

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN ENGLISH **PROFESSIONAL WRITING** EMPHASIS



TAKE YOUR WRITING TO THE NEXT LEVEL

The English major with an emphasis in professional writing combines classroom instruction with practical experience to teach students how to communicate effectively in professional environments. Through client-based projects and an internship, students will build a professional portfolio that demonstrates their writing, editing, design, and research skills to prospective employers. This 44-credit hour major allows students the time to explore other concentrations in English or pair their major program with a second major or a minor to gain a secondary area of expertise.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

The English major with an emphasis in professional writing combines classroom instruction with hands-on, job-related experience. Students develop skills in coursework in professional and technical writing, research, and editing that prepares them to communicate in a variety of media and discourses. Learning to communicate effectively through group projects and client-based projects is a central focus of this emphasis. The students in this emphasis gain skills in content creation, editing, and design that will be valuable in both business and non-profit settings. The professional habits and know-how that students learn equip them to adapt as the professional writing and editing fields continue to evolve.

WHAT CAREERS CAN I PURSUE?

Students in this emphasis pursue a variety of writing and editing careers in business, nonprofit, academic, and government settings. After completing an internship required for this degree, students learn how to apply their skills in professional contexts. 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 while honing materials for their next step. Our alumni work in a variety of settings, including careers as social media managers, web developers, web content writers, marketing analysts, technical writers, science writers, promotional writers, business analysts, communications coordinators, and more.

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

600 LINCOLN AVENUE
CHARLESTON, IL 61920

217-581-2428
ARVIETTO@EIU.EDU



IT'S ALL ABOUT YOU. APPLY TODAY AT [MY.EIU.EDU](https://my.eiu.edu).

eiu.edu/english

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN ENGLISH

PROFESSIONAL WRITING EMPHASIS

FA 2024 THROUGH CURRENT CATALOG

The curriculum for the ENGLISH MAJOR WITH AN EMPHASIS IN PROFESSIONAL WRITING includes a core curriculum with two courses that target professional development and career readiness, 18-credit hours of traditional professional writing classes, a professional writing internship, 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 PROFESSIONAL WRITING: 15 HRS

- ENG 2760 Introduction to Professional Writing
- ENG 3005 Technical Communication
- ENG 4275 Internship in Professional Writing
- ENG 4760 Special Topics in Professional Writing (ENG 2760 is co-requisite)
- ENG 4765 Professional Editing

+ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL WRITING COURSEWORK : 6 HRS

- CHOOSE TWO OF THE FOLLOWING:
- ENG 3008 Digital Writing and Multimodal Texts
 - ENG 3011 Literary Editing and Publishing
 - ENG 4275 Internship in Professional Writing
 - ENG 4760 Special Topics in Professional Writing
 - ENG 4776 Research Methodologies in English Studies

+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 Literary and Cultural Studies.

Recommended Schedule of Classes

	FALL SEMESTER		SPRING SEMESTER	
	COURSE	HRS	COURSE	HRS
YEAR 1	ENG 1001G/91G	3	ENG 1002G	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	ENG 2901 Structure of English	3
	ENG 2504G or 2705G Gen Ed Humanities	3	Professional Writing Elective	3
	ENG 2760 Intro to Professional Writing	3	Gen Ed Soc/Behavioral Science	3
	Gen Ed Soc/Behavioral Science	3	Gen Ed Science with Lab	4
	Gen Ed Fine Art	3	Elective	3
	Total	15	Total	16
YEAR 3	ENG 3005 Technical Communication	3	ENG 4760 Studies in Professional Writing	3
	Professional Writing Elective	3	Upper Division English Elective	3
	Upper Division English Elective	3	Elective	3
	Elective	3	Elective	3
	Elective	3	Elective	3
	Total	15	Total	15
YEAR 4	ENG 4060 English Studies Career Development	1	ENG 4300/90 English Studies Capstone	3
	ENG 4275 Internship in Professional Writing	3	Upper Division English Elective	3
	ENG 4765 Professional Editing	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.