

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN ENGLISH

LITERARY & CULTURAL STUDIES EMPHASIS



GROW YOUR LOVE OF LITERATURE

The English major with an emphasis in Literary and Cultural Studies offers solid preparation in critical reading, writing, and research for students who love literature. The emphasis serves the needs of students with various post-graduation plans, including law school, library school, and graduate school in English. This 44-credit hour major allows students the time to explore other concentrations in English, pair their major program with a second major or a minor, or pursue internship opportunities to prepare for careers in editing, law, librarianship, and more.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

In the Literary and Cultural Studies emphasis, students explore literature across time and place - studying works before and after 1800, as well as multicultural and non-Western texts. From science fiction to graphic novels, film, and women in literature, our faculty's diverse expertise helps students connect their reading to the world around them. In addition to honing their research, writing, and analytical skills, literary studies students frequently build their portfolio by completing internships in the library, law offices, student affairs, and other settings where they can apply their skills.

WHAT CAREERS CAN I PURSUE?

Many (but not all) students in the Literary and Cultural Studies emphasis are preparing for graduate or professional school in fields including law, library science, English literature, film, college student services, and a broad range of humanities fields. Students will learn how to navigate the complexities of the job market in our senior level Career Development course, where they will explore career options and hone materials for their next step. Our alumni have pursued careers as attorneys, librarians, faculty at community and four-year colleges and universities, editors and writers, college admissions counselors, professional staff at non-profit human services agencies, financial analysts, digital marketing specialists, among many others.

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

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eiu.edu/english

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LITERARY & CULTURAL STUDIES

EMPHASIS

FA 2024 THROUGH CURRENT CATALOG

The curriculum for the ENGLISH MAJOR WITH AN EMPHASIS IN LITERARY AND CULTURAL STUDIES includes a core curriculum with two courses that target professional development and career readiness, 18-credit hours of literary studies coursework and 12 hours of English electives, which allow students to explore other areas of English studies..

ENGLISH MAJOR: 44 HRS

ENGLISH MAJOR CORE REQUIREMENTS: 11 HRS

- ENG 1105 English Major Forum (1 hr)
 - ENG 2205 Introduction to Literary Studies
 - ENG 2901 Structure of English
 - OR ENG 3901 Language and Linguistics
 - OR ENG 4901 History of the English Language
 - ENG 4300/90 English Studies Capstone*
 - ENG 4060 English Studies Career Development (1 hr)
- * ENG 4300/90 also satisfies the senior seminar requirement in the General Education program.

+EMPHASIS IN LITERARY & CULTURAL STUDIES: 21 HRS

LITERATURE & CULTURE BEFORE 1800*

- ENG 3700 American Literature: 1450 to 1800
- ENG 3800 Medieval British Literature
- ENG 3802 Shakespeare
- ENG 3803 Renaissance & Seventeenth-Century British Lit.
- ENG 3805 Restoration and Eighteenth-Century British Lit.
- ENG 3903A Women, Literature, & Language, Pre-1800

LITERATURE & CULTURE AFTER 1800*

- ENG 2504G Film and Literature
- ENG 3701 American Literature: 1800 to Mid-19th Century
- ENG 3704 American Literature: 1950 to present
- ENG 3806 British Romantic Literature
- ENG 3807 Victorian Literature
- ENG 3808 Modern British Literature
- ENG 3809 Contemporary British & Anglophone Literatures
- ENG 3903B Women, Literature, & Language, Post-1800

MULTICULTURAL & GLOBAL LITERATURES*

- ENG 2705G African American and Africana Literatures
- ENG 2706G Latin American and Latinx Literatures
- ENG 2850 Postcolonial Literatures in English
- ENG 3705 American Multicultural Literatures
- ENG 4750 Studies in African American Literature

+CAPSTONE

- ENG 4775 Studies in Literature, Culture, Theory

+ELECTIVES: 12 HRS

Students work closely with an academic advisor each semester to choose electives that help them achieve their academic and professional goals. At least one elective must be chosen from one of our other areas of English Studies - Creative Writing or Professional Writing

Recommended Schedule of Classes

	FALL SEMESTER		SPRING SEMESTER	
	COURSE	HRS	COURSE	HRS
YEAR 1	ENG 1001G/91G	3	ENG 1002G/92G	3
	ENG 1105 English Major Forum	1	ENG 1009G or 2706G Gen Ed Humanities	3
	CMN 1310G	3	Gen Ed Science	3
	Gen Ed Soc/Behavioral Science	3	Gen Ed Math	3
	Gen Ed Foreign Lang or Elective	3-4	Gen Ed Foreign Lang or Elective	3-4
	Total	13-14	Total	15-16
YEAR 2	ENG 2205 Intro to Literary Studies	3	Pre-1800 Literature	3
	ENG 2504G or 2705G Gen Ed Humanities	3	ENG 2901 Structure of English	3
	Gen Ed Soc/Behavioral Science	3	Gen Ed Soc/Behavioral Science	3
	Gen Ed Fine Art	3	Gen Ed Science with Lab	4
	Elective*	3	Elective	3
	Total	15	Total	16
YEAR 3	Post-1800 Literature	3	Pre-1800 Literature	3
	Multicultural Literature	3	Post-1800 Literature	3
	Upper Division English Elective	3	Creative or Professional Writing English Elective	3
	Elective	3	Elective	3
	Elective	3	Elective	3
	Total	15	15 hours	15
YEAR 4	Multicultural Literature	1	ENG 4300/90, Eng Studies Capstone	3
	ENG 4060, English Studies Career Dev.	3	Upper Division English Elective	3
	ENG 4775, Studies in Literature, Culture, & Theory	3	Elective	3
	Elective	3	Elective	3
	Elective	3	Elective	3
	Elective	3		
	Total	16	Total	15

*It is highly recommended that students choose either a second emphasis in English or a minor outside the department as a way to focus their elective coursework.