

## English

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## Department Mission

The English department recruits, supports, and retains faculty members who are active scholars and accomplished instructors to pursue a study and a discussion of humane ideas as they are found in the literature and culture of societies where English is the dominant or colonizing language. By association and membership in professional organizations, English faculty regularly participate in and contribute to the wider community of scholarship, research, and pedagogical theory in the disciplines of literature, writing, and cultural studies. We seek to serve the larger academic community and the local Brooklyn community through event programming and collaborative projects.

We provide our students with an education of the highest quality in American, British, and world literature and cultural studies. In writing, we integrate breadth with depth, recognizing tradition's place in contemporary expression. We look to have our students become independent, self-motivated learners, confident in their research and synthesizing skills; we attract students from diverse geographical, professional, racial, and ethical backgrounds; and we encourage minority and foreign applicants as well as returning and adult learners.

To achieve these general goals, the Department of English operates three groups of programs: The Writing Program, The General Education Program Courses and Electives in English Language and Literature, The Major and Minor Programs.

## Goals and Objectives

### **The Writing Program:**

- *Students will improve upon inadequate writing preparation and poor written expression by enrolling in courses designed to remediate writing problems while allowing students to demonstrate competence in written expression.*
- *Students will develop skills, confidence and competence in written expression.*
- *In their writing, students will develop sound organization of thought, clarity in the structure of sentences and paragraphs, forceful, energetic prose and critical thinking.*

- *Students with second language and dialect interference problems will be able to move into the mainstream of standard written edited English.*

### **The General Education Program Courses and Electives:**

- *Students will increase their understanding of traditional genres by study in courses in major authors and in special topics courses on contemporary authors and trends.*
- *Students will refine their interpretive skills by being introduced to a variety of critical methods in courses on critical topics and the nature of literary analysis.*
- *Students will be able to discuss literary and cultural theories, enriching their understanding of a work.*
- *Students will be able to explain the richness and diversity of the social and ethical values in literature and their response to those values.*
- *Students will be able to demonstrate sine if their sensitivity to language and to literary structure in their own writing through the cognitive and affective aims of the required writing component of each course.*

### **The Major and Minor Programs:**

- *Students will be able to discuss and explain a variety of critical methods in courses on critical topics and the nature of literary analysis.*
- *Students will strengthen their response to literature upon completion of courses that focus on British, American, and international literary and cultural motifs.*
- *Through practice in careful, critical reading, students will develop a sense of literary and cultural theories, enriching their understanding of the texts they are examining.*
- *Students will develop skills, confidence, and competence in written expression through the required writing component of each course, by courses offered in advanced writing and research, and through courses in creative writing.*
- *Students will participate in internship opportunities and career counseling for both majors and minors to prepare them for graduate studies in English, as well as a wide range of careers.*

# Program Requirements

## Major in English

English majors develop skills for a variety of positions in business, research, education, publishing, finance, and financial institutions; in cultural, entertainment, and communications fields; and in health-care industries. English offers a strong background for pre-law study. English majors may seek careers in publishing, public relations, advertising, media, or teaching. Occupations to be considered are copywriter, columnist, commentator, critic, editor, production assistant, public relations representative, reporter, correspondent, technical writer, or writer/author. English as a major, however, is versatile, and helps develop skills useful anywhere.

The requirements for the English major are designed to provide a sense of the historical, cultural, and aesthetic context of American, English and world literatures. After taking WRI 1100: Writing in the Public Sphere, the major requires five “gateway” courses. Gateway courses are an introduction to analytical thinking, inquiry, and collaboration; they are writing intensive and concentrate on cultural materials along with literary readings in all genres. The gateway courses are: a two-course sequence in American Literature (ENG 2110 and ENG 2120), a two-course sequence in British Literature (ENG 2102 and ENG 2115), and one 2000-level course in world literature and global themes. The course sequence for the English major follows the numbering of courses so prospective majors are advised to complete the 2000-level requirements before moving to the 3000-level courses.

The Department strongly recommends that English majors use some of their elective credits to pursue a Minor.

Courses	Credits	Prerequisite(s)	Co-Requisite(s)
General Education Program ( <a href="#">see page 15</a> ).....	48		
First Year College .....			
➔ <b>ITML - Take IT 1001 Computer Tools</b> .....			
Bodies of Knowledge.....			
➔ <b>HCE - Take at least ONE course in Fine Arts (FA)</b> .....			
➔ <b>PEM - Take at least ONE course in Philosophy (PHI)</b> .....			
➔ <b>WHG - Take at least ONE course in History (HIS)</b> .....			
ENG 1000 Digital Humanities .....	3		
ENG 2110 Colonial to Renaissance (American Literature Gateway) .....	3	WRI 1100	
ENG 2120 Realism to Modernism (American Literature Gateway) .....	3	WRI 1100	
ENG 2102 Romanticism to Modernism (British Literature Gateway) .....	3	WRI 1100	
ENG 2115 Epic to Novel (British Literature Gateway).....	3	WRI 1100	
Any 2000-level World Literature course (World Literature Gateway).....	3	WRI 1100	
Select <b>FIVE</b> ENG courses 3000 or higher.....	15	Any ENG course 2000 or higher	
Select <b>TWO</b> ENG courses 4000-4399 .....	6	Five ENG courses 2000 or higher	
ENG 4995 Independent Study .....	3	Three ENG or WRI courses 2000 or higher and Chair’s approval	
ENG 4997 Senior Thesis <sup>1</sup> .....	3	One ENG course 4000 or higher and Chair’s approval	
WRI 3010 Critical Writing and Analysis.....	3		
General electives <sup>2</sup> .....	30		
<b>Total credits required</b> .....	<b>126</b>		

<sup>1</sup>The successful completion of ENG 4997 satisfies the College’s Comprehensive Examination/Thesis Requirement.

<sup>2</sup>Majors are encouraged to take at least 6 credits in a foreign language.



## Minor in Drama

The minor in Drama enables students to focus on courses in drama along with annual public lectures and events related to performance, dramaturgy, and the current New York theater season. The minor

is designed for students who want to learn more about theatrical practice and spectacle.

Courses	Credits	Prerequisite(s)	Co-Requisite(s)
ENG 2700 Drama Survey I.....	3	WRI 1100	
ENG 2730 Drama Survey II.....	3	WRI 1100	
Select <b>FOUR</b> of the following.....	12		
ENG 2141 Greek Drama.....		WRI 1100	
ENG 2512 Medieval and Renaissance Drama.....		WRI 1100	
ENG 2530 Restoration Drama.....		WRI 1100	
ENG 2620 Shakespeare.....		WRI 1100	
ENG 3503 The Comic Vision.....		Any ENG course 2000 or higher	
ENG 3504 American Drama.....		Any ENG course 2000 or higher	
ENG 3505 The Tragic Muse.....		Any ENG course 2000 or higher	
ENG 3740 Irish Drama.....		Any ENG course 2000 or higher	
ENG 3750 Women Playwrights.....		Any ENG course 2000 or higher	
COM 2020 Oral Interpretation.....		COM 1000	
COM 2100 Acting I.....		COM 1000	
ENG 3601-3699 Special Topics in Drama.....		Any ENG course 2000 or higher	
Total credits required.....	18		

## Minor in English

A minor in English enables students with other majors to gain the insights and understanding that a systematic exposure to

literature provides. The writing and critical-thinking skills developed in English classes can be profitably applied in any Professional area or field especially sciences and medicine.

Courses	Credits	Prerequisite(s)	Co-Requisite(s)
Select <b>EITHER</b> Group A or Group B below.....	6		
Group A—Select <b>BOTH</b> of the following			
American Literature Gateway I (ENG 2110).....		WRI 1100	
American Literature Gateway II (ENG 2120).....		WRI 1100	
Group B—Select <b>BOTH</b> of the following			
British Literature Gateway I (ENG 2102).....		WRI 1100	
British Literature Gateway II (ENG 2120).....		WRI 1100	
Select <b>THREE</b> ENG courses 3000 or higher.....	9	Any ENG course 2000 or higher	
Any ENG course 4000-4399.....	3	Five ENG courses 2000 or higher	
Total credits required.....	18		

## Minor in Writing

The minor in Writing is intended for students who would like to improve their writing through a variety of workshop formats. The minor aims to assist students

with craft and form and better prepare students for possible careers in which written communication skills are essential for advancement.

Courses	Credits	Prerequisite(s)	Co-Requisite(s)
WRI-1100.....	3		
WRI-1500 Advanced Composition.....	3	WRI-1100	
Select <b>FOUR</b> of the following courses.....	12		
WRI 2100 Fiction.....		WRI 1100	
WRI 2200 Poetry.....		WRI 1100	
WRI 2300 Dramatic-Screenwriting.....		WRI 1100	
WRI 2400 Creative Nonfiction.....		WRI 1100	
WRI 2600-2699 Special Topics.....		WRI 1100	
WRI 3010 Critical Writing and Analysis.....		WRI 1100	
Total credits required.....	18		

## Department Courses

### **American and British Literature Courses**

The American Literature and British Literature courses are very consciously focused on offering the student a selection of literary genres. Additionally, the courses favor the aesthetic and cultural background of the time period or focus of the course. Students are expected to reflect their consciousness of the literary, artistic, and cultural boundaries in their course discussions and written work. American and British literature courses are offered in a sequence that repeats every four semesters. Students interested in a particular period of American or British literature will be able to find a course on that that period offered each year; individual courses are offered on a two-year rotation.

### **World Literature and Global Themes Courses**

The department offers courses in world literature in translation for students who are interested in international literature and global themes.

### **Dramatic Literature and Performance**

Dramatic literature courses offer classes focused on dramatic performance issues and require some performance elements along with study and discussion as a way of appreciating the genre.

### **Writing Courses**

Writing courses are offered to help students develop individual style and voice. The required writing course, WRI 1100-Writing in the Public Sphere, addresses the need of the student to exercise conscious citizenship in American society by learning to write about issues that daily affect the individual, and, by extension, find a place in a public forum. While all literature classes require written work, writing courses are designed for writing. Reading is essential for writing classes, but literature does not play a significant role in the introductory writing course. Creative writing courses will use literature from master writers for purposes different from literature classes.



