

BA with a Major in English

Program Codes:

20FT0311BA

Degree Requirements

To earn a Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts and Sciences degree from UIC, students must complete university, college, and department degree requirements. The Major in English requires a minimum of 27 semester hours, as outlined below. Students should consult the [College of Liberal Arts and Sciences](#) section for additional degree requirements and college academic policies. Students are encouraged to seek advising each semester from the English major advisor in LAS.

Code	Title	Hours
Summary of Requirements		
Major Requirements (minimum 27 hours)		
• Core Requirements		9
• Selective Upper-Level Writing Requirement		3-6
• Selective Concentration Requirements ^a		9-33
One concentration: 9-15 hours		
Two concentrations: 15-24 hours		
Three concentrations: 21-33 hours		
• English Electives ^b		0-6
General Education and Electives to Reach Minimum Total Hours		72-93
Total Hours		120

a Students have the option of completing one, two, or three concentrations; they must complete at least one.

b Students must complete a minimum of 27 hours, when combining the Core Requirements, Selective Upper-Level Writing Requirement, Selective Concentration Requirements, and English Electives. Students completing two or three concentrations will not need to take English Electives to reach this minimum total. Students completing one concentration typically will need to complete 3-6 hours in English Electives.

General Education

See [General Education](#) and Writing-in-the-Discipline in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences section for information on meeting these requirements.

Major Requirements

Core Requirements

All English majors must complete the following courses with a grade of C or better.

Code	Title	Hours
Required Courses		
ENGL 207	Interpretation and Critical Analysis ^a	3
ENGL 208	English Studies I: Beginnings to the 17th Century	3

ENGL 209	English Studies II: 17th Century to Today	3
Total Hours		9

a ENGL 207 fulfills the Writing-in-the-Discipline requirement.

Selective Upper-Level Writing Requirement

Code	Title	Hours
Required Courses		
Select one of the following: ^a		3-6
ENGL 451	English as Public Practice	
ENGL 482	Campus Writing Consultants	
ENGL 486	The Teaching of Writing in Middle and Secondary Schools ^b	
ENGL 492	Advanced Writing of Nonfiction Prose ^c	
ENGL 493	Internship in Nonfiction Writing ^d	
ENGL 496	Portfolio Practicum ^d	
ENGL 497	Senior Thesis ^e	
Total Hours		3-6

a Students may petition the Office of Undergraduate Studies for LAS 495 to count toward this requirement. The excess hours of LAS 495 may be applied as elective credit in the major or petitioned as concentration credit.

b ENGL 486 is recommended for students who wish to pursue teaching as a career path. It also fulfills a methods requirement for the BA in the Teaching of English.

c ENGL 492 may satisfy either the Upper-Level Selective Writing requirement or the Nonfiction requirement of the Creative Writing concentration, but not both.

d ENGL 493 and ENGL 496 may be used to fulfill either the Professional Writing concentration or the Selective Upper-Level Writing requirement. ENGL 493 must be taken for at least 3 hours to satisfy this requirement.

e ENGL 497 is recommended for students who plan to pursue graduate study.

Selective Concentration Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Concentration Requirements		
Complete at least one of the concentrations listed below. Students must complete at least one and can complete as many as three concentrations.		9-33
One Concentration: 9-15 hours		
Two Concentrations: 15-24 hours		
Three Concentrations: 21-33 hours		
No more than 3 hours in a given concentration may be taken at the 100 or 200 level, and at least 3 hours must be at the 400 level.		

Creative Writing and Professional Writing and Publishing concentrations have specific course requirements.

Some overlap is allowed if a student is pursuing multiple concentrations: students with two concentrations can count one course toward both concentrations; students completing three concentrations can double count two courses, but each of these courses may count toward no more than two concentrations.

Total Hours **9-33**

Concentrations

1. Literatures in English
2. Creative Writing (Fiction, Poetry, or Nonfiction)
3. Film, Media, Performance, and Pop Culture
4. Professional Writing and Publishing
5. Race, Gender, Sexuality, and Multiethnic English Studies
6. Rhetoric, Public Engagement, and Language Studies

Courses approved for each concentration are listed below. Any course not listed under a concentration may only count as an elective. In certain cases, students may petition the Office of Undergraduate Studies to have courses and independent studies count toward a concentration. Students may petition the Office of Undergraduate Studies to have up to one course from another department count toward the major or a concentration. Students also may petition the Office of Undergraduate Studies to design their own concentration.

For more information, see the catalog [Course Descriptions](#) or the [Department of English website](#). Students should consult the [General Education](#) section of the catalog to determine if any of the courses on these lists are approved for General Education.

Literatures in English

Code	Title	Hours
Select three of the following, according to the guidelines listed above:		9

ENGL 101	Understanding Literature and Culture
ENGL 103	Understanding Poetry
ENGL 104	Understanding Drama
ENGL 105	Understanding Fiction
ENGL 118	Introduction to African American Literature, 1760-1910
ENGL 119	Introduction to African American Literature Since 1910
ENGL 123	Introduction to Asian American Literature
ENGL 175	Understanding the Bible as Literature
ENGL 213	Introduction to Shakespeare
ENGL 223	Introduction to Colonial and Postcolonial Literature
ENGL 236	Young Adult Fiction
ENGL 237	Graphic Novels
ENGL 238	Speculative Fiction, Sci-Fi and Fantasy
ENGL 245	Introduction to Gender, Sexuality and Literature
ENGL 247	Women and Literature
ENGL 251	Literature and Environment
ENGL 260	Comparative Black Literatures
ENGL 261	Reading Black Women Writing

ENGL 262	Black Cultural Studies
ENGL 264	Introduction to Native American Literatures
ENGL 265	The Harlem Renaissance
ENGL 266	Topics in African Literature
ENGL 267	Introduction to U.S. Latinx Literature
ENGL 269	Introduction to Multiethnic Literatures in the United States
ENGL 295	Latino Literary Studies
ENGL 303	Studies in Poetry
ENGL 304	Studies in Drama
ENGL 305	Studies in Fiction
ENGL 311	Medieval English Literature
ENGL 312	Sixteenth and Seventeenth Century Literature
ENGL 313	Major Plays of Shakespeare
ENGL 314	Milton
ENGL 315	Eighteenth Century Literature
ENGL 316	British Romantic Literature
ENGL 317	Victorian Literature
ENGL 319	20th and 21st Century British Literature
ENGL 322	Colonial and Postcolonial Literature
ENGL 324	American Literature to the 20th Century
ENGL 325	20th and 21st Century American Literature
ENGL 328	Asian American Literature
ENGL 329	Literatures in English Other than English and American
ENGL 335	Studies in Literature and Popular Culture
ENGL 340	Literary Theory
ENGL 346	History of Literary Criticism
ENGL 347	Gender and Sexuality in Literature
ENGL 351	Topics in Black Art and Literature
ENGL 367	Latinx Literature
ENGL 369	Multiethnic American Literature
ENGL 376	Literature and Religion
ENGL 378	Special Topics in English Studies
ENGL 406	Topics in Poetry and Poetic Theory
ENGL 407	Topics in Fiction and Theories of Fiction
ENGL 409	Topics in Literature and Culture
ENGL 410	Topics in Old English Literature
ENGL 411	Topics in Medieval Literature
ENGL 412	Topics in Renaissance Literature and Culture
ENGL 413	Topics in Shakespeare
ENGL 414	Topics in Restoration and Eighteenth-century Literature and Culture
ENGL 415	Topics in Romantic Literature and Culture
ENGL 418	Topics in Victorian Literature
ENGL 422	Topics in Postcolonial and World Literature in English

ENGL 423	Topics in American Literary Nonfiction Prose
ENGL 424	Topics in American Literature and Culture to the 20th Century
ENGL 425	Topics in 20th and 21st Century American Literature and Culture
ENGL 435	Topics in Popular Culture and Literature
ENGL 441	Topics in Asian American Literature and Culture
ENGL 443	Topics in Gender, Sexuality and Literature
ENGL 446	Topics in Criticism and Theory
ENGL 458	History of the English Language
ENGL 466	Topics in Multiethnic Literatures in the United States
ENGL 467	Topics in Latinx Literature
ENGL 469	Women's Literary Traditions
ENGL 473	Topics in Black Literature
ENGL 475	The Bible as Literature: Hebrew Bible
ENGL 476	The Bible as Literature: New Testament
Total Hours	9

Creative Writing (Fiction, Poetry, or Nonfiction)

Code	Title	Hours
Select one category within the concentration and take both courses. Students are also required to repeat the 400-level course, for a total of 9 hours in the concentration.		
Poetry		
ENGL 290	Introduction to the Writing of Poetry	9
ENGL 490	Advanced Writing of Poetry	
Fiction		
ENGL 291	Introduction to the Writing of Fiction	9
ENGL 491	Advanced Writing of Fiction	
Nonfiction		
ENGL 292	Introduction to the Writing of Nonfiction Prose	9
ENGL 492	Advanced Writing of Nonfiction Prose ^a	
Total Hours		9

^a ENGL 492 also fulfills the upper-level selective writing requirement, but the same iteration of the course cannot satisfy both requirements if the student is completing one concentration only.

Film, Media, Performance, and Pop Culture

Code	Title	Hours
Select three of the following, according to the guidelines listed above:		
ENGL 104	Understanding Drama	9
ENGL 131	Understanding Moving Image Arts	
ENGL 132	Understanding Film	
ENGL 135	Understanding Popular Genres and Culture	
ENGL 229	Introduction to Asian Film	

ENGL 230	Introduction to Film and Culture
ENGL 232	History of Film I: 1890 to World War II
ENGL 233	History of Film II: World War II to the Present
ENGL 234	History of Television
ENGL 236	Young Adult Fiction
ENGL 237	Graphic Novels
ENGL 238	Speculative Fiction, Sci-Fi and Fantasy
ENGL 245	Introduction to Gender, Sexuality and Literature
ENGL 262	Black Cultural Studies
ENGL 280	Media and Professional Writing
ENGL 304	Studies in Drama
ENGL 330	Cultural and Media Studies
ENGL 331	Studies in the Moving Image
ENGL 335	Studies in Literature and Popular Culture
ENGL 340	Literary Theory
ENGL 344	Gender Theory
ENGL 345	Queer Theory
ENGL 346	History of Literary Criticism
ENGL 347	Gender and Sexuality in Literature
ENGL 350	Disability Studies
ENGL 476	The Bible as Literature: New Testament
ENGL 383	Writing Digital and New Media
ENGL 404	Topics in Performance Studies
ENGL 409	Topics in Literature and Culture
ENGL 430	Topics in Cultural and Media Studies
ENGL 435	Topics in Popular Culture and Literature
ENGL 443	Topics in Gender, Sexuality and Literature
ENGL 444	Topics in Theories of Gender and Sexuality
ENGL 446	Topics in Criticism and Theory
ENGL 449	Women and Film
ENGL 450	Topics in Disability Studies
ENGL 495	Playwriting
Total Hours	9

Professional Writing and Publishing

Code	Title	Hours
Required Course		
ENGL 280	Media and Professional Writing	3
Select two of the following:		
ENGL 380	Advanced Professional Writing	6
ENGL 382	Editing and Publishing	
ENGL 383	Writing Digital and New Media	
ENGL 384	Technical Writing	
ENGL 388	Writing for the Health Professions	
ENGL 389	Writing for Community Advocacy and Activism	
Select one of the following:		
ENGL 493	Internship in Nonfiction Writing	3-6

ENGL 496	Portfolio Practicum	
Total Hours		12-15

Race, Gender, Sexuality, and Multiethnic English Studies

Code	Title	Hours
Select three of the following, according to the guidelines listed above.		
ENGL 118	Introduction to African American Literature, 1760-1910	
ENGL 119	Introduction to African American Literature Since 1910	
ENGL 229	Introduction to Asian Film	
ENGL 245	Introduction to Gender, Sexuality and Literature	
ENGL 247	Women and Literature	
ENGL 258	The Grammar and Style of Non-Standard Englishes in the U.S.	
ENGL 260	Comparative Black Literatures	
ENGL 261	Reading Black Women Writing	
ENGL 262	Black Cultural Studies	
ENGL 264	Introduction to Native American Literatures	
ENGL 265	The Harlem Renaissance	
ENGL 266	Topics in African Literature	
ENGL 269	Introduction to Multiethnic Literatures in the United States	
ENGL 295	Latino Literary Studies	
ENGL 328	Asian American Literature	
ENGL 344	Gender Theory	
ENGL 345	Queer Theory	
ENGL 347	Gender and Sexuality in Literature	
ENGL 350	Disability Studies	
ENGL 351	Topics in Black Art and Literature	
ENGL 367	Latinx Literature	
ENGL 369	Multiethnic American Literature	
ENGL 441	Topics in Asian American Literature and Culture	
ENGL 443	Topics in Gender, Sexuality and Literature	
ENGL 444	Topics in Theories of Gender and Sexuality	
ENGL 449	Women and Film	
ENGL 450	Topics in Disability Studies	
ENGL 466	Topics in Multiethnic Literatures in the United States	
ENGL 467	Topics in Latinx Literature	
ENGL 469	Women's Literary Traditions	
ENGL 473	Topics in Black Literature	
Total Hours		9

Rhetoric, Public Engagement, and Language Studies

Code	Title	Hours
Select three of the following, according to the guidelines listed above:		
ENGL 153	Understanding Grammar and Style	
ENGL 154	Understanding Rhetoric	
ENGL 253	Environmental Rhetoric	
ENGL 258	The Grammar and Style of Non-Standard Englishes in the U.S.	
ENGL 280	Media and Professional Writing	
ENGL 282	Peer Tutoring in the Writing Center: Introduction to Theory and Practice	
ENGL 297	Studies in the Classical Tradition	
ENGL 330	Cultural and Media Studies	
ENGL 340	Literary Theory	
ENGL 344	Gender Theory	
ENGL 345	Queer Theory	
ENGL 346	History of Literary Criticism	
ENGL 350	Disability Studies	
ENGL 354	Rhetorical Studies	
ENGL 355	Rhetoric and Public Life	
ENGL 356	Argument and Persuasion	
ENGL 380	Advanced Professional Writing	
ENGL 383	Writing Digital and New Media	
ENGL 389	Writing for Community Advocacy and Activism	
ENGL 430	Topics in Cultural and Media Studies	
ENGL 444	Topics in Theories of Gender and Sexuality	
ENGL 446	Topics in Criticism and Theory	
ENGL 450	Topics in Disability Studies	
ENGL 451	English as Public Practice	
ENGL 452	The UIC Freshwater Lab Course	
ENGL 453	Freshwater Lab in Practice: Environmental Research, Projects, and Internships	
ENGL 454	Rhetoric	
ENGL 455	Topics in Rhetorical Studies	
ENGL 456	Topics in Language and Rhetoric	
ENGL 457	Topics in the English Language & Linguistics	
ENGL 458	History of the English Language	
ENGL 463	Discourse and Rhetoric	
ENGL 482	Campus Writing Consultants	
Total Hours		9

English Electives to Complete Minimum Major Hours

Code	Title	Hours
Electives		
Students must complete a minimum of 27 hours toward the major. If the student is pursuing only one concentration in the major, then additional coursework may be required to reach this minimum. No more than 3 hours of elective course work can be at the 100 level. Students completing multiple concentrations should reach the 27-hour minimum, in which case no additional electives are needed.		0-6
Total Hours		0-6

Upper -Level Course Requirement

Students must take at least two courses at the 300 level or above.

U.S. Social and Cultural Diversity Distribution Requirement

Over the course of the program, all English majors must complete one course in U.S. Social and Cultural Diversity. Students should consult the [General Education](#) section of the catalog to determine if any of the courses on this list are approved for General Education.

U.S. Social and Cultural Diversity Course List

Code	Title	Hours
ENGL 118	Introduction to African American Literature, 1760-1910	3
ENGL 119	Introduction to African American Literature Since 1910	3
ENGL 123	Introduction to Asian American Literature	3
ENGL 135	Understanding Popular Genres and Culture	3
ENGL 223	Introduction to Colonial and Postcolonial Literature	3
ENGL 229	Introduction to Asian Film	3
ENGL 245	Introduction to Gender, Sexuality and Literature	3
ENGL 247	Women and Literature	3
ENGL 258	The Grammar and Style of Non-Standard Englishes in the U.S.	3
ENGL 260	Comparative Black Literatures	3
ENGL 261	Reading Black Women Writing	3
ENGL 262	Black Cultural Studies	3
ENGL 264	Introduction to Native American Literatures	3
ENGL 265	The Harlem Renaissance	3
ENGL 266	Topics in African Literature	3
ENGL 267	Introduction to U.S. Latinx Literature	3
ENGL 269	Introduction to Multiethnic Literatures in the United States	3
ENGL 295	Latino Literary Studies	3
ENGL 322	Colonial and Postcolonial Literature	3
ENGL 328	Asian American Literature	3

ENGL 329	Literatures in English Other than English and American	3
ENGL 330	Cultural and Media Studies	3
ENGL 335	Studies in Literature and Popular Culture	3
ENGL 344	Gender Theory	3
ENGL 345	Queer Theory	3
ENGL 347	Gender and Sexuality in Literature	3
ENGL 350	Disability Studies	3
ENGL 351	Topics in Black Art and Literature	3
ENGL 367	Latinx Literature	3
ENGL 369	Multiethnic American Literature	3
ENGL 409	Topics in Literature and Culture	3
ENGL 422	Topics in Postcolonial and World Literature in English	3
ENGL 430	Topics in Cultural and Media Studies	3
ENGL 435	Topics in Popular Culture and Literature	3
ENGL 441	Topics in Asian American Literature and Culture	3 or 4
ENGL 443	Topics in Gender, Sexuality and Literature	3
ENGL 444	Topics in Theories of Gender and Sexuality	3
ENGL 449	Women and Film	3 or 4
ENGL 450	Topics in Disability Studies	3 or 4
ENGL 466	Topics in Multiethnic Literatures in the United States	3
ENGL 467	Topics in Latinx Literature	3
ENGL 469	Women's Literary Traditions	3 or 4
ENGL 473	Topics in Black Literature	3

Recommended Plan of Study

Courses which satisfy concentrations, distributions, and/or English electives should be chosen in consultation with an English Department advisor.

Course	Title	Hours
First Year		
Fall Semester		
ENGL 160	Academic Writing I: Writing in Academic and Public Contexts	3
Quantitative Reasoning		3-5
Foreign Language		4
General Education Requirement course		3-5
Hours		13-17
Spring Semester		
ENGL 161	Academic Writing II: Writing for Inquiry and Research	3
ENGL 207	Interpretation and Critical Analysis	3
ENGL 1xx		3
Foreign Language		4
General Education Requirement course		3-5
Hours		16-18
Second Year		
Fall Semester		
ENGL 208	English Studies I: Beginnings to the 17th Century	3
ENGL 2xx, 3xx		3
Foreign Language		4
General Education Requirement course		3-5

General Education Requirement course	3
Hours	16-18
Spring Semester	
ENGL 209 English Studies II: 17th Century to Today	3
ENGL 1xx, 2xx, 3xx	3
Foreign Language	4
General Education Requirement course	3
General Education Requirement course	3
Hours	16
Third Year	
Fall Semester	
ENGL 2xx, 3xx	3
ENGL 2xx, 3xx	3
General Education Requirement course	3
General Education Requirement course/Elective	3
Electives	3
Hours	15
Spring Semester	
ENGL 2xx, 3xx, 4xx	3
ENGL 2xx, 3xx, 4xx	3
General Education Requirement course/Elective	3
Electives	6
Hours	15
Fourth Year	
Fall Semester	
ENGL 3xx, 4xx	3
Electives	12
Hours	15
Spring Semester	
ENGL 3xx, 4xx	3
Electives	11-12
Hours	14-15
Total Hours	120

Note: One course from another department other than English may count toward the major. Students may petition the Office of Undergraduate Studies to apply this credit.