature | |
| ENGL 520 | Dystopian and Post-Apocalyptic Fiction | |
| ENGL 521 | Nature Writers | |
| ENGL 533 | Introduction to Film Studies | |
| ENGL 555 | Science Fiction | |
| ENGL 575 | Sex and Sensibility: The Rise of Chick Lit | |
| ENGL 616A | Studies in Film/Genre | |
| ENGL 616B | Studies in Film/Authorship | |
| ENGL 616C | Studies in Film/Culture and Ideology | |
| ENGL 616D | Studies in Film/Narrative and Style | |
| ENGL 618 | Film Theory | |
| ENGL 655 | Reading in all Directions: Comics and Graphic Narrative | |
| ENGL 714 | Critical Skills | |
| ENGL 736 | Environmental Theory | |

| Code | Title | Credits |
|---|---|---------|
| C. Race, Gender and Postcolonial Studies | | |
| <i>Select one course from the following:</i> | | 4 |
| ENGL #517 | Black Creative Expression | |
| ENGL 549 | In the Groove: African American Music as Literature | |
| ENGL 550 | Introduction to the Literature and Culture of Race | |
| ENGL 560 | Introduction to Latinx Literature and Culture | |
| ENGL 585R | Introduction to Women in Literature | |
| ENGL 609 | Ethnicity in America: The African American Experience in the 20th Century | |
| ENGL 681 | Contemporary African Literature | |
| ENGL 690 | African American Literature | |
| ENGL 738 | Asian American Studies | |
| ENGL 739 | American Indian Literature | |
| ENGL 774R | Modern & Contemporary British Literature: New Departures | |
| ENGL 778 | Race and Gender in Film and Popular Culture | |

| Code | Title | Credits |
|--|--|---------|
| D. Literature before 1800 | | |
| <i>Select one course from the following:</i> | | 4 |
| ENGL 650 | I Hear America Singing: Studying American Literature and Culture | |

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| ENGL 657 | Shakespeare |
| ENGL 751 | Medieval Romance |
| ENGL 753 | Old English |
| ENGL 758 | Advanced Shakespeare |
| ENGL 759 | Milton |
| ENGL #767 | Literature of the Restoration and Early 18th Century |
| ENGL 780 | Drama of Shakespeare's Contemporaries: Will and Company |
| ENGL #783 | English Novel of the Eighteenth Century |

| Code | Title | Credits |
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| E. Literature after 1800 | | |
| Select one course from the following: | | 4 |
| ENGL 636 | Literature and the Environment | |
| ENGL 650 | I Hear America Singing: Studying American Literature and Culture | |
| ENGL 693 | Special Topics in Literature | |
| ENGL 742 | American Literature, 1815-1865 | |
| ENGL 743R | American Literature, 1865-1915: The Birth of the American Empire | |
| ENGL 749R | Major American Authors | |
| ENGL 773 | Literary Modernisms: Return, Revolt, Recycle | |
| ENGL 774R | Modern & Contemporary British Literature: New Departures | |
| ENGL 775 | Modern Irish Literature: A Changing Landscape | |
| ENGL #777 | The English Novel in the World | |
| ENGL 784 | English Novel of the 19th Century | |

| Code | Title | Credits |
|---|-----------------------|---------|
| Electives | | |
| Select two additional ENGL courses at the 600 or 700 level. | | 8 |
| Capstone | | |
| ENGL 787 | English Major Seminar | 4 |

Please see your advisor if you have questions about other courses that might fulfill these requirements.

Student Learning Outcomes

All undergraduate English majors acquire the same core skills. These include:

- Proficiency in analytical writing, critical thinking, and public-speaking.
- Knowledge of important literary genres and subgenres
- Fluency in literary terminology,
- A broad understanding of British-and-American literature, from the medieval period in England and the moment of first contact in America to the present day.
- Demonstrated proficiency in writing an analytical essay that offers a sophisticated close-reading or explication of a literary text. This essay will have a clear thesis and proceed in a logical fashion, with interpretive claims supported by evidence from the text.
- Demonstrated proficiency in literary research and in writing an extended thesis-driven research paper in which sources are correctly and responsibly cited.
- Demonstrated understanding of how to read across the color line in the US and /or how to analyze literary works written in English from outside the UK and the US--from India, Africa, and the Caribbean, for example.