Majors

The Major in English Literature

Units required: 30

Prerequisites:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>E Lit 2151</td>
<td>Literature in English: Early Texts and Contexts</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E Lit 2152</td>
<td>Literature in English: Modern Texts and Contexts</td>
<td>3</td>
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</table>

Required credits:

24 units of upper-division (300- and 400-level) work (at least 6 units must be at the 400 level), distributed as follows:

1) Four required courses
   • E Lit 3552 Introduction to Literary Theory
   • Three historical courses, covering three of the following five historical periods in American, British or Anglophone literature and including at least one course from each of the following two groups:
     Group 1
     • Medieval
     • Early Modern
     Group 2
     • The 18th Century
     • The 19th Century
     • The 20th Century and Later

2) Four electives

3) One course centered on either global or minority literatures

For new majors beginning Fall 2021, at least one 300- or 400-level literature course must be taken in one of the following areas:

- Global literatures in English, defined as the Anglophone literatures of Africa, the Caribbean, South Asia, and other non-British or non-U.S. territories; or
- Minority literatures of the United States or the United Kingdom, which include Anglophone African American, Asian American, Native American, Latinx, and Black British writing.

Each semester, official course listings will designate the courses selected by the English Department Curriculum Committee that may be chosen to meet this requirement. Courses applied to this requirement may also satisfy other English major requirements involving historical range (requirement 2) and the need to complete two 400-level courses (requirement 4).

4) Eight upper-division courses in all (including two 400-level courses)
   • All courses must be taken for letter grades.
   • The student must receive a grade of C or better in all courses.
   • Only one cross-listed course not home-based in English may be counted toward the 24 units required. The two required 400-level courses must be home-based in English.
   • A maximum of 6 units from University College and/or Summer School courses may count toward the major. These selections require English department approval.
   • Study abroad students are expected to complete the 200-level prerequisite courses and at least two upper-level courses in English literature before going abroad.
   • 3 units of 300- or 400-level courses in the literature of a language other than English may be counted toward the English major.
   • Before the end of their junior year, majors are encouraged to consult with advisors regarding the fulfillment of major requirements.

5) Portfolio capstone

All majors are required to complete a portfolio capstone project, for which the student provides a 200-level paper, a 400-level paper, and a brief essay (two to three pages) that reflects on the student's overall learning experience in the major.

Concentration in Creative Writing

There is the option of completing an English major with a creative writing concentration. To do so, students must take five creative writing courses, including at least three upper-division courses. Students will specialize in one particular genre — poetry, fiction or creative nonfiction — and ultimately take a three-course sequence (200-, 300- and 400-level courses) in that genre while taking at least one course outside of the chosen genre. The concentration will not change the current requirement structure in the English major and thus requires 6 additional
credit units to complete as compared with a regular English major. For more information, please consult the description of the major (https://english.wustl.edu/english-major/) on the English department website.

**Additional Information**

**Senior Honors:** Students must have achieved a 3.65 grade-point average in English and a 3.65 GPA overall to apply for honors in English during the spring of the junior year. Students must successfully complete the required courses for the English major. Students must take L14 E Lit 5001 Honors Thesis Tutorial in both the fall and spring semesters of the senior year as well as E Lit 3991 Senior Research Seminar I and E Lit 3992 Senior Research Seminar II in the fall and spring, respectively, of the senior year.

**Study Abroad:** Seven affiliate programs in England, Ireland and Scotland are open for well-prepared students: King’s College, London (KCL); University College, London (UCL); University of Sussex; Oxford Program for Undergraduate Studies (OPUS); Keble College at Oxford; Trinity College, Dublin; and University of Edinburgh. Students who are interested in studying abroad must apply and participate before their senior year.

**Transfer Units:** Students must provide transcripts of their previous work to receive approval from the director of undergraduate studies.