Faculty

Brantley Bryant
Gillian Conoley
Anne Goldman
Kim Hester-Williams
Stefan Kiesbye
Catherine Kroll
John Kunat
Noelle Oxenhandler*
Josefa Pace
Thaine Stearns
Timothy Wandling
Chingling Wo

* Faculty Early Retirement Program

Programs Offered

Bachelor of Arts in English
- Literature concentration
- Creative Writing concentration
- Secondary Teaching Credential Preparation

Master of Arts in English

Minor in English

Minor in Linguistics

English remains one of the most various, comprehensive, and liberalizing of the liberal arts. It familiarizes us with the written documents that define the past and give meaning and purpose to the present; it investigates the sources and structure of language; it enriches our awareness of language in written and oral forms; it stirs the creative and recreational impulses; and it provides us with multiple ways to envision our world and ourselves through the study of fiction, poetry, drama, and both expository and creative non-fiction.

The English Department is one of the University’s largest departments. In addition to its majors, the department serves many other students who take English courses to improve their writing, to develop a minor or double major field, or to pursue interests in some aspect of literature, language, or creative writing. English is the field most frequently chosen by students combining fields of study in an interdisciplinary major—for example, literature and sociology; literature and history; literature and art; and linguistics and psychology.

Students who wish to major in English may choose one of three concentrations in the major, each of which provides a coherent program with a particular emphasis. After a core of required courses, students will follow programs leading to a major in English and American Literature, creative writing, or secondary teaching, which prepares students to enter postbaccalaureate teacher credentialing programs.

Students who have majored in English work in journalism, publishing, business, public relations and advertising, broadcasting, law and government service, as well as in elementary, secondary, and college teaching. All of these fields require an understanding of human motivation and of the conflicts and dilemmas that people face. Our graduates enter those fields able to express themselves clearly, logically, and with passion. They understand the relationship between language and community.

The English Department also serves students in the applied arts minor, which may be of special interest to those seeking the Multiple Subject (elementary level) Teaching Credential and the University’s pre-law and pre-health professions programs.

The English Department publishes the following professional and student publications: Zaum and Volt, A Magazine of the Arts. Students wishing to participate in the production of these publications should contact the English Department office.

To be admitted to the English major, students must receive a grade of at least B- in ENGL 101 and 214 or their equivalents. A student with a grade lower than B- in either ENGL 101 or 214 may petition for a review by the department. The review will be based on the contents of an appeal folder, containing three essays from the class being reviewed, and a one-to-two-paragraph explanation of the basis of appeal.

Bachelor of Arts in English

(See page 141 for a sample four-year program.)

Degree Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major requirements, core (24 units) and concentration (24 units)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General electives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total units needed for graduation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Major Core Requirements for All English Majors

(Except secondary teaching concentration students; please see Secondary Teaching Preparation, below.)

An Introductory Course

Complete the following course:

ENGL 201 Literary Analysis: Seminar   4
Two Surveys of Literature
Complete both of the following courses:
ENGL 235: Early American & British Literature
ENGL 236: Later American & British Literature

A Shakespeare Course
Complete one of the following courses:
ENGL 339 Introduction to Shakespeare
ENGL 439 Studies in Shakespeare

A Survey of Literature in a Distinct Ethnic/Cultural Tradition
Complete the following course:
ENGL 350: Survey in a Distinct Ethnic/Cultural Tradition

A Theory Course
Complete one of the following courses:
ENGL 401 Introduction to Modern Critical Theory
ENGL 402: Introduction to Digital Humanities
ENGL 403: Contemporary World Literature: Form and Practice
ENGL 487 Studies in Rhetoric

Total units in the major core: 24

Note: English majors must choose one of three concentrations: literature, creative writing, or secondary teaching.

Literature Concentration Requirements

A Junior Seminar
Complete the following course:
ENGL 385: Junior Seminar

A Senior-Level Course in British Literature
Complete one of the following courses:
ENGL 448: Periods in British Literature
ENGL 481: Studies in British Literature
ENGL 484: Individual Authors: English

A Senior-Level Course in American Literature
Complete one of the following courses:
ENGL 450: Periods in American Literature
ENGL 482: Studies in American Literature
ENGL 483: Individual Authors: American

A Senior Capstone Course
Complete the following course:
ENGL 485: Senior Seminar
ENGL 385 is a prerequisite for ENGL 485

An Additional Introductory Course
Complete one of the following courses:
ENGL 160B: Humanities Learning Community
ENGL 203: Introduction to Linguistic Studies
ENGL 207: Introduction to Creative Writing
ENGL 214: Literature of the World
ENGL 215: Introduction to California Literature
ENGL 273: Critical and Creative Readings of Literary Texts
ENGL 304: War and Peace Lecture Series
ENGL 314: Modern World Literature in English
ENGL 315: California Ethnic Literature
ENGL 345: Women Writers

Or relevant GE courses and other courses from the School of Arts and Humanities per consultation with a department advisor.

Additional Advanced or Experiential Course
Complete one or more of the following courses for a total of four units:
ENGL 368: Small Press Editing: Zaum
ENGL 395: Community Involvement Program
ENGL 460: Teaching Assistant in English
ENGL 462: Research Assistant in English
ENGL 499: Internship

Any 400-level Literature Course (ENGL 401, 402, 403, 435, 439, 448, 481, 484, 450, 482, 483, 487)
Any 400-level Creative Writing Course (ENGL 407, 409, 418, 430, 475)
Any 500-level Literature Course (ENGL 500, 536, 581, 582, 583, 584)
Any 500-level Creative Writing Course (ENGL 530)

Students who declare minors in a related field may consult with a department advisor for the possibility of waiving or double-counting units in either Additional Introductory Course or Additional Advanced or Experiential Course.

Total units in the Literature concentration: 24

Creative Writing Concentration Requirements

An Introductory Course
Complete one of the following courses:
ENGL 160B: Humanities Learning Community
ENGL 207: Introduction to Creative Writing
ENGL 273: Critical and Creative Readings of Literary Texts
ENGL 307: Introduction to Fiction Writing
ENGL 318: Introduction to Poetry Writing
ENGL 352: Personal Essay

Or relevant GE courses and other courses from the School of Arts and Humanities per consultation with a department advisor.

Three 300/400 Level Creative Writing Courses
Complete three of the following courses. Courses must be from at least two of the three different genre groupings listed below (Fiction, Poetry, Nonfiction):

Fiction
ENGL 307: Introduction to Fiction Writing
ENGL 407: Advanced Fiction Writing
ENGL 409: Master Class – Fiction Writing

Poetry
ENGL 318: Introduction to Poetry Writing
ENGL 418: Advanced Poetry Writing

Nonfiction, Personal Essay, and Select Genres
ENGL 352: Personal Essay
ENGL 430: Creative Writing: Select Genres
ENGL 475: Master Class – Nonfiction

A Senior Capstone Course
Complete the following course:
ENGL 435: Directed Writing
Additional Advanced or Experiential Course
Complete one or more of the following courses for a total of four units:
- ENGL 368: Small Press Editing: Zaum
- ENGL 395: Community Involvement Program
- ENGL 460: Teaching Assistant in English
- ENGL 462: Research Assistant in English
- ENGL 499: Internship
- Any 400-level Literature Course (ENGL 401, 402, 403, 435, 439, 448, 481, 484, 450, 482, 483, 487)
- Any 400-level Creative Writing Course (ENGL 407, 409, 418, 430, 475)
- Any 500-level Literature Course (ENGL 500, 536, 581, 582, 583, 584)
- Any 500-level Creative Writing Course (ENGL 530)

Students who declare a minor in a related field may consult with a department advisor for the possibility of waiving or double-counting units in Additional Advanced or Experiential Course.

Total units in the Creative Writing concentration 24

English Education Concentration
(Secondary Teaching Preparation)*

Collateral Requirements: 4 Units
Complete the following courses:
- ENGL 214 World Literature or ENGL 314
Field Work in Education 45 hours

Core Requirements: 44 Units
Complete the Following Courses:
- ENGL 201: Introduction to Literary Analysis
- ENGL 313: Classical Literature and Mythology (Fall only)
- ENGL 341: Explorations in Language (Fall only)
- ENGL 343: Youth and Literature (Fall only)
- ENGL 379: Pedagogical Grammar (Spring only)
- ENGL 491: Teaching Composition (Fall only)
- ENGL 492: Reading and Responding to Literature (Spring only)
- ENGL 496: English Education Senior Capstone (Spring only)

Complete two of the following courses:
- ENGL 235: Early American & British Literature
- ENGL 236: Later American & British Literature

Complete one of the following courses:
- ENGL 339: Introduction to Shakespeare
- ENGL 439: Studies in Shakespeare

For the extended studies portion of the single-subject credential concentration, students will choose either Strand 1 or Strand 2:

Strand 1

Extended Studies: Literature and Text Analysis 8 Units
Complete two of the following courses:
- ENGL 315: California Ethnic Literature
- ENGL 345: Women Writers
- ENGL 402: Introduction to Digital Humanities
- ENGL 448: Periods in British Literature
- ENGL 450: Periods in American Literature
- ENGL 481: Studies in British Literature

Strand 2

Extended Studies: Composition, Rhetoric, and Linguistics 8 Units
Complete two of the following courses:
- ENGL 307, or 318, or 352 Creative Writing Course
- ENGL 375 Advanced Composition
- ENGL 402: Introduction to Digital Humanities
- ENGL 487 Studies in Rhetoric
- ENGL 489 Topics in Linguistics
- ENGL 495 Tutor in Writing Center
- ANTH 480 Studies in Language Use

OR an elective to be determined with and approved by an advisor

Total units in the English Education (Secondary Teaching Preparation) concentration 52

Plus 4 collateral units and field work in Education

*All single subject concentration courses must be passed with a grade of C or better in order to qualify as meeting the waiver requirements. In addition, students must achieve a minimum GPA of 3.00 (in single subject program courses) to qualify for waiver approval.

Teaching Credential Preparation
The English Education concentration is a program of study that satisfies the subject matter preparation requirement for entry into an English teaching credential program and exempts the student from taking the CSET (California Subject Examination for Teachers) in English. English majors interested in seeking a general elementary credential may demonstrate subject matter competence by passing the CSET Multiple Subjects Assessment. For more information, contact the English Department Office at (707) 664-2140.

Advising Clarifications for all Concentrations

1. At least 24 units of the courses listed above must be upper-division.
2. There are several ways in which major coursework may include GE units from areas A, C, or D. Students should consult with faculty about the relationship between their GE and Major coursework.
3. The 48 units listed above will be used in computing the major GPA in accordance with University policy; no courses taken Cr/NC may be counted toward the major unless they are offered with that option only.
4. Additional units in English, beyond the 48 units listed above, will be counted as general college electives and should not be listed on the Major/Minor Requirements form.

In accordance with University policy, courses in Independent Study (495, 595) shall not duplicate regularly offered courses listed in our catalog.
Minor in English

Students majoring in other fields may develop, in consultation with an English Department advisor, a 20-unit English minor. Required: Literary Analysis (ENGL 201), a survey course (to be selected from ENGL 235, 236, or equivalent), and an upper-division writing course (to be selected from ENGL 307, 318, 352, 375, 475, or other at the recommendation of your advisor). A minimum of one 400 level literature course must be taken. All courses must be taken for a grade to count toward the minor. At least nine units must be taken in residence at SSU.

Minor in Linguistics

Students majoring in English or other fields may develop, in consultation with one of the linguistics program advisors, a 20-unit linguistics minor. Required: one introductory linguistics course (to be selected from ENGL 203, ENGL 341, or SPAN 304), and one methodological course (to be selected from ENGL 489, ENGL 588, ANTH 480, SPAN 400, or SPAN 490). All courses must be taken for a grade to count toward the minor. At least nine units must be taken in residence at SSU.

Master of Arts in English

The graduate program in English at Sonoma State University consists of 34 units of graded work. Literary Criticism, Creative Writing, and Rhetoric/English Education are emphases within the degree available to the student.

Admission to the Program

The English Department M.A. program accepts applicants only for the fall semester of each year and requires at least a 3.00 GPA in the last 60 academic units taken. Program applicants must file the University application form via Cal State Apply (https://www2.cal-state.edu/apply) and have all their academic transcripts sent to the University Admissions and Records Office by the admission deadline set by the department for that year, typically March.

At the same time, applicants must also upload the following: three letters of recommendation; a brief cover letter indicating the applicant’s interest in the program and anticipated field of study (creative writing, literary criticism, or rhetoric/composition); a sample of persuasive prose of between 10 and 20 pages in length; and, for those applying in creative writing, a sample of creative work. These policies and procedures are described in the “MA in English Handbook,” which is available online at: http://www.sonoma.edu/english/programs/ma-program.html.

The English Department Graduate Committee reviews all complete application files that meet campus and departmental admission standards and admits the most qualified of these applicants to the program. Applicants may enter the program with conditional or classified status. Classified status is usually granted to admitted applicants with undergraduate majors in English; conditionally classified status, which requires the completion of 4 to 24 additional units in English, is usually granted to admitted applicants with an undergraduate major in another field. Please see the catalog section on Graduate Degrees for more information.

Advancement to Candidacy

Students are advanced to candidacy when they have 1) completed 28 units of coursework (except for 6 completion units), and 2) passed either the department’s qualifying written exam or the Literature GRE (minimum score at the 65th percentile). Advancement to candidacy is formalized by the filing of a GS01 form with Graduate Studies.

Program Requirements

The M.A. in English requires 34 units. Students complete 28 units through coursework; the remaining 6 will be taken either as thesis units (599) or, for the creative writing track, as directed writing units (535). No more than 4 units of directed writing units (535) may be counted toward the degree prior to the culminating option. Both options require candidates to take English 500 and two 500-level literature seminars. Two courses in English may be taken at the 400 level for degree credit.

Research assistantship units (460) do not count toward the 34-unit total; nor, except at the discretion of the graduate coordinator, do independent study units (595).

Those choosing the creative writing option are required to write a creative thesis, together with an introduction, and to give a public presentation of their work. Students in literary criticism and Rhetoric/English Education are required to write a thesis and to defend this project after it has been completed.

English Courses

A list of courses offered with descriptions appear in the separate course-listing section of this catalog. Please see the Schedule of Classes for most current information and faculty assignments.

A. ENGL 101 and 214 or their equivalents are prerequisites for upper-division courses.

B. These classes (or their equivalents), and ENGL 201, are prerequisites for English 400-level and 500-level courses; or by consent of instructor. In the Literature concentration. ENGL 385 is a prerequisite for ENGL 485, or by consent of instructor.

C. Prerequisites apply to both major and minor.
### Sample Four-Year Program for Bachelor of Arts in English: Creative Writing Concentration

**FRESHMAN YEAR: 30-32 Units**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall Semester (15-16 Units)</th>
<th>Spring Semester (15-16 Units)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A2 ENGL 101 or 100B (3-4)</td>
<td>Elective or complete 100B (3-4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GE course in area B4 (MATH) (4)</td>
<td>GE area B1 (4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electives (4)</td>
<td>GE area D1 course (4)</td>
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**SOPHOMORE YEAR: 30 Units**

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<tr>
<th>Fall Semester (15 Units)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 235 Survey (4)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 201 Lit Analysis (4)</td>
<td>Additional Major or General Elective (4)**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GE Area D3 course (3)</td>
<td>GE area D4 course (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GE Area B2 with lab (4)</td>
<td>GE C1 ENGL 207: intro to CW (4)</td>
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**JUNIOR YEAR: 30 Units**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall Semester (15 Units)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>ENGL 339 or ENGL 439 Shakespeare (4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>300/400 level CW class (4)</td>
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<tr>
<td>GE U/D area C2 (4)</td>
<td>GE U/D area D5 (3)</td>
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<td>Major or General Electives (4)**</td>
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<td>ENGL 435: CW Senior capstone (4)</td>
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<td>Additional Major or General Electives (4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GE U/D area E (3)</td>
<td>ZAUM (ENGL 368) or Experiential course in major (4)****</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electives (4)</td>
<td>Electives (3)</td>
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**TOTAL UNITS: 120**

**Be sure to take 4 additional English major elective units if took neither 160B as a freshman or a C1 or C2 course in the English Department (207, 273, 314, 315, 345). (see concentration plan in catalog)**

**See list in Catalog of accepted experiential courses for CW concentration**

For 300/400 level CW courses, see catalog description for upper division CW courses.

### Sample Four-Year Program for Bachelor of Arts in English: Literature Concentration

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<td>ENGL 400 level Brit or American Lit (4)</td>
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<td>GE U/D area C2 (4)</td>
<td>GE U/D area D5 (3)</td>
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<td>Experiential course in major (4)****</td>
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**TOTAL UNITS: 120**

**Be sure to take 4 additional English major elective units if took neither 160B as a freshman or a C1 or C2 course in the English Department (207, 273, 314, 315, 345). (see concentration plan in catalog)**

**See list in Catalog of accepted experiential courses for literature concentration**

For 300/400 level CW courses, see catalog description for upper division CW courses.