

# English

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## Degree Offered

- Bachelor of Arts

## Nature of Program

The department offers programs for students who want to develop skills in writing, analytical reading, and critical thinking in order to prepare for any number of career paths. Specific coursework is also available for those who intend to pursue a graduate degree in English, attain secondary certification to teach English or language arts, concentrate in literature and language as preparation for entrance into professional schools, or concentrate in creative writing or professional writing and editing. Students interested in undergraduate creative writing should speak with the coordinator of creative writing to be sure an appropriate plan of study is developed. Because English majors have varying interests in literature, language, and writing, they are strongly urged to consult the department's undergraduate advisers to plan their coursework.

Students who earn a degree in the Eberly College of Arts and Sciences must complete the University requirements, the College requirements for their specific degree program, and their major requirements.

## Minors

All students have the possibility of earning one or more minors; follow the link for a list of all available minors and their requirements (<http://catalog.wvu.edu/undergraduate/minors>). Please note that students may not earn a minor in their major field.

## Certificate of Global Engagement

Students in the Eberly College, regardless of their major, can earn a Certificate of Global Engagement. Completion of the Certificate demonstrates the student's knowledge of diverse cultures, as well as the ability to communicate and interact effectively with people of different cultural backgrounds. Students will be required to apply their knowledge of contemporary issues and global social contexts to their course work and their broader citizenship. For details regarding Certificate requirements, please visit the Eberly College page (<http://catalog.wvu.edu/undergraduate/eberlycollegeofartsandsciences/#otherdegreestext>).

## Publications

Calliope, a publication of WVU student writing, is sponsored by the Department of English and the English Honorary and Club.

Cheat River Review (<http://cheatriverreview.com>), is a literary magazine edited by MFA students and the Council of Writers of the West Virginia University MFA program.

Kairos (<http://kairos.technorhetoric.net>), is a referred, open-access online journal exploring the intersections of rhetoric, technology, and pedagogy. The journal reaches a wide audience—currently 45,000 readers per month—hailing from Ascension Island to Zimbabwe.

Victorian Poetry, a critical journal of Victorian literature, is edited by the Department of English. The journal was established at WVU in 1963 and has become internationally known, with subscribers in 27 countries.

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## FACULTY

### CHAIR

- James Harms - M.F.A. (Indiana University)

### ASSOCIATE CHAIR

- Brian Ballentine - Ph.D. (Case Western Reserve University)

### PROFESSORS

- Laura Brady - Ph.D. (University of Minnesota)  
Eberly Family Distinguished Professor of Outstanding Teaching. Composition and rhetorical theory, Writing program administration
- Mark Brazaitis - M.F.A. (Bowling Green University)  
Creative writing: Fiction
- Ryan Claycomb - Ph.D. (University of Maryland)  
20th-century British literature, Drama, Gender studies
- Stephanie Foote - Ph.D. (University of Buffalo)  
Jackson and Nichols Professor of English, Gender and women's studies, Critical theory
- Marilyn Francus - Ph.D. (Columbia)  
Restoration and eighteenth century literature

- James Harms - M.F.A. (Indiana University)  
Creative writing: Poetry
- Kirk Hazen - Ph.D. (University of North Carolina)  
Linguistics
- Mary Ann Samyn - M.F.A. (University of Virginia)  
Creative writing: Poetry
- Timothy Sweet - Ph.D. (University of Minnesota)  
Eberly Family Distinguished Professor of American Literature. American studies, Literature and environment, Native American literature

## ASSOCIATE PROFESSORS

- Cheryl Ball - Ph.D. (Michigan Technological University)  
Digital editing and publishing
- Brian Ballentine - Ph.D. (Case Western Reserve University)  
Technical and professional communication, Digital rhetoric
- Gwen Bergner - Ph.D. (Princeton University)  
African-American and postcolonial literatures, race, and gender theories
- Cari Carpenter - Ph.D. (University of Michigan)  
19th-century American literature, Native American literature
- Anna Shannon Elfenbein - Ph.D. (University of Nebraska)  
American literature, Women's studies, Southern literature, African-American fiction, Popular culture
- Lara Farina - Ph.D. (Fordham University)  
Medieval literature and culture, History of sexuality and reading
- Michael Germana - Ph.D. (University of Iowa)  
American studies, 19th- and 20th-century American literature, Popular culture
- Catherine Gouge - Ph.D. (West Virginia University)  
Professional writing, Distance learning, Media studies
- Rosemary Hathaway - Ph.D. (Ohio State University)  
Folklore, 20th-century American literature, English education
- Adam Komisaruk - Ph.D. (University of California Los Angeles)  
British Romanticism, 18th-century British literature
- John Lamb - Ph.D. (New York University)  
Victorian literature, 19th-century historiography
- Kathleen O'Hearn Ryan - Ph.D. (University of Massachusetts)  
20th century American literature
- Natalie Singh-Corcoran - Ph.D. (University of Arizona)  
Writing Center theory and practice, Writing program administration, Writing assessment
- David Stewart - Ph.D. (Oxford)  
Associate Vice President for International Outreach. British romanticism, Literary theory
- Lisa Weihman - Ph.D. (New York University)  
Modern British and Irish literature and culture

## ASSISTANT PROFESSORS

- Rose Casey - Ph.D. (Cornell University)  
Modern British Literature
- Lowell Duckert - Ph.D. (George Washington University)  
Early Modern British studies, Literature and environment.
- John Jones - Ph.D. (University of Texas)  
Composition and Rhetoric, Digital literacy
- Tom Sura - Ph.D. (Purdue)  
Composition and Rhetoric, Writing pedagogy
- Glenn Taylor - M.F.A. (Texas State University)  
Fiction, Appalachian literature
- Johanna Winant - Ph.D. (University of Chicago)  
Modern American poetry and poetics

## TEACHING ASSISTANT PROFESSORS

- Nancy Caronia - Ph.D. (University of Rhode Island)

Contemporary British and American literature

- Sarah Morris - Ph.D. (University of Maryland)  
human science phenomenology, embodiment, writing process, and student-centered teaching
- Douglas Phillips - Ph.D. (Carnegie Mellon University)  
Professional and technical writing

## INSTRUCTORS

- Jill Woods - M.A. (Eastern Michigan University)  
Business and technical writing

## PROFESSORS EMERITI

- Gail Galloway Adams
- Dennis Allen
- Rudolph Almasy
- Patrick Conner
- Ellesa High
- Elizabeth Juckett
- Byron Nelson
- Carolyn Nelson
- Kevin Oderman
- Ethel Morgan Smith

## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Entering freshmen are admitted directly into the major. Students coming from the Center for Learning, Advising, and Student Success or another unit must have a 2.0 GPA in all ENGL classes taken, and a 2.0 overall GPA. The department will accept students with an overall GPA below a 2.00, if it is the result of low grades outside of the Humanities.

## BENCHMARK EXPECTATIONS

Students in the English major must maintain a 2.0 GPA overall and a 2.0 in the major. Students must earn a C- or better in all required English courses for graduation. All majors must meet with an English department adviser each semester. Students who do not meet these benchmarks may be removed from their major.

Benchmarks for students in the English pre-secondary education program are set by the College of Education & Human Services. All majors should meet with an English department adviser each semester.

Click here to view the Suggested Plan of Study (p. 5)

## GENERAL EDUCATION FOUNDATIONS

Please use this link to view a list of courses that meet each GEF requirement. (<http://registrar.wvu.edu/gef>)

NOTE: Some major requirements will fulfill specific GEF requirements. Please see the curriculum requirements listed below for details on which GEFs you will need to select.

### General Education Foundations

F1 - Composition & Rhetoric		3-6
ENGL 101 & ENGL 102 or ENGL 103	Introduction to Composition and Rhetoric and Composition, Rhetoric, and Research Accelerated Academic Writing	
F2A/F2B - Science & Technology		4-6
F3 - Math & Quantitative Skills		3-4
F4 - Society & Connections		3
F5 - Human Inquiry & the Past		3
F6 - The Arts & Creativity		3
F7 - Global Studies & Diversity		3
F8 - Focus (may be satisfied by completion of a minor, double major, or dual degree)		9
Total Hours		31-37

Please note that not all of the GEF courses are offered at all campuses. Students should consult with their advisor or academic department regarding the GEF course offerings available at their campus.

## Degree Requirements

Students must complete WVU General Education Foundations requirements, College B.A. requirements, major requirements, and electives to total a minimum 120 hours. For complete details on these requirements, visit the B.A. Degrees tab on the Eberly College of Arts and Sciences (<http://catalog.wvu.edu/undergraduate/eberlycollegeofartsandsciences/#bachelorofartstext>) page.

## Departmental Requirements for the B.A. in English

An English major requires a minimum of thirty-six hours in literature, language, and writing, with a minimum of 12 credits at the 300 level or above. English majors with an area of emphasis may find some courses overlap with major requirements.

- **Capstone Requirement:** The university requires the successful completion of a Capstone course. English majors choose, depending on focus, ENGL 418, ENGL 491A or ENGL 496 to meet this requirement. Students should consult with an adviser regarding the Capstone course.
- **Writing and Communication Requirement:** The English Bachelor of Arts is a **SpeakWrite Certified Program™**. SpeakWrite Certified programs incorporate and develop students' written, verbal, visual, and mediated communication skills across the curriculum.
- **Calculation of GPA in the major:** A minimum GPA of 2.0 is required in all English courses. Students must earn a grade of C- or better in all courses that are counted toward the major plus ENGL 101 and ENGL 102, or ENGL 103. If a course is repeated, all attempts will be included in the calculation of the GPA unless the course is eligible for a D/F repeat.
- **Area of Emphasis:** in addition to the major requirements, students may select a concentration in Creative Writing (15 credits) or Professional Writing and Editing (15 credits). Please see below for course and grade requirements for each emphasis. For English majors who obtain a concentration a maximum of sixty hours in English, exclusive of ENGL 199, ENGL 101 and ENGL 102, or ENGL 103 ENGL 103 ENGL 103 ENGL 103, ENGL 491 ENGL 491 ENGL 491 ENGL 491 may be included within the 120 hours (minimum) required for graduation.
- **Benchmark Expectations:** For details, go to the English admissions tab (p. 3).

## Curriculum Requirements

<b>UNIVERSITY REQUIREMENTS</b>	34
WVUE 191 First Year Seminar	
GEF Requirements: credits may vary because of overlap	
<b>ECAS B.A. Requirements</b>	12
Foreign Language	
Fine Arts Requirement	
Global Studies & Diversity Requirement	
<b>DEPARTMENTAL REQUIREMENTS</b>	
<b>Foundation Course</b>	3
ENGL 200 Foundations of Literary Study	
<b>Historical Breadth Courses</b>	9
Select three of the following:	
ENGL 241 American Literature 1	
ENGL 242 American Literature 2	
ENGL 261 British Literature 1	
ENGL 262 British Literature 2	
<b>English Language courses</b>	3
Select one of the following:	
ENGL 221 The English Language	
ENGL 321 History of the English Language	
ENGL 423 Introduction to Old English	
<b>Gender/Multicultural/Transnational courses</b>	3
Select one of the following:	
ENGL 226 Non-Western World Literature	
ENGL 254 African American Literature	
ENGL 255 Multiethnic Literature	
ENGL 285 Images of Women in Literature	

ENGL 354	Topics in African American Literature	
ENGL 355	Topics in Multiethnic Literature	
ENGL 356	Topics in Native American Literature	
ENGL 374	Postcolonial Literature	
ENGL 385	American Women Writers	
ENGL 386	British Women Writers	
ENGL 387	Topics in Women's Literature	
<b>Study of Major Author courses</b>		<b>3</b>
Select one of the following:		
ENGL 263	Shakespeare 1	
ENGL 337	Study of a Major Author	
ENGL 361	Chaucer	
ENGL 363	Shakespeare 2	
ENGL 365	Milton	
<b>Methods courses</b>		<b>3</b>
Select one of the following:		
ENGL 301	Writing Theory and Practice	
ENGL 309	Approaches to Teaching Composition	
ENGL 318	Topics in Creative Writing	
ENGL 338	Environmental Criticism	
ENGL 381	Literary Criticism	
ENGL 382	Contemporary Literary Theory	
ENGL 383	Introduction to Cultural Studies	
ENGL 384	Introduction to American Studies	
English Electives		<b>9</b>
English Electives 100-Level or Above, Excluding ENGL 101, 102, 103, and 199 (3 Credits)		
Upper-Division English Electives 300 -or- 400 Level (6 Credits)		
<b>Capstone Experience</b>		<b>3</b>
Select one of the following		
ENGL 418	Creative Writing Seminar	
ENGL 491A	Professional Field Experience	
ENGL 496	Senior Thesis	
<b>GENERAL ELECTIVES</b>		<b>38</b>
(Number of electives may vary depending on overlap.)		
Total Hours		<b>120</b>

## Suggested Plan of Study

### First Year

Fall	Hours Spring	Hours
WVUE 191	1 ENGL 102 (GEF 1)	3
ENGL 101 (GEF 1)	3 GEF 2	3
GEF 2	3 GEF 4	3
Foreign Language 101	3 Foreign Language 102	3
ENGL 200	3 ENGL Historical Breath 1 (GEF 6; ECAS Fine Arts Requirement)	3
General Elective	2	
	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>

### Second Year

Fall	Hours Spring	Hours
GEF 3	3 ECAS Global Studies & Diversity Requirement (GEF 7)	3
GEF 5	3 GEF 8	3
Foreign Language 203	3 Foreign Language 204	3

ENGL Historical Breath 2	3 ENGL Historical Breath 3	3
General Elective	3 General Elective	3
15		15
<b>Third Year</b>		
<b>Fall</b>	<b>Hours Spring</b>	<b>Hours</b>
GEF 8*	3 GEF 8*	3
ENGL Language Course	3 ENGL Major Author	3
ENGL Gender/Mlt Cult./Transnat.	3 ENGL Elective 2	3
ENGL Elective 1	3 ENGL Elective 3	3
General Elective	3 General Elective	3
15		15
<b>Fourth Year</b>		
<b>Fall</b>	<b>Hours Spring</b>	<b>Hours</b>
ENGL Methods Course	3 ENGL Capstone	3
General Elective	3 General Elective	3
General Elective	3 General Elective	3
General Elective	3 General Elective	3
General Elective	3 General Elective	3
15		15

Total credit hours: 120

\* Students completing a minor, a double major or a dual degree fulfill the GEF 8 requirement.

## CREATIVE WRITING AREA OF EMPHASIS REQUIREMENTS

Minimum grade of C- or higher is required.

Select one course in each group:

<b>Group 1:</b>		3
ENGL 212	Creative Writing: Fiction	
ENGL 213	Creative Writing: Poetry	
ENGL 214	Creative Writing: Non-Fiction	
<b>Group 2:</b>		3
ENGL 312	Creative Writing Workshop: Fiction	
ENGL 313	Creative Writing Workshop: Poetry	
ENGL 314	Creative Writing Workshop: Non-Fiction	
<b>Group 3:</b>		3
ENGL 318	Topics in Creative Writing	
<b>Group 4:</b>		3
ENGL 418	Creative Writing Seminar †	
<b>Group 5:</b>		3
ENGL 212	Creative Writing: Fiction	
ENGL 213	Creative Writing: Poetry	
ENGL 214	Creative Writing: Non-Fiction	
ENGL 312	Creative Writing Workshop: Fiction	
ENGL 313	Creative Writing Workshop: Poetry	
ENGL 314	Creative Writing Workshop: Non-Fiction	
Total Hours		15

## PROFESSIONAL WRITING AND EDITING (PWE) AREA OF EMPHASIS REQUIREMENTS

English majors may obtain a concentration in PWE by completing fifteen hours of coursework, with grade point average of 3.0 or higher, as follows:

ENGL 301	Writing Theory and Practice	3
ENGL 302	Editing	3
ENGL 303	Multimedia Writing	3

or ENGL 306	Topics in Humanities Computing	
ENGL 304	Business and Professional Writing	3
or ENGL 305	Technical Writing	
ENGL 491A	Professional Field Experience *	3
Total Hours		15

## Major Learning Goals

### ENGLISH

Upon successful completion of the B.A. degree, **English** majors will be able to:

1. Locate and interpret texts within diverse literary, cultural, and historical contexts.
  - Identify genre conventions and analyze their effects;
  - Identify and analyze effects of complexity or ambiguity in texts, culture, and discourse;
  - Situate texts in social, economic, political, and literary histories;
  - Connect texts to other literary or cultural texts.
2. Demonstrate a general knowledge of the social and structural aspects of the English language.
  - Analyze diachronic and synchronic language variation;
  - Articulate the role of social forces on language variation;
  - Apply linguistic concepts to solve language problems;
  - Analyze natural language, predominantly English.
3. Demonstrate a range of contextually effective writing and communication strategies.

Literature and Cultural Studies:

- Demonstrate awareness of academic discourse and research on a literary topic;
- Apply research, analysis, argumentative development, and critical thinking skills;
- Create and revise communications with the appropriate tone, style, and sentence structure found in academic writing, including incorporation of research;
- Demonstrate command of academic written English and conventions of documenting research.

Creative Writing concentration:

- Situate work within the historical and literary development of the appropriate genre;
- Create and revise a thoughtful, sophisticated work of art that is the product of a careful process of invention and revision;
- Demonstrate a personal and coherent artistic style;
- Demonstrate a sophisticated awareness of and engagement with (or clear challenge of) conventions of the genre.

Professional Writing and Editing concentration:

- Demonstrate an awareness of, and response to, the particular rhetorical needs of audience and purpose;
- Demonstrate an awareness of genre and argument, including appropriate information and persuasive techniques. In addition, the portfolio demonstrates a critical engagement with the process of writing and with the intern's learning process;
- Demonstrate an awareness of professional tone, style, and sentence structure;
- Understand and apply layout, visual design, audience cues, and information structure; adheres to the written conventions of professional writing.

## ENGLISH MINOR

### MINOR CODE - U004

Students must earn a minimum grade of C or better in all required courses. Courses applied toward a Creative Writing minor or a Professional Writing and Editing minor may not also be applied toward an English minor.

**Course Requirement:** The English minor consists of fifteen hours of coursework in English (any ENGL courses) beyond ENGL 101, ENGL 102 and ENGL 103, with a minimum of nine hours at the upper-division level (300-level or above). Students are advised to design their own English minor to complement the work in their major.

**CREATIVE WRITING MINOR****MINOR CODE - U005**

Students must earn a minimum overall G.P.A. of 2.0.

<b>Genre Pairings</b>		12
Select 2 genres.		
<b>Fiction</b>		
ENGL 212	Creative Writing: Fiction	
ENGL 312	Creative Writing Workshop: Fiction	
<b>Poetry</b>		
ENGL 213	Creative Writing: Poetry	
ENGL 313	Creative Writing Workshop: Poetry	
<b>Nonfiction</b>		
ENGL 214	Creative Writing: Non-Fiction	
ENGL 314	Creative Writing Workshop: Non-Fiction	
<b>Required Course:</b>		3
ENGL 318	Topics in Creative Writing	
Total Hours		15

**PROFESSIONAL WRITING****MINOR CODE - U051**

To earn this minor, students must earn a GPA of 3.0 or higher in all courses applied to the minor.

<b>Core Courses</b>		6
ENGL 301	Writing Theory and Practice	
ENGL 302	Editing	
<b>Upper-Division electives</b>		9
Select three of the following:		
ENGL 221	The English Language	
or ENGL 321	History of the English Language	
ENGL 303	Multimedia Writing	
or ENGL 306	Topics in Humanities Computing	
ENGL 304	Business and Professional Writing	
ENGL 305	Technical Writing	
Total Hours		15