

ENGLISH

Chair: [Greg Kinzer](#)

Faculty: Peter Anderson, Thomas Blake, Alex Garganigo, Roger Platizky, Randi Tanglen
Emeriti: Robert Barrie, Carol Daeley, Jim Gray, Jack Jernigan, Jerry Lincecum, Peter Lucchesi, William Moore

The discipline of English literature analyzes and constructs texts. From at least the Middle Ages to the present, in every part of the world, literature has been a moral and political act that no culture could do without. The stories, fictional and non-fictional, that individuals tell about themselves in forms as diverse as poems, plays, and novels not only satisfy this hunger for significant aesthetic experience, the need to find beauty and sublimity in the world around them; they also enable individuals to find purpose and meaning in their own lives and adapt to ever-changing environments. To analyze and construct texts from a perspective that takes stock of historical and geopolitical change is nothing less than to become global citizens by constructing selves and communities in an increasingly diverse world.

The English curriculum thus introduces students to a wide range of literatures from different times and places, through which they experience the pleasures of reading as well as the eloquence and power of language and story. The curriculum also introduces students to the historical and cultural traditions that inform the discipline and to basic critical principles of reading and interpretation, fostering students' ability to argue critically and to research and write effectively.

Degree Plans Offered in English

Major in English

Minor in English

Major in English with an Emphasis in Creative Writing Studies

Minor in Creative Writing Studies

A **major in English** consists of:

Introduction to Literature Requirement (1 course; courses offered each semester)

_____ ENG 121 Interpreting Literature

250 to 255 Course Requirement (1 course; courses offered each semester)

_____ ENG 250 Topics in Literature

_____ ENG 251 Ethnic Literatures

_____ ENG 252 Literature and Other Disciplines

_____ ENG 253 Literature and Gender

_____ ENG 255 World Literatures

250 to 258 Course Requirement (1 course; courses offered each semester)

_____ ENG 250 Topics in Literature

_____ ENG 251 Ethnic Literatures

_____ ENG 252 Literature and Other Disciplines

_____ ENG 253 Literature and Gender

_____ ENG 255 World Literatures

_____ ENG 256 Creative Writing: Fiction Writing

_____ ENG 257 Creative Writing: Poetry

_____ ENG 258 Literary Journalism

Literary Theory and Criticism Requirement (1 course; generally offered each spring)

_____ ENG 285 Literary Theory and Criticism

_____ ENG 286 Form and Theory of Writing

Historical Periods Requirement (1 course from each of the four following groups)*

Group 1) 8th- through 16th-Century Literature Requirement (1 course; once a year)

_____ ENG 331 Studies in Medieval British Literature

_____ ENG 332 Studies in 16th-Century British Literature

Group 2) 17th- through 18th-Century Literature Requirement (1 course; once a year)

_____ ENG 341 Studies in 17th-Century British Literature

_____ ENG 342 Studies in 18th-Century British Literature

Group 3) 19th- Century Literature Requirement (1 course; once a year)

_____ ENG 351 Studies in British Romantic Literature

_____ ENG 352 Studies in British Victorian Literature

_____ ENG 353 Studies in American Literature to 1900

_____ ENG 354 Studies in Colonial Literatures

Group 4) 20th- through 21st-Century Literature Requirement (1 course; once a year)

_____ ENG 361 Studies in British Literature of the 20th Century

_____ ENG 363 Studies in American Literature from 1900 to the Present

_____ ENG 364 Studies in Postcolonial Literatures

* One 250-255-level course may be substituted for a period course when the intermediate course is so designated; “so designated” means that the published course description explicitly mentions such a substitution.

Geographical Distribution Requirement (1 course from each of the following; the same course can also count toward the historical period requirements)

American Literature Requirement (1 course; once a year)

_____ ENG 353 Studies in American Literature to 1900

_____ ENG 363 Studies in American Literature from 1900 to the Present

British Literature Requirement (1 course; once a year)

_____ ENG 331 Studies in Medieval British Literature

_____ ENG 332 Studies in 16th-Century British Literature

_____ ENG 341 Studies in 17th-Century British Literature

_____ ENG 342 Studies in 18th-Century British Literature

_____ ENG 351 Studies in British Romantic Literature

_____ ENG 352 Studies in British Victorian Literature

_____ ENG 361 Studies in British Literature of the 20th Century

Postcolonial and/or World Literature Requirement (1 course; once a year)

_____ ENG 354 Studies in Colonial Literatures

_____ ENG 364 Studies in Postcolonial Literatures

Capstone Requirement (1 course; offered each semester)

_____ ENG 430 Literary Theory

_____ ENG 431 Major Authors

_____ ENG 432 Research and Writing

_____ ENG 450 Topics in Literature

_____ ENG 460 Advanced Directed Study

_____ ENG 464 Teaching/Learning Participation

_____ ENG 490 Independent Study

_____ ENG 491 English Honors Thesis

_____ ENG 492 Independent Study Off-Campus/NSOC

Total Credits Requirement = 9 to 11 course credits

A **minor in English** consists of:

Introduction to Literature Requirement (1 course; offered each semester)

_____ ENG 121 Interpreting Literature

Intermediate Topics in Literature Requirement (1 course; offered each semester)

_____ ENG courses numbered 250, 251, 252, or 253

Advanced Literature Requirement (1 course; offered each semester)

_____ ENG courses numbered in the 300s

English Electives (2 courses; offered each semester)

_____ Any ENG courses numbered 136 and higher

_____ Any ENG courses numbered 136 and higher

Total Credit Requirement = 5 course credits

A major in English with an emphasis in creative writing studies consists of:

Introduction to Creative Writing Requirement (1 course; offered each semester)

_____ ENG 136 Introduction to Creative Writing

Introduction to Literature Requirement (1 course; offered each semester)

_____ ENG 121 Interpreting Literature

Creative Writing Requirement (2 courses in different genres; offered each semester)

_____ ENG 256 Creative Writing: Fiction Writing

_____ ENG 257 Creative Writing: Poetry

_____ ENG 258 Literary Journalism

_____ MEDA 355 Screen Writing

_____ MEDA 450 Script Writing (occasional basis only)

_____ Approved course with a substantial creative writing component from another department

Form and Theory of Writing Requirement (1 course; offered every other year)

_____ ENG 286 Form and Theory of Writing

Historical Periods Requirement (1 course from three of the four following groups)*

Group 1) 8th- through 16th-Century Literature Requirement (1 course; once a year)

_____ ENG 331 Studies in Medieval British Literature

_____ ENG 332 Studies in 16th-Century British Literature

Group 2) 17th- through 18th-Century Literature Requirement (1 course; once a year)

_____ ENG 341 Studies in 17th-Century British Literature

_____ ENG 342 Studies in 18th-Century British Literature

Group 3) 19th-Century Literature Requirement (1 course; once a year)

_____ ENG 351 Studies in British Romantic Literature

_____ ENG 352 Studies in British Victorian Literature

_____ ENG 353 Studies in American Literature to 1900

_____ ENG 354 Studies in Colonial Literatures

Group 4) 20th- through 21st- Century Literature Requirement (1 course; once a year)

_____ ENG 361 Studies in British Literature of the 20th Century

_____ ENG 363 Studies in American Literature from 1900 to the Present

_____ ENG 364 Studies in Postcolonial Literatures

* One 250-255-level course may be substituted for a period course when the intermediate course is so designated; “so designated” means that the published course description explicitly mentions such a substitution.

Capstone Requirement (1 course; offered each semester)

_____ ENG 430 Literary Theory

_____ ENG 431 Major Authors

_____ ENG 432 Research and Writing

_____ ENG 450 Topics in Literature

_____ ENG 460 Advanced Directed Study

_____ ENG 464 Teaching/Learning Participation

_____ ENG 490 Independent Study

_____ ENG 491 English Honors Thesis

_____ ENG 492 Independent Study Off-Campus/NSOC

Total Credits Requirement = 9 course credits

A **minor in creative writing studies** consists of:

Introduction to Creative Writing Requirement (1 course; offered each semester)

_____ ENG 136 Introduction to Creative Writing

Creative Writing Requirement (2 courses in different genres; offered each semester)

- _____ ENG 256 Creative Writing: Fiction Writing
- _____ ENG 257 Creative Writing: Poetry
- _____ ENG 258 Literary Journalism
- _____ MEDA 355 Screen Writing (occasional basis only)
- _____ MEDA 450 Script Writing (occasional basis only)
- _____ Approved course with a substantial creative writing component from another department

Literature Requirement (1 course; offered each semester)

- _____ ENG 250 Topics in Literature
- _____ ENG 251 Ethnic Literatures
- _____ ENG 252 Literature and Other Disciplines
- _____ ENG 253 Literature and Gender
- _____ ENG 255 World Literatures
- _____ Any ENG course numbered in the 300s
- _____ ENG 430 Literary Theory
- _____ ENG 431 Major Authors
- _____ ENG 450 Topics in Literature

Elective in Literature or Creative Writing Studies Requirement (1 course; offered each semester)

- _____ Any ENG course, including ENG 121 (a pre-requisite for 300 level ENG courses), not already counted toward the minor
- _____ Approved course with a substantial literary or creative writing component from another department not already counted toward the minor

Total Credits Requirement = 5 course credits

The English Department awards elective credit for a score of 4 or higher on both English Advanced Placement tests (“Composition and Rhetoric” and “Composition and Literature”), but Advanced Placement credit does not satisfy prerequisites for English courses, nor does it count toward requirements of the major or minor.

COURSES

ENG 114 Expository Writing

An Introduction to academic writing at the college level, with attention to critical thinking, thesis construction, purpose, audience, rhetorical occasion, editing, and revision. A series of readings both introduces students to the ways texts are put together and provides material for essay writing. Requirements met: Full Writing Competency. (Usually each fall and spring)

ENG 121 Interpreting Literature

An introduction to the discipline of literary study, focusing on how to find meanings in texts and how to argue for those meanings both orally and in writing. Possible emphases include the identification of themes, images, metaphors, myths, various types of motifs, irony, rhetorical patterns, larger structures of organization, and why these matter. Though topics, texts, and genre emphasis might vary from section to section, all sections will include work with prose narrative and poetry and will emphasize close reading, detailed analysis, and effective critical writing. Requirements met: Full Writing Competency and Humanities Breadth. (Each fall and spring)

ENG 136 Introduction to Creative Writing

An introductory workshop focusing on the elements and techniques of creative writing, emphasizing both poetry and prose. Requirements met: Full Writing Competency. (Each fall and spring)

ENG 250 Topics in Literature

A study of various selected topics. Title and emphasis announced in term schedule of courses. Probable topics include courses focused on various genres (for example, melodrama, detective fiction), courses focused on particular themes (for example, World War I literature, Gnostics), and courses focused on particular authors (for example, Shakespeare). May be repeated once when topic varies. (Offered on an occasional basis)

ENG 251 Ethnic Literatures

A variety of courses focused on interconnections between ethnicity, literature, and cultural history. Possible topics include Native American literatures; Chicano(a) literatures; Asian American literatures; African American literatures; Jewish literatures; multi-ethnic literatures; and non-American ethnic literatures. May be repeated once when topic varies. Requirements met: Humanities Breadth. (Offered on an occasional basis)

ENG 252 Literature and Other Disciplines

A variety of courses exploring cross-disciplinary approaches to literature. Possible topics include literature and medicine; literature and psychology; literature and environmental studies; literature and cultural studies; literature and religion; literature and painting; literature and music; literature and film; literature and economics; and literature and science. Portions of this course may be

team taught or supplemented by guest lecturers. May be repeated once when topic varies. Requirements met: Humanities Breadth. (Offered on an occasional basis)

ENG 253 Literature and Gender

A variety of courses focused on issues of sex and gender in literature. Topics include women's literature, gender/genre, bodies of enlightenment, gay and lesbian writers, and postcolonial women writers. May be repeated once when topic varies. Requirements met: Humanities Breadth. (Offered on an occasional basis)

ENG 255 World Literatures

A variety of courses focused on national literatures outside of America and Britain, literatures in translation, or transnational literatures of a given moment. Topics include Hispanic literatures, Russian literatures, African literatures, Indian literatures, Asian literatures, Francophone literatures, and 20th-century comparative world literatures. May be repeated once when topic varies. Requirements met: Humanities Breadth. (Offered on an occasional basis)

ENG 256 Fiction Writing

A workshop course involving the writing of fictional narratives. In order to enhance students' awareness of language and of various narrative (storytelling) strategies, the course also involves reading and discussing published fiction narratives. Each student will prepare a portfolio of his or her work for the term. PREQ: English 136 or instructor permission. Requirements met: Humanities Breadth and Full Writing Competency. (At least once each year, usually fall)

ENG 257 Poetry Writing

A workshop course in poetry writing. The course also involves reading and discussing published poetry and essays on poetics. Each student will prepare a portfolio of his or her work for the term. PREQ: English 136 or instructor permission. Requirements met: Humanities Breadth and Full Writing Competency. (At least once each year, usually spring)

ENG 258 Literary Journalism

"Literary journalism" is journalism of the highest order. Intensely interesting, popular writing—non-fictional, issue-centric, topical, analytic, sociopolitical—it is aimed at an intelligent and informed audience. Students will write literary journalistic articles and study examples of literary journalism. Each student will prepare a portfolio of his or her work for the term. PREQ: English 136 and instructor permission. Requirements met: Humanities Breadth and Full Writing Competency. (Alternate years, usually fall)

ENG 285 Literary Theory and Criticism

An introduction to theories and methods of literary criticism, emphasizing different kinds of approaches to literary interpretation, as well as controversies and new currents within the study of literature, with attention to secondary critical texts and the value and methods of literary studies. PREQ: English 121. Requirements met: Humanities Breadth.

ENG 286 Form and Theory of Writing

A study of the form and theory of poetry, fiction, and other genres from the standpoint of their creation, examining topics such as poetic theory, narrative theory, aesthetic theory, and theory of

literary production. While not a writing workshop, the course is designed for students interested in creative writing. PREQ: English 121 or English 136. Requirements met: Humanities Breadth.

ENG 294 Intermediate Student Research/Directed Study

Intended for less experienced students to develop and execute a research project related to English, beyond the constraints of the normal classroom, suitable for public dissemination on or off campus under mentorship of a faculty member. Typically, this work results in a formal presentation, written work, or creative works. Course credit varies from 0-1.00. PREQ: Instructor permission required.

ENG 331 Studies in Medieval British Literature

A variety of courses structured around authors, genres, themes, cultural and historical developments, or some combination of the above, frequently with an emphasis on Chaucer. PREQ: English 121 and one course from the English 250-255 range, or instructor permission. May be repeated once when topic varies. Requirements met: Humanities Breadth.

ENG 332 Studies in 16th-Century British Literature

A variety of courses structured around authors, genres, themes, cultural and historical developments, or some combination of the above. Possible courses include Renaissance Lyric Poetry; The Back-talk of Renaissance Popular Drama; and Shakespeare and His Contemporaries. PREQ: English 121 and one course from the English 250-255 range, or instructor permission. May be repeated once when topic varies. Requirements met: Humanities Breadth.

ENG 341 Studies in 17th-Century British Literature

A variety of courses structured around authors, genres, themes, cultural and historical developments, or some combination of the above. Possible courses include Milton; Restoration Drama; Gender, Emotion, and Revolution; and Writing the English Revolution. PREQ: English 121 and one course from the English 250-255 range, or instructor permission. May be repeated once when topic varies. Requirements met: Humanities Breadth. (Most falls)

ENG 342 Studies in 18th-Century British Literature

A variety of courses structured around authors, genres, themes, cultural and historical developments, or some combination of the above. Possible courses include Sense and Sensibility; 18th-Century Drama; and the Gothic. PREQ: English 121 and one course from the English 250-255 range, or instructor permission. May be repeated once when topic varies. Requirements met: Humanities Breadth. (Most springs)

ENG 350 Topics in Literature

A study of various selected topics. Title and emphasis announced in term schedule of courses. Probable topics include courses focused on various genres, courses focused on particular themes, and courses focused on particular authors. PREQ: English 121 and one course from the English 250-255 range, or instructor permission. May be repeated once when topic varies. (Offered on an occasional basis)

ENG 351 Studies in British Romantic Literature

A variety of courses focusing on selections from British literature from about 1789 to about

1837, sometimes including continental or colonial works. Courses may be structured around authors, genres, themes, cultural contexts, historical development, or some combination of the above. Possible courses include The Romantic Lyric; Romanticism and Revolution; The Younger Romantics; and Lunatics, Lovers, and Poets. May be repeated once when topic varies. PREQ: English 121 and one course from the English 250-255 range, or instructor permission. May be repeated once when topic varies. Requirements met: Humanities Breadth. (Alternate years)

ENG 352 Studies in British Victorian Literature

A variety of courses structured around authors, genres, themes, cultural and historical developments, or some combination of the above. Possible courses include Yesterday and Today; Patterns and Paradoxes; and Victorian Vocations. PREQ: English 121 and one course from the English 250-255 range, or instructor permission. May be repeated once when topic varies. Requirements met: Humanities Breadth. (Alternate years)

ENG 353 Studies in American Literature to 1900

A variety of courses structured around authors, genres, themes, cultural and historical developments, or some combination of the above. Possible courses include Romanticism; Realism; and Complicating Gender and Genre. PREQ: English 121 and one course from the English 250-255 range, or instructor permission. May be repeated once when topic varies. Requirements met: Humanities Breadth. (Each fall)

ENG 354 Studies in Colonial Literatures

A variety of courses focused on colonial and neo-colonial writing, especially as it intersects with imperialism, oppression, politics, nationalism, Westernization, and globalization. Possible courses include Oppression and Africa; Historical Conversations from Inside and Outside; Race and Colonialism in World Literatures Before 1900; and The Rise of Empire and its Respondents. PREQ: English 121 and one course from the English 250-255 range, or instructor permission. May be repeated once when topic varies. Requirements met: Humanities Breadth. (Offered on an occasional basis)

ENG 361 Studies in British Literature of the 20th Century

A variety of courses structured around authors, genres, themes, cultural and historical developments, or some combination of the above. Possible courses include Modern British Poetry or Modernism and the British Empire. PREQ: English 121 and one course from the English 250-255 range, or instructor permission. May be repeated once when topic varies. Requirements met: Humanities Breadth. (Offered on an occasional basis)

ENG 363 Studies in American Literature from 1900 to the Present

A variety of courses structured around authors, genres, themes, cultural and historical developments, or some combination of the above. Possible courses include First Wave Modernism; Lyric Politics; and Investigative Poetry. PREQ: English 121 and one course from the English 250-255 range, or instructor permission. May be repeated once when topic varies. Requirements met: Humanities Breadth. (Each year, normally spring)

ENG 364 Studies in Postcolonial Literatures

A variety of courses focused on colonial, neo-colonial, and post-colonial writing, especially as it intersects with imperialism, oppression, politics, nationalism, Westernization, and globalization. Possible courses include Infanticide, Child Abuse, Postcolonialism; Postcolonialism and the Environment; and Food and Postcolonialism. PREQ: English 121 and one course from the English 250-255 range, or instructor permission. May be repeated once when topic varies. Requirements met: Humanities Breadth. (Each year, normally fall)

ENG 430 Literary Theory

A variety of courses designed to introduce issues of contemporary movements in critical theory. These courses have the goal of helping students to become conversant with a range of theoretical ideas and of providing them with some conceptual tools for their thinking, research, and writing about literary and cultural texts. Possible courses include Introduction to Literary Theory; Gender and Theory; Postcolonialism and Theory; and Cultural Studies. PREQ: Two 300 level English courses or instructor permission. May be repeated once when topic varies. Requirements met: Humanities Breadth. (Offered on an occasional basis)

ENG 431 Major Authors

An intensive study of works by one or more writers. Possible courses include William Shakespeare, Charles Dickens, and Thomas Hardy. PREQ: Two 300 level English courses or instructor permission. May be repeated once when topic varies. Requirements met: Humanities Breadth. (Offered on an occasional basis)

ENG 432 Research and Writing

An advanced research and writing seminar. PREQ: Two 300 level English courses or instructor permission. Requirements met: Full Writing Competency. (Offered on an occasional basis)

ENG 450 Topics in Literature

An advanced seminar dealing with a topic in literature or language. Recent or projected topics: Material Body/Material Text; Early Modern Women Playwrights; Romanticism & Revolution. PREQ: Two 300 level English courses or instructor permission. May be repeated once when topic varies. (Offered on an occasional basis)

ENG 464 Teaching/Learning Participation

An individualized study that includes sharing in the instructional process for a particular English course under the supervision of the faculty member teaching the course. Open only to certain highly qualified juniors and seniors by invitation. See On-Campus Learning Opportunities for more information.

ENG 491 Honors Thesis in English

Extensive independent study in the major in a topic of special interest culminating in a bachelor's thesis with oral examination by thesis committee resulting in a bachelor's degree with Honors upon completion. See Departmental Honors Program for more information. Completed in last three semesters before graduation. Offered for variable course credit from 1.00-2.00.

ENG 492 Independent Study Off-Campus/NSOC

Student-driven independent study in a topic related to the major completed at an off-campus site. See Off-Campus Learning Opportunities for more information. PREQ: Junior or Senior standing. Special permission required. Offered in variable course credit from 0.25-1.00.

ENG 494 Advanced Student Research/Directed Study

Intended for advanced students to develop and execute a research project related to English suitable for public dissemination under mentorship of a faculty member. Students are expected to present the results of their research in a public forum. Typically, this work results in a formal presentation, written work, or creative works. Course credit varies from 0-1.00. PREQ: Instructor permission required.