English (BA)

The Department of English expects its majors to acquire knowledge of English and American literature. In addition, it expects them to gain a sense of history and a reading knowledge of at least one second language. Majors should construct their programs in consultation with an advisor.

An English major offers skills in reading, writing, researching, organizing, responding, arguing, and most importantly, analysis – abilities we need now more than ever. The skills you learn as an English major never grow obsolete, as the ability to understand and shape language is one of the most essential parts of being human.

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UO English offers several ways to pursue your passion for stories. These include a major leading to a bachelor's degree and several minors that range from traditional studies in literature and rhetoric to more interdisciplinary programs in a wide range of texts, cultural artifacts, and new media, such as comics and cartoon studies.

Program Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this program, students will be able to:

- Read literary and cultural texts with discernment and comprehension and with an understanding of their conventions.
- Draw on relevant cultural and/or historical information to situate texts within their cultural, political, and historical contexts.
- Perform critical, formal analyses of literary, cinematic, and other cultural texts.
- Write focused, analytical essays in clear, grammatical prose.
- Employ logic, creativity, and interpretive skills to produce original, persuasive arguments.
- Employ primary and/or secondary sources, with proper acknowledgment and citation, as they contribute to a critical essay's thesis.

Composition Program Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of either WR 122 or WR 123, students should be able to achieve the following outcomes:

- Write essays that develop and respond to a significant question that is relevant to the context in which it is written and appropriate for the audience to which it is addressed.
- Provide logical answers to questions at issue and develop lines of reasoning in support of those answers, while taking into account and responding to objections or competing answers and lines of reasoning.
- Write an essay that is unified around a main claim, proceeds in a logical way, and consists of cohesive paragraphs that separate and connect ideas effectively.
- Produce written work that displays adherence to the conventions of academic writing, including control of grammar, spelling, word usage, syntax, and punctuation; appropriate tone, style, diction, and register; proper formatting, use, and documentation of sources.
- Improve the content and organization of an essay draft in a revision process, both by reevaluating the reasoning and context of the essay and by responding to critiques from peers and instructors.
- Faculty in all programs and departments can build on this preparation by helping students learn:
  - The reasons behind conventions of usage, specialized vocabulary, format, and citation systems in their fields or disciplines
  - Strategies for controlling conventions in their fields or disciplines
  - Factors that influence the ways work is designed, documented, and disseminated in their fields
  - Ways to make informed decisions about intellectual property issues connected to common genres and modalities in their fields

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English Major Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
Lower-Division Courses		**12-16**
ENG 205	Genre: [Topic] (two courses with differing topics)	
Two lower-division elective courses [1]		
Foundation Courses [2]		**8**
ENG 303	Foundations of the English Major: Text	
ENG 304	English Major Foundations: Context	
or ENG 305	English Major Foundations: Theory	
Writing Requirement [3]		**4**
Upper-Division Courses [4]		**28-32**
Literature course, pre-1500		
Literature course, 1500–1789		
Literature course, 1789 to the present		
Literary theory or rhetoric course		
Media, folklore, or culture course		
Gender, ability, queer studies, or sexuality course		
Empire, race, or ethnicity course		
Additional upper-division course work in literature, media, folklore, or writing [5]		
Total Credits		**52-60**

1 May include only one of the following: Introduction to Literature: Fiction (ENG 104), Introduction to Literature: Drama (ENG 105), Introduction to Literature: Poetry (ENG 106), and may include no courses with a WR subject code. ENG 209 counts for writing requirement and lower-division elective.

2 Completion of at least one Genre: [Topic] (ENG 205) topics course is a prerequisite or co-requisite for enrolling in ENG 303. Completion of ENG 303 is a pre-requisite for enrolling in ENG 304 or ENG 305.

3 May be fulfilled using (a) (ENG 209) The Craft of the Sentence, (b) The Art of the Sentence (ENG 420), or (c) any upper-division WR course.

[4] One course may satisfy a maximum of two upper-division area requirements at once, as indicated on the current advising supplement.

[5] No more than 8 credits of Research: [Topic] (ENG 401), Thesis (ENG 403), Reading and Conference: [Topic] (ENG 405), or Writing and Conference: [Topic] (CRWR 405). Upper-division CRWR courses may also be used to fulfill this requirement.

Additional Requirements

Coursework required for the English major, both lower division and upper division, must be passed with grades of mid-C or better. Majors must complete the university second-language requirement for the BA degree. At least 28 of the required 36 upper-division credits must be taken at the University of Oregon.

Residency Requirements

The English major allows for 8 of the 32 additional upper division credits to be completed by transfer courses. All of the lower-division credits can be completed at Community Colleges or another school and transferred to the UO.

Honors Program in English

The program provides qualified undergraduate majors with special options for fulfilling departmental requirements. Honors students interested in the intensive study of literature in small discussion seminars independently explore a special topic of their own choosing, under the guidance of a faculty member. Typically, students spend a major portion of the senior year writing their honors thesis.

Requirements

1. Completion of all English department requirements
2. Minimum of two terms of Seminar: [Topic] (ENG 407) (Capstone).
3. Two terms of Thesis (ENG 403), a directed program of study or creative writing under the guidance of an appropriate advisor.
4. Senior thesis—either a critical essay of thirty-five to fifty pages or a substantial piece of creative writing. The thesis must by approved by the advisor and a second reader (typically both faculty members in English) after an oral defense.

Four-Year Degree Plan

The degree plan shown is only a sample of how students may complete their degrees in four years. There are alternative ways. Students should consult their advisor to determine the best path for them.

Bachelor of Arts in English

Course	Title	Credits	Milestones
First Year			
Fall			
WR 121Z	Composition I	4	
First term of first-year second-language sequence		5	
General-education course in science		4	
Lower-division elective course with ENG subject code		4	
	Credits	**17**	
Winter			
WR 122Z or WR 123	Composition II or College Composition III	4	
Second term of first-year second-language sequence		5	
General-education course in social science		4	
Lower-division elective course with ENG subject code		4	
	Credits	**17**	
Spring			
ENG 205	Genre: [Topic]	4	Complete writing req
Third term of first-year second-language sequence		5	
General-education course in arts and letters		4	
General-education course in science		4	
	Credits	**17**	
	Total Credits	**51**	

Course	Title	Credits	Milestones
Second Year			
Fall			
ENG 205	Genre: [Topic]	4	Begin Foundations of English Major seq
ENG 303	Foundations of the English Major: Text	4	
First term of second-year second-language sequence		5	
General-education course in social science		4	
	Credits	**17**	
Winter			
Second term of second-year second-language sequence		5	
ENG 304	English Major Foundations: Context	4	
General-education course in science		4	
Multicultural course in American cultures or international cultures		4	
	Credits	**17**	
Spring			
ENG 209	The Craft of the Sentence	4	
ENG 305	English Major Foundations: Theory	4	
Third term of second-year second-language sequence		5	
General-education course in arts and letters		4	
	Credits	**17**	
	Total Credits	**51**	

Course	Title	Credits	Milestones
Third Year			
Fall			
FLR 320	Car Cultures	4	Begin BA 2nd-language req
ENG 340	Jewish Writers	4	
Upper-division elective course with ENG subject code		4	
General-education course in social science		4	
	Credits	**16**	
Winter			
ENG 436	Advanced Shakespeare	4	Completed English writing req

General-education course in arts and letters			4
General-education course in science			4
Course on women writers chosen in consultation with advisor			4
	Credits		**16**
Spring			
ENG 407	Seminar: [Topic]		4
ENG 427	Chaucer	Completed BA language req	4
General-education course in social science			4
Multicultural course in international cultures			4
	Credits		**16**
	Total Credits		**48**

Course	Title	Credits	Milestones
Fourth Year			
Fall			
Upper-division elective course with ENG subject code			4
Three elective courses			12
	Credits		**16**
Winter			
Upper-division elective course with ENG subject code			4
Three elective courses			12
	Credits		**16**
Spring			
Four elective courses			16
	Credits		**16**
	Total Credits		**48**