

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
Foundational Surveys		
Early Literature - Select one course from the following:		
		4

ENGL 512	British Literature I Age of Heroes: Beowulf to Dr. Faustus
ENGL 513W	British Literature II Age of Revolutions: Shakespeare to Austen
Modern Literature - Select one course from the following:	
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
A. Linguistics & Writing		
Select one course from the following:		
ENGL 501	Introduction to Creative Nonfiction	4
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 752	History of the English Language	
ENGL 791	English Grammar	

Code	Title	Credits
B. Genres or Theory		
Select one course from the following:		
ENGL 510	Introduction to the Digital Humanities	4
ENGL 518W	Bible as Literature	
ENGL 520	Dystopian and Post-Apocalyptic Fiction	
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		
Select one course from the following:		
ENGL 550	Introduction to the Literature and Culture of Race	4
ENGL 690	African American Literature	
ENGL 738	Asian American Studies	
ENGL 778	Race and Gender in Film and Popular Culture	

Code	Title	Credits
D. Literature before 1800		
Select one course from the following:		
ENGL 657	Shakespeare	4
ENGL 751	Medieval Romance	
ENGL 758	Advanced Shakespeare	
ENGL 759	Milton	

Code	Title	Credits
E. Literature after 1800		
Select one course from the following:		
ENGL 693	Special Topics in Literature	4
ENGL 742	American Literature, 1815-1865	
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

Degree Plan

Sample Degree Plan

This sample degree plan serves as a general guide; students collaborate with their academic advisor to develop a personalized degree plan to meet their academic goals and program requirements.

First Year

Fall		Credits
ENGL 401	First-Year Writing ¹	4
Language Course		4
Discovery Course		4
Discovery Course or Major Course		4
COLA 401A: First Year Seminar		1
Credits		17

Spring

ENGL 419	How to Read Anything	4
Language Course		4
Discovery Course		4
Major/Minor/Discovery Course		4
Credits		16

Second Year

Fall		
Major: Foundational Literature Survey		4
Major Course 500/600-Level		4
Discovery Course		4
Major/Minor/Discovery Course		4
Credits		16

Spring

Major: Foundational Literature Survey		4
Major Course 500/600-Level		4
Discovery Course		4
Major/Minor/Discovery Course		4
Credits		16

Third Year

Fall		
Major Course		4
Major Course		4
Discovery Course		4
Major/Minor/Discovery Course		4
Credits		16

Spring

Major Course		4
Major Course		4
Discovery Course		4
Major/Minor/Discovery Course		4
Credits		16

Fourth Year

Fall

ENGL 787	English Major Seminar (Capstone or Major Elective)	4
Major Elective Course		4
Elective Course		4
Elective Course		4
Credits		16

Spring

ENGL 787	English Major Seminar (Capstone or Major Elective)	4
Elective Course		4
Elective Course		4
Elective Course		4
Credits		16
Total Credits		129

¹ Students who successfully apply AP or Transfer Credits towards the ENGL 401 ‘First Year Writing’ requirement may enroll in ENGL 419 during their first semester.

Student Learning Outcomes

Program 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.