WRITING, ENGLISH (BA)

Degree: Bachelor of Arts
Major: English
Concentration: Writing
Program Code: 3215

This program is no longer accepting new students.

The English Program offers concentrations leading to a Bachelor of Arts in Literature, Creative Writing, and Secondary Education. The skills a student develops as an English major, such as writing, editing, problem solving, and critical thinking and analysis, are highly prized by employers in nearly every profession. The English Program is proud of what it offers – cultural experiences, unique and interesting courses and instruction, committed faculty and support staff, and a desire to provide the best liberal arts education possible.

Many occupations require individuals who can write and speak well, solve problems, learn new information quickly, and work well with others on a team. This means that English graduates use their education in a wide variety of fields, and your future career may relate more to your personal career interests, work values, and transferable skills than anything specific to the content of your major. Who hires English Majors? Book publishers, magazines, arts organizations, political offices, large corporations, radio/television stations, advertising agencies, social service agencies, chambers of commerce, research institutions, marketing consultants, newspapers, greeting card publishers, law firms, public interest organizations, consumer action groups, health organizations, educational institutions, literary agencies, theaters, printing firms, high tech firms, tutoring services, public and corporate libraries, government agencies, and public relations firms.

For more information on what you can do with this major, visit Career Services' What to Do with a Major? resource.

All CMU baccalaureate graduates are expected to demonstrate proficiency in specialized knowledge/applied learning, quantitative fluency, communication fluency, critical thinking, personal and social responsibility, and information literacy. In addition to these campus-wide student learning outcomes, graduates of this major will be able to:

1. Express themselves effectively in a variety of forms. (Specialized Knowledge)
2. Support interpretive claims about a variety of texts. (Critical Thinking)
3. Identify the salient features of literary texts from a broad range of English and American literary periods. (Specialized Knowledge)
4. Employ knowledge of literary traditions to produce imaginative writing. (Communication Fluency/Applied Learning)
5. Use research to assist in problem-solving. (Critical Thinking)
6. Apply standard conventions of English grammar and punctuation and explain grammatical structures using relevant terminology. (Specialized Knowledge)

Requirements

Each section below contains details about the requirements for this program. Select a header to expand the information/requirements for that particular section of the program's requirements.

To print or save an overview of this program's information, including the program description, learning outcomes, requirements, suggested course sequencing (if applicable), and advising and graduation information, scroll to the bottom of the left-hand navigation menu and select "Print Options." This will give you the options to either "Send Page to Printer" or "Download PDF of This Page." The "Download PDF of This Page" option prepares a much more concise presentation of all program information. The PDF is also printable and may be preferable due to its brevity.

Institutional Degree Requirements

The following institutional degree requirements apply to all CMU baccalaureate degrees. Specific programs may have different requirements that must be met in addition to institutional requirements.

- 120 semester hours minimum.
- Students must complete a minimum of 30 of the last 60 hours of credit at CMU, with at least 15 semester hours in major discipline courses numbered 300 or higher.
- 40 upper-division credits (an alternative credit limit applies to the Bachelor of Applied Science degree).
- 2.00 cumulative GPA or higher in all CMU coursework.
- A course may only be used to fulfill one requirement for each degree/certificate.
- No more than six semester hours of independent study courses can be used toward the degree.
- Non-traditional credit, such as advanced placement, credit by examination, and credit for prior learning, is limited by the institutional residency requirements for the baccalaureate degree. Cooperative education and internship courses may be taken multiple times, up to a maximum of 15 credit hours.
- Pre-collegiate courses (usually numbered below 100) cannot be used for graduation.
- Capstone exit assessment/projects (e.g., Major Field Achievement Test) requirements are identified under Program-Specific Degree Requirements.
- The Catalog Year determines which program sheet and degree requirements a student must fulfill in order to graduate. Visit with your advisor or academic department to determine which catalog year and program requirements you should follow.
- See "Requirements for Undergraduate Degrees and Certificates" in the catalog for a complete list of graduation requirements.

Essential Learning Requirements

(31 semester hours)

See the current catalog for a list of courses that fulfill the requirements below. If a course is an Essential Learning option and a requirement for your major, you must use it to fulfill the major requirement and make a different selection for the Essential Learning requirement.

Code	Title	Semester Credit Hours
English [1]		
ENGL 111	English Composition I-GTCO1	3
ENGL 112	English Composition II-GTCO2	3
Mathematics [1]		
MATH 110	Mathematical Investigations-GTMA1	3
History		
Select one History course		3
Humanities		

Select one Humanities course	3
Social and Behavioral Sciences	
Select one Social and Behavioral Sciences course	3
Select one Social and Behavioral Sciences course	3
Fine Arts	
Select one Fine Arts course	3
Natural Sciences [2]	
Select one Natural Sciences course	3
Select one Natural Sciences course with a lab	4
Total Semester Credit Hours	**31**

[1] Must receive a grade of "C" or better and must be completed by the time the student has 60 semester hours.

[2] One course must include a lab.

Other Lower Division Requirements

Code	Title	Semester Credit Hours
Wellness Requirement		
KINE 100	Health and Wellness	1
Select one Activity course		1
Essential Learning Capstone [1]		
ESSL 290	Maverick Milestone	3
ESSL 200	Essential Speech	1
Total Semester Credit Hours		**6**

[1] Essential Learning Capstone must be taken after completion of the Essential Learning English and Mathematics requirements, and when a student has earned between 45 and 75 hours.

Foundation Courses

(24 semester hours, must pass each course with a grade of "C" or higher.)

Code	Title	Semester Credit Hours
ENGL 210	Introduction to Literary Studies	3
ENGL 250	Introduction to Creative Writing	3
ENGL 254	Survey of English Literature I-GTAH2	3
ENGL 255	Survey of English Literature II-GTAH2	3
ENGL 261	Survey of American Literature I-GTAH2	3
ENGL 262	Survey of American Literature II-GTAH2	3
Select two consecutive classes in the same foreign language [1]		6
Total Semester Credit Hours		**24**

[1] FLAS 114 & FLAS 115 will NOT fulfill this requirement.

Program Specific Degree Requirements

(30 semester hours, must pass each course with a grade of "C" or higher and maintain a 2.0 cumulative GPA or higher in coursework in this area.

Code	Title	Semester Credit Hours
English Core		
ENGL 421	Introduction to Literary Theory and Criticism	3
ENGL 494	Seminar in Literature [1]	3
Required Concentration Courses		
ENGL 386	Roots of Modern Rhetoric	3
ENGL 492	Seminar in Writing	3
ENGL 440	History of the English Language	3
or ENGL 451	Understanding and Using English Grammar	
Literary Backgrounds		
Early Literature		
Select one of the following courses:		3
ENGL 301	Classical Greek and Latin Literature	
ENGL 311	English Medieval Literature	
ENGL 313	English Renaissance Literature	
ENGL 335	The Bible as Literature	
ENGL 355	Shakespeare	
ENGL 470	18th Century British Literature	
Later Literature		
Select one of the following courses:		3
ENGL 314	American Literature to 1830	
ENGL 315	American Literature 1830-1870	
ENGL 316	American Literature 1870-1900	
ENGL 330	Women in World Thought and Literature	
ENGL 435	American Literature 1900-1945	
ENGL 436	American Literature 1945-Present	
ENGL 438	Ethnic Experiences in U.S. Literature	
ENGL 471	British Romanticism	
ENGL 475	Victorian Literature	
ENGL 478	20th Century British Literature	
Writing Concentration Electives		
Select 9 semester hours of the following:		9
ENGL 380	Memoir and Creative Non-Fiction	
ENGL 381	Creative Writing: Fiction	
ENGL 382	Creative Writing: Crafting Fiction	
ENGL 383	Creative Writing: Poetry	
ENGL 384	The Art of the Essay	
ENGL 385	Technical and Professional Writing	
ENGL 388	Creative Writing: Crafting Poetry	
ENGL 389	Screenwriting	
ENGL 392	Introduction to Copy Editing	
ENGL 396	Topics	
ENGL 496	Topics	
Total Semester Credit Hours		**30**

[1] ENGL 494 must be taken after 90 semester hours have been accumulated. A student may take the seminar in the junior year, but must take it again in the senior year. The junior-year class will count as an elective.

General Electives

All college level courses appearing on your final transcript, not listed above that will bring your total semester hours to 120 hours, including 40 upper division hours. 29 semester hours; 10 hours of upper division may be needed.

Code	Title	Semester Credit Hours
Select electives		29
Total Semester Credit Hours		**29**

Suggested Course Plan

First Year		
Fall Semester		**Semester Credit Hours**
ENGL 111	English Composition I-GTCO1	3
MATH 110	Mathematical Investigations-GTMA1	3
Foundation Course - Foreign Language		3
Essential Learning - Social and Behavioral Science		3
Essential Learning - History		3
KINE 100	Health and Wellness	1
	Semester Credit Hours	**16**
Spring Semester		
ENGL 112	English Composition II-GTCO2	3
ENGL 250	Introduction to Creative Writing	3
Foundation Course - Foreign Language		3
Essential Learning - Fine Arts		3
Essential Learning - Natural Science with Lab		4
	Semester Credit Hours	**16**
Second Year		
Fall Semester		
ENGL 261	Survey of American Literature I-GTAH2	3
ENGL 254	Survey of English Literature I-GTAH2	3
Essential Learning - Social and Behavioral Science		3
Essential Learning - Humanities		3
ENGL 210	Introduction to Literary Studies	3
KINA Activity		1
	Semester Credit Hours	**16**
Spring Semester		
ENGL 262	Survey of American Literature II-GTAH2	3
ENGL 255	Survey of English Literature II-GTAH2	3
Upper Division Writing Elective		3
Essential Learning - Natural Science		3
ESSL 290	Maverick Milestone	3
ESSL 200	Essential Speech	1
	Semester Credit Hours	**16**
Third Year		
Fall Semester		
ENGL 386	Roots of Modern Rhetoric	3
ENGL 355	Shakespeare	3
ENGL 440 or ENGL 451	History of the English Language or Understanding and Using English Grammar	3
Upper Division Writing Elective		3
Elective		3
	Semester Credit Hours	**15**
Spring Semester		
Elective (4 courses)		12
Upper Division Elective [1]		3
	Semester Credit Hours	**15**
Fourth Year		
Fall Semester		
ENGL 384	The Art of the Essay	3
ENGL 492	Seminar in Writing	3
ENGL 421	Introduction to Literary Theory and Criticism	3
Upper Division Elective		3
Elective		3
	Semester Credit Hours	**15**
Spring Semester		
ENGL 494	Seminar in Literature	3
Upper Division Elective [2]		3
Upper Division Elective		3
Elective		3
	Semester Credit Hours	**12**
	Total Semester Credit Hours	**121**

1 ENGL 385 recommended.
2 ENGL 383 recommended.

Advising and Graduation

Advising Process and DegreeWorks

Documentation on the pages related to this program is intended for informational purposes to help determine what courses and associated requirements are needed to earn a degree. The suggested course sequencing outlines how students could finish degree requirements. Some courses are critical to complete in specific semesters, while others may be moved around. Meeting with an academic advisor is essential in planning courses and altering the suggested course sequencing. It is ultimately the student's responsibility to understand and fulfill the requirements for their intended degree(s).

DegreeWorks is an online degree audit tool available in MAVzone. It is the official record used by the Registrar's Office to evaluate progress towards a degree and determine eligibility for graduation. Students are responsible for reviewing their DegreeWorks audit on a regular basis and should discuss questions or concerns with their advisor or academic department head. Discrepancies in requirements should be reported to the Registrar's Office.

Graduation Process

Students must complete the following in the first two months of the semester prior to completing their degree requirements:

- Review their DegreeWorks audit and create a plan that outlines how unmet requirements will be met in the final semester.
- Meet with their advisor and modify their plan as needed. The advisor must approve the final plan.
- Submit the "Intent to Graduate" form to the Registrar's Office to officially declare the intended graduation date and commencement ceremony plans.
- Register for all needed courses and complete all requirements for each degree sought.

Submission deadlines and commencement details can be found on the Graduation web page.

If a student's petition for graduation is denied, it will be their responsibility to consult the Registrar's Office regarding next steps.