

2009-2010

B.A. in English: Creative Writing

College of Humanities and Social Sciences

What Is the Study of English: Creative Writing?

English engages students in diverse literary heritages as well as fosters the development of sophisticated abilities in critical analysis, creative inquiry, reflective reading, and effective communication and expression. The Creative Writing program focuses on writing courses: creative writing in fiction, drama, poetry, or nonfiction prose and includes coursework in literature to supplement the writing courses. Students in the upper-divisional courses are expected to interpret and analyze literature in thoughtful, organized, and clear essays that are free of mechanical errors. If you think you need help with your reading and writing, we strongly encourage you, in addition to your work in English courses, to consult the Writing Center and other University resources.

Why Should I Consider This Major?

English is one of the central liberal arts degrees. A background in English provides graduates with a sound basis for pursuing a variety of careers, including law, business, education, publishing and government, as well as graduate work in creative writing, language, literary and cultural studies, and writing.

How to Declare:

Students are strongly encouraged to meet with the department advisors early in their careers at Western; students must declare their major by the start of their junior year. Though we cannot guarantee immediate enrollment in the major or access to any specific class, we matriculate students into the major on a rolling basis as space is available and offer a wide variety of topics each term.

Mid-Program Checkpoint:

Students intending on complete a Bachelor's of Arts degree in English: Creative Writing Emphasis within four years should complete the following courses by the start of their junior year. Students are expected to follow all prerequisite requirements for courses and seek early departmental advisement.

Coursework:

Complete ENG 101.

Complete ENG 202 or 203

Other Activities:

Declare or apply for major.

Contact Information:

English Department Website:

<http://www.wvu.edu/depts/english/index.shtml>

Degree Coordinator:

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Sample Careers:

Education

Business Law

Author

Government

Editing and Publishing

Graduate work in Creative Writing



English-Creative Writing Major Requirements: 58-60 Credits

Prerequisites: ENG 202 or ENG 203 or clearance

Required course: ENG 370 *Introduction to Language* (5) Students who earn a grade of 3.0 or better in *Linguistics 201* may substitute a 300 or 400-level English course under advisement for English 370.

25 credits in literature (may include literary/cultural theory and film studies) at the 300- or 400-level, including a writing proficiency course

- ENG 304 Critical Introduction to Poetry (5)
- ENG 307 Literature and Culture I: Pre-16th Century (5)
- ENG 308 Literature and Culture II: 16th and 17th Centuries (5)
- ENG 309 Literature and Culture III: 18th and 19th Centuries (5)
- ENG 310 Literature and Culture IV: 19th and 20th Centuries (5)
- ENG 311 Literature and Culture V: 20th and 21st Centuries (5)
- ENG 312 Film and Culture (5)
- ENG 313 History of Critical and Cultural Theory (5)
- ENG 327 Studies in Historically Marginalized Literatures (5)
- ENG 335 Literary and Creative Expressions Across Cultures (5)
- ENG 336 Scriptural Literatures (5)
- ENG 338 Women and Literature (5)
- ENG 339 Mythology and Literature (5)
- ENG 340 Comparative Literature (5)
- ENG 347 Studies in Young Adult Literature (5)
- ENG 364 Introduction to Film Studies (5)
- ENG 406 Topics in Critical and Cultural Theory (5) WP3
- ENG 408 Cultural Studies (5) WP3
- ENG 410 Studies in Literary History (5) WP3
- ENG 415 Special Topics in National Literatures (5) WP3
- ENG 418 Senior Seminar (5) WP3
- ENG 423 Studies in Major Authors (5) WP3
- ENG 441 Children's Literature for the Elementary & Middle School Teacher (5)
- ENG 464 Topics in Film Studies (5) WP3

Choose two:

- ENG 351 Introduction to Fiction Writing (5)
- ENG 353 Introduction to Poetry Writing (5)
- ENG 354 Introduction to Creative Non-Fiction Writing (5)
- THTR 384 Introduction to Dramatic Writing (4)
- FAIR 354v Scriptwriting Workshop I (4)

Choose four:

- ENG 451* Creative Writing Seminar: Fiction (5)
- ENG 453* Creative Writing Seminar: Poetry (5)
- ENG 454* Creative Writing Seminar: Nonfiction Prose (5)
- ENG 455 Living Writers (5)
- ENG 456 Special Topics in Fiction Writing (5)
- ENG 457 Special Topics in Poetry Writing (5)
- ENG 458 Special Topics in Creative Nonfiction Writing (5)
- ENG 459 Editing and Publishing (5)
- ENG 460** Special Topics in Creative Writing: Multigenre (5)
- THTR 485 Dramatic Writing Workshop (4)
- THTR 486 Dramatic Writing Workshop (4)
- THTR 487 Dramatic Writing Workshop (4)
- FAIR 454y Scriptwriting Workshop II (5)

*One of these courses is repeatable with a different instructor to a maximum of 10 credits

**Beginning Fall 2008, ENG 460 may be repeated once with a different instructor

Creative Writing courses offered by Canadian-American Studies may also be counted with approval of the English department advisor.

Other English Options:

- B.A. English: Literature Emphasis (60 credits)
- B.A. English: Literature Emphasis with Secondary Education Interest (65 credits plus 64 credits for Secondary Education Professional program)
- B.A. Ed. English—Elementary Education (45 credits plus 107 credits for Elementary Education Professional Program)
- Minor in Creative Writing (25 credits)
- Minor in English (25 credits)
- Minor in Film Studies (23-25 credits)
- Minor in Women's Literature (25 credits)
- Minor in Rhetoric Studies (25 credits)

These courses are offered within this major and may be used to satisfy GUR or Writing Proficiency requirements.

BCOM: ENG 202, 203

HUM: ENG 336

ACGM: ENG 335

BGCM: ENG 338

WP: Three Writing Proficiency points are required for graduation (they are noted as WP1, WP2, and WP3). Check [Classfinder](#) or [Online Timetable](#) for departmental offerings each quarter.