

English

Chair: Ms. Donna Menis

This department is concerned with teaching writing, literature, and specialized communications courses. The ability to express ideas in clear, forceful language is generally recognized as a key talent in all walks of life. The study of literature puts the student in direct touch with the world's most perceptive and discriminating minds, offering valuable insights into age-old human thoughts, anxieties, and desires. Literature has to do with the eternal verities: life and death, time and eternity, love and hate, sorrow and joy, and the perennial problem of distinguishing between good and evil. It is an exploration of what Emerson meant when he called writers mankind's liberators and consolers who "free us from bondage to matter by showing us that our distinctively human destiny is spiritual."

English majors may specialize in literature or secondary education. Recent English graduates have taken positions in teaching, writing, law and management. Many have chosen to pursue graduate studies in a variety of disciplines.

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN ENGLISH

MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

English 201, 202, 303 or 304, 305, 405, 406, 407; a foreign language through the 201 level; SPCH 103; and either CONCENTRATION A or CONCENTRATION B. *Students planning to pursue graduate studies are urged to take advanced courses in a foreign language.*

Minor requirements: 15 credits in English courses 200 level or above.

CONCENTRATION A — LITERATURE

Twelve additional credits in English courses 200 level or above.

CONCENTRATION B — SECONDARY EDUCATION

Education 101, 210, 302, 333, 334, 402, 412; Communications 301; English 333 and 402 and 6 additional credits in English courses 200 level or above, plus English 207 or Linguistics 101 and two math or math-related courses to fulfill — in part — math/science general education requirements.

Minor in Writing Requirements – Fifteen credits from among the following courses: Communications 201, 202 and 205; English 208, 220, 225, 310, 407, 409 and 410.

ENGLISH — COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

100. Fundamentals of Written English (3 credits)

Extensive sentence and paragraph writing, with emphasis on the identification and correction of specific errors in grammar, punctuation, spelling, and usage. Not open to students who have successfully completed English 103 (does not fulfill core requirement). *Fall*.

103. Writing for a Discipline (3 credits)

A study of the elements of clear, effective expression. Requirements include expository and analytical compositions as well as a documented term paper, each related to a scheduled linked general education course. *Fall, Spring*.

104. Introduction to Literature (3 credits)

A study and appreciation of drama, poetry, short fiction, and the essay. The preparation of expository and analytical compositions on selected literary pieces constitutes twenty-five percent of the course content. *Fall, Spring*.

201. American Literature I (3 credits)

Growth of our national literature from the Colonial period to the Civil War with emphasis on intellectual currents, main literary movements, and major writers. Readings and term papers. *Fall*.

202. American Literature II (3 credits)

Growth of our national literature from the Civil War to the present with emphasis on main literary movements such as Realism and Naturalism, and major writers through the 20th century. Readings and term papers. *Spring*.

203. World Literature I (3 credits)

Linguistic, literary, and philosophical thought of the classics of Asia, the Middle East, and Greece, as revealed through representative readings. *Prerequisite: English 104*.

204. World Literature II (3 credits)

Major European writers and their works from the 14th century through the 20th century. The titles chosen are representative of the Great Books of Western civilization and major literary movements (Renaissance, Neo-Classicism, Romanticism, Realism, Naturalism and Absurdism). Discussion of these works as representations of various genres (Epic, Picaresque Novel, Verse Drama, Prose

Drama, Problem Play, and Tragicomedy) and of nationalistic fervor, where applicable (Synge and the Celtic/Irish Renaissance, Chekhov and the changing face of Russian society).

205. Modern American Poetry (3 credits)

Trends in recent 20th-century American poetry. Emphasis on figures such as Wallace Stevens, Robert Lowell, and Theodore Roethke.

206. Short Fiction (3 credits)

Analysis and interpretation of short stories, with emphasis upon the development of the genre in England and America.

207. History of the English Language (3 credits)

Development of spoken and written English from its Indo-European origins to the present day. Examines linguistic, social, cultural, and historical trends and effects. *As needed*.

208. Writing and Communicating in Business (3 credits)

The concept of communication, the language of business, special types of letters, job applications, business reports, elements of persuasion, and spoken communication. *Fall, Spring*.

210. Literature and the Environment (3 credits)

Analysis of nature and environmental writing from a global perspective with a focus on establishing a "sense of place" as well as an introduction to literary theories about the environment. The preparation of expository, personal and responsive writing comprises at least 25 percent of the grade for this course. *May be used as a substitute for ENGL 104*.

220. Writing Poetry: Introductory Workshop (3 credits)

Study of modern formal and free verse with emphasis on the practices of writing and editing our own and others' work. A substantial body of work in portfolio form, including a required short reflection or response paper, plus the submission of at least one poem to a local or national publication is required for successful completion of the course. *Prerequisites: ENGL 103 and 104*.

225. Short Story Writing (3 credits)

A study of the elements of fiction and their application in the writing of short stories. Through reading assignments and exercises that identify specific fictional devices or elements, students will produce a complete short story. *As needed*.

**247. Special Topics - Study Abroad
(3 credits)**

Selected topics in literature offered abroad through the Cooperative Center for Study Abroad. *As needed.*

**302. Chaucer and Medieval Literature
(3 credits)**

A study of the literary, political and social history of the Medieval period through a close reading of selected works by Chaucer and other Medieval writings.

***303. Shakespeare's Early Plays
(3 credits)**

Taming of the Shrew, Richard III, Romeo and Juliet, As You Like It, and Twelfth Night; also selected sonnets. Lectures, classroom discussions, and researched writing.

***304. Shakespeare's Later Plays
(3 credits)**

Hamlet, Othello, King Lear, Macbeth, and The Tempest; also selected sonnets exclusive of those taught in English 303. Lectures, classroom discussions, and researched writing.

**305. Seventeenth Century Literature
(3 credits)**

Investigation of the significant prose and poetry from 1600-1660, with emphasis on Donne, Herbert, Marvell, Jonson, and Milton. **Either English 303 or 304 will satisfy the English Department Shakespeare requirement.*

**307. The English Novel
(3 credits)**

Development of the novel, with emphasis on techniques of critical evaluation. Readings and detailed analysis of selected novels.

**308. Modern British Drama
(3 credits)**

English plays and playwrights from 1850 to present. Detailed study of a minimum of six plays.

**309. The American Novel
(3 credits)**

Novel from its beginnings to and including the 20th century. Readings and detailed analysis of selected novels.

**310. Advanced Expository Writing
(3 credits)**

Principles and practices of expository writing with pertinent readings. Attention given to the development of a clear and accurate expository style. *Prerequisite: English 103 or equivalent. Recommended for future English teachers.*

**333. Literature for Young Adults
(3 credits)**

An introduction to adolescent literature and to theories about young adult literature designed to help teachers identify appropriate reading material for middle and high school level students. The course teaching methodology models discussion and pedagogical techniques for classroom use. *Prerequisite: Education 101: Foundations of Education and American literature survey course.*

**402. Primary, Secondary, and Post-Secondary Writing Instruction: Composition Theory and Pedagogy
(3 credits)**

An introduction to composition theory. How various writing theories give rise to varying pedagogical practices. *Required for all English/Secondary Education majors.*

**405. Eighteenth Century Literature
(3 credits)**

Significant prose and poetry of the period, with emphasis on Dryden, Pope, Swift, and Johnson.

**406. English Romantic and Victorian Poetry
(3 credits)**

Techniques and norms of interpretation, especially of Wordsworth, Coleridge, Byron, Shelly, Keats, Browning, Arnold, and Hardy.

**407. Principles of Literary Research, Theory, and Practice
(3 credits)**

Application of literary research and theory in preparation for graduate work in or teaching of English. *Analytical paper is required.*

**409. Novel Writing
(3 credits)**

Art of composing the novel. The minimum requirement is five chapters completed.

**410. Playwriting
(3 credits)**

Craft of verse and prose playwriting. One three-act play or three one-act plays in prose and verse are required.

**450. Special Topics in English
(1-6 credits)**

**501. Independent Study in English
(1-8 credits)**

**225, 325 & 425. Special Topics in Humanities
(1-3 credits)**

Examination of special topics in such areas as determined by faculty and student interest. *As needed.*