

English

Contact Information

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- Bachelor of Arts
- Minor (2)

Department Goals and Objectives

As a department in a public liberal arts university, we educate students in the humanistic endeavor of reading, writing, and studying texts in a variety of genres and modalities across cultures and times. We want our students to become successful humanists who can effectively analyze and use language to create knowledge, convey experiences, and illuminate perspectives important to their lives and communities. Because we see composition and literary study as indelibly linked, we explore the connections between reading imaginative and explicative texts and writing academically, creatively, and civically throughout our curriculum.

We are committed to supporting diversity, access, and inclusion in teaching and throughout the work of our department, college, and campus. (Please see our mission addendum on access and inclusion.) We welcome all UIS students wishing to enroll as English majors or minors, and value working with students throughout their time at UIS through teaching, mentoring, and advising. We strive to provide students with the skills and support needed to meet their academic and professional goals.

We have a Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree program and an undergraduate minor in English. These programs emphasize dynamic, interactive learning, collaboration, and diversity. We have designed a curriculum that encourages students to learn from the various disciplines within English Studies, to work with traditional and digital modes of creation and analysis, and to develop their own professional goals and vision.

The UIS English BA prepares students for teaching careers, for jobs as editors and writers or content creators in various media, and for graduate work at the master's or doctoral level in English as well as in a range of other professional fields of post-graduate study such as library science and law.

Honors in English

In order to be eligible for admission to the English Honors Program, students must have:

- Completed 72 credit hours towards their B.A.
- Completed Research Methods in English with a full B or better.
- A 3.50 overall GPA at UIS.
- A 3.60 GPA in English.

Students who meet these eligibility requirements can apply to be admitted to the Department Honors Program by submitting a proposal

(200-250 words) to the department chair that outlines the honors project the student hopes to complete in ENG 498 Honors Project with a faculty mentor from the English Department. The submission deadline is **March 1** for fall graduation and **October 1** for spring and summer graduation. Students should apply for admission no later than their second-to-last semester. In order to receive the honors designation, a student must complete ENG 498 with an A, maintain a 3.5 overall GPA at UIS at the time of graduation, and maintain a 3.6 GPA in English at the time of graduation.

The Bachelor's Degree

The B.A. in English prepares students for a life appreciating the power and beauty of language. It also prepares students for a variety of careers in many sectors, including education, business, law, and healthcare, through a focus on creative, cultural, and critical thinking skills. When English majors graduate, they have the skills and knowledge to excel in almost any field.

Advising

All English majors or minors are assigned academic advisors. Academic advisors assist students in developing appropriate, individualized courses of study. Students may choose a different academic advisor at any time to ensure they are fulfilling all degree requirements. Students should consult with academic advisors each semester and especially before enrolling for their final semester. Doing otherwise could result in delaying progress toward graduation. Please note that students pursuing teaching licensure must consult regularly with the Teacher Education Program (TEP) faculty liaison in the Department of English and Modern Languages as well as with the academic advisor in the Teacher Education Program during their entire course of study.

Grading Policy

Faculty members assign course grades according to campus policy and the grading criteria of each individual course. Students must complete ENG 303 with a C or better to proceed to 400-level course work.

Program Learning Outcomes

By the time students graduate they should:

1. Write with confidence, precision, and an awareness of audience.
2. Perform sophisticated analysis of diverse literary texts in a range of mediums, including visual and multimedia.
3. Conduct professional research on a variety of academic, social, and cultural questions.
4. Recognize the diversity of human experience in its many forms of expression.
5. Create cutting edge digital texts using a range of technologies.
6. Take an active role in shaping the future of literature and culture.

NOTE: 300-level ENG ECCE courses (except ENG 325) which meet general education requirements can also be used to meet elective requirements in the English major or minor. 400-level ECCE courses cannot be used toward ENG requirements with the exception of

ENG 481, which can be used to fulfill elective credit for the major or minor.

Requirements

Foundation Requirements

ENG 137	Introduction to Literature	3
ENG 272	Introduction to Creative Writing	3

Select two (2) of the following literary history courses: 6

ENG 152	Introduction to World Literature	
ENG 231	Survey of African American Literature	
ENG 241	Early British Literature	
ENG 242	British Literature Since 1600	
ENG 245	Early American Literature	
ENG 246	American Literature-1865 to the Present	

Core Requirements

ENG 303	Research Methods in English Studies	3
ENG 489	Capstone	3

Engagement Experience: Select one (1) Engagement Experience (Professionalization, Internship, Applied Study, or Study Away).¹ 3

Elective Requirements: Select three (3) courses in Writing, Linguistics, or Publishing.^{2, 3} 9

COM 405	Editing	
ENG 306	Introduction to Linguistics	
ENG 309	Professional Writing	
ENG 338	ECCE: Introduction to the Health Humanities	
ENG 368	ECCE: Creative Writing, Publishing, and Community	
ENG 369	ECCE: Verbal Arts in the Community	
ENG 370	Topics in Creative Writing I	
ENG 371	Creative Writing Poetry	
ENG 372	Fiction Writing	
ENG 373	Writing in New Media	
ENG 404	History of English Language	
ENG 408	Introduction to Sociolinguistics in English Studies	
ENG 409	Rhetoric and Composition in Digital Media	
ENG 410	Topics in Composition or Linguistics	
ENG 466	Digital Technologies in English Studies	
ENG 470	Topics in Creative Writing II	
ENG 471	Creative Writing: Nonfiction	

Elective Requirements: Select three (3) courses in Literature. 9

ENG 320	Topics in World Literature I	
ENG 321	ECCE: From China to Chinese America	
ENG 326	ECCE: #Melanin: Global Colorism	
ENG 330	Topics in American Literature I	
ENG 331	ECCE: Asian American Women	
ENG 332	Women Playwrights	
ENG 333	Contemporary American Novel	
ENG 334	The American Novel, 1865-1915	
ENG 337	ECCE: American Souths	
ENG 342	Playing Shakespeare	
ENG 351	The British Victorian Novel	
ENG 360	Topics in English Studies	

ENG 365	Children's and Young Adult Literature	
ENG 366	ECCE: Story of Food	
ENG 380	Introduction to Literary Genres	
ENG 382	ECCE: Comics, Health, Illness	
ENG 420	Topics in World Literature II	
ENG 430	Topics in American Literature II	
ENG 434	Literature and Culture of Early America	
ENG 435	American Literature 1820-1865	
ENG 438	African-American Literature	
ENG 440	Major Figures in American Literature Since 1900	
ENG 443	Chaucer and His Era	
ENG 447	Arthurian Literature	
ENG 448	The Shakespeare Project	
ENG 449	The British Romantics	
ENG 450	Topics in British Literature II	
ENG 453	Poetry and Prose of the Victorian Age	
ENG 455	Modern British Literature	
ENG 456	Contemporary British Literature	
ENG 460	Themes in Literature	
ENG 461	Major Women Writers	
ENG 463	Mythology	
ENG 480	Topics in Genre Study	
ENG 481	ECCE: Memoirs Across Cultures	

Total Hours 39

¹ Please consult with an English Department advisor. Engagement courses may include COM 405, ENG 309, ENG 368, ENG 369, ENG 409, Internship, Prior Learning, Applied Study, or Study Abroad. Courses that fulfill the Engagement Experience requirement for the major cannot be used to meet other requirements in the major. For students in the TEP Secondary Education English B.A. or TEP Middle Grades Education English Language Arts programs, TEP 405, TEP 415, or TEP 419 may be used to meet the Engagement Experience requirement for the major.

² Six (6) of the total 18 hours of English electives must be 400-level course work. Only 300-level ENG ECCE course can be used to fulfill elective credits for the major or minor (except ENG 325). ECCE courses at the 400-level cannot be used as elective credit for the major or minor (except ENG 481). Additionally, six (6) of the total 18 hours of ENG electives must be designated as "diversity" and six (6) of the 18 hours must be designated as "digital." Some elective course may meet both designators.

³ Courses that meet the Diversity Requirement: ENG 306, ENG 320, ENG 332, ENG 351, ENG 365, ENG 366, ENG 368, ENG 370, ENG 371, ENG 372, ENG 408, ENG 420, ENG 438, ENG 448, ENG 461, ENG 463, ENG 470, ENG 481. Other courses including ENG 360, ENG 380, ENG 410, ENG 460, ENG 480, may be petitioned for the Diversity Designator. Courses that meet the Digital Requirement: ENG 309, ENG 338, ENG 365, ENG 366, ENG 373, ENG 381, ENG 382, ENG 408, ENG 448, ENG 466. (Other courses may be petitioned for digital designator.)

Transfer Policy

The department will assess the records of incoming transfer students to determine an appropriate degree plan. This plan may include taking lower-division classes to prepare students for the rigor of upper-division course work. Requests for transfer credit for upper-division course work will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

All majors require foundational knowledge in literature, writing and linguistics. UIS courses that satisfy the foundation requirements are listed below. Course work equivalent to the foundation requirements taken at other institutions may be approved by a Student Petition.

ENGLISH MINOR

- English Minor
- Writing and Publishing Minor

Online Degree

The online English program allows students to participate actively in dynamic, diverse, and interactive online learning communities and to complete their course work in their own time and at their own pace within the same semester time frame as on-ground courses. The online format enables them to complete course work using the latest networked information technologies for the same easy access to educational resources, advisors, and materials that on-campus students enjoy. If students are interested in TEP courses online, they should consult the English department faculty liaison for TEP about the availability of online TEP courses.

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