ENGLISH

The major in English is concerned with the attempt to communicate, both orally and in writing. A variety of courses in literature, writing and speech is offered to develop skills for reading analytically, writing clearly and effectively and expressing thoughts cogently, while providing a foundation experience in a broad spectrum of literature.

Selections from the wide range of courses within the major and its two concentrations, along with related studies in other areas, will prepare the English major for graduate school, for the professions (teaching, law, medicine) and for business and industry (advertising, company writing, editing, personnel relations, press relations, sales).

Non-majors are welcome in most upper-level English classes provided seats are available. If there is any question about permission to enroll in a course, contact the Chair of the English Department.

Faculty

ANITA AUGUST, PH.D.
Assistant Professor

PAMELA BUCK, PH.D.
Assistant Professor

JEFFREY P. CAIN, PH.D.
Associate Professor, Chair

PATRICIA CONTI, M.S.
Instructor

CARA ERDHEIM, PH.D.
Assistant Professor

MARIE A. HULME, M.A.T, M.A., M.F.A.
Instructor

MICHELLE C. LORIS, PH.D., PSY.D.
Associate Dean, College of Arts and Sciences

RICHARD MAGEE, PH.D.
Associate Professor

ROBIN L. MCALLISTER, PH.D.
Associate Professor

JOSEPH L. NAGY, M.A.
Instructor

PETER SINCLAIR, PH.D.
Lecturer

ROBERTA L. STAPLES, PH.D.
Professor

SANDRA YOUNG, PH.D.
Associate Professor

JONAS ZDANYS, PH.D.
Professor

Major in English

The major in English requires the completion of 39 credits and is organized to include the major core of 33 credits, plus 6 credits taken in one of the two areas of concentration: Literature or Writing.

REQUIRED COURSES FOR ALL ENGLISH CONCENTRATIONS

The English major consists of core classes taken in eight areas with additional courses taken in the student’s area of concentration. The core areas are:

Literature surveys (12 CR)
ENG 221/222 British Traditions I and II and ENG 231/232 American Voices I and II

Advanced Writing (3 CR)
Any writing course at the 200 or 300 level

British Literature (3 CR)
See advisor.

American Literature (3 CR)
See advisor.
Shakespeare (3 CR)
ENG 321

Literary Theory (3 CR)
ENG 361

Multicultural/Diversity (3 CR)
See advisor.

Capstone (3 CR)
See advisor.

POLICY STATEMENT REGARDING THE ENGLISH MAJOR SURVEY COURSES
The four English survey courses—ENG 221, 222, 231, 232—are foundational to the English major and must be taken by every English major, irrespective of concentration, usually in his or her sophomore year. The courses are normally taken in sequence over two semesters. Until they have been taken, no upper-level literature course may be taken without the permission of the Department Chair. Nor can upper-level literature courses be taken simultaneously with any one of the survey courses without the permission of the Department Chair. Students declaring the major later than their sophomore year and transfer students should consult with their advisors and, if necessary, the Department Chair about their course sequences.

Like all major courses, the four surveys must be passed with a grade of “C” or higher to count toward satisfying major requirements. These courses cannot be repeated. Students are given only one chance to pass them. (A student withdrawing within the first two weeks would not be deemed to have “taken” the course and consequently could sign up to take it at a later time.)

After passing all four of the surveys, students will be eligible to enroll in any English course. An English major failing to receive at least a grade of “C” in any of the survey courses should consult with the Chair of the English Department.

ADDITIONAL REQUIRED COURSES FOR LITERATURE CONCENTRATION
In addition to the English major core classes, students with a concentration in Literature must take the following:

British Literature (3 CR)
See advisor.

American Literature (3 CR)
See advisor.

Students with a literature concentration should also choose a capstone course in literature (in consultation with their advisor).

ADDITIONAL REQUIRED COURSES FOR WRITING CONCENTRATION
In addition to the English major core classes, students with a concentration in Writing must take the following:

Advanced Writing (6 CR)
Any writing courses at the 200 or 300 level

Students with a writing concentration should also choose a capstone course in writing (in consultation with their advisor).

SUPPORTING COURSES FOR THE ENGLISH MAJOR
All English majors must complete one year (two consecutive semesters) of a Modern Foreign Language with a grade of C or better.

Minor in English
The minor in English requires the completion of 18 credits.

REQUIRED COURSES FOR ENGLISH MINOR
Two courses in British literature (see advisor) and two courses in American literature (see advisor); one in advanced writing (writing courses at the 200 or 300 level); one diversity/multicultural course (see advisor).
Associate in Arts General Studies

EMPHASIS REQUIREMENTS (15 CREDITS)
One British literature course, one American literature course and three English electives. ENG 221, ENG 222, ENG 231, ENG 232 will not fulfill the AA requirements.

Course Descriptions

ENCC 102 Literary Expressions of The Human Journey
3 CR
ENCC 102 is part of Sacred Heart University’s common core sequence The Human Journey. Each course in the Common Core addresses four fundamental questions of human meaning and value that serve as the unifying frame for all the courses in The Common Core. In ENCC 102 students will read and examine significant works of literature. We read serious literature because it presents us with images of, dramatizes for us or tells us stories about ourselves, our human experience throughout time and the way we live. This course engages students in conversations about these literary stories, images and dramatizations. Students will critically and analytically read and examine works of literature from different cultures – western and non-western, including Catholic and from different time periods – classical to contemporary, with an aim toward understanding and appreciating how these very different works give us insight in the four core questions. (1) What does it mean to be human? (2) What does it mean to live a life of meaning and purpose and is it possible to do so? (3) What does it mean to understand and appreciate the natural world? (4) What does it mean to forge a more just society for the common good?

ENG 221 The British Tradition
3 CR
This course studies British Literature from its earlier stages in Anglo-Saxon literature (pieces such as “Caedmon’s Hymn” and “Beowulf”), to the Middle Ages, to the Elizabethan/Jacobean period, to the mid- and later 17th Century including the Metaphysical Poets, Milton and Dryden and concludes with the literature of the 18th Century. Sophomore level, for English majors only. Does not satisfy Humanities requirement in the core.

ENG 222 The British Tradition II
3 CR
From the Age of Reason to the Age of Anxiety. Course highlights romantic writers like Wordsworth and Keats, Victorians like Dickens and Arnold, modernists like Joyce and Woolf. Sophomore level, for English majors. Does not satisfy Humanities requirement in the core. Prerequisite: ENG 221.

ENG 231 American Voices
3 CR

ENG 232 American Voices II
3 CR
Success and failure, triumph and tragedy. From the Gilded Age to the America of giant corporations and global supremacy. Writings of Twain, Dickinson, James, Hemingway, Morrison, Frost and Eliot are examined. Sophomore level, for English majors. Does not satisfy Area B 1 literature requirement. Prerequisite: ENG 231

ENG 250 Journal Writing
3 CR
A series of in-class private writing exercises aimed at self-discovery and tapping resources of creative energy. Class trips serve as the basis for descriptive journal writing exercises that stress description, narration, exposition and the editing process.
ENG 252 Developing a Writing Voice
3 CR
From the colloquial to the informal to the formal, this course examines the development of writing voice and explores the stylistic and rhetorical choices writers make to communicate meaning and knowledge.

ENG 253 Introduction to Creative Writing
3 CR
Introduction to writing in three major forms of fiction: poetry, the short story and drama. Includes daily writing assignments with attention to the creative preferences of the individual student. Workshop atmosphere allows peer interaction and frequent student/instructor consultation.

ENG 299 Special Topics in Literature
3 CR
Designates new or occasional courses that may or may not become part of the department’s permanent offerings. Courses capitalize on a timely topic, a faculty member’s particular interest, an experimental alternative to existing courses, etc. Prerequisites established by the department as appropriate for the specific course. Course title is shown on the student’s transcript. Consult the current course schedule for available topics and current prerequisites.

ENG 320 Studies in British Literature to 1603
3 CR
Major works of British poetry and prose, beginning with Old English and Beowulf and expanding through the literature of the Middle Ages with special emphasis on Chaucer and Elizabethan poets. Some drama, exclusive of Shakespeare, is included. Prerequisites: ENCC 102 or ENG 222 and ENG 232 for English majors.

ENG 321 Shakespeare
3 CR
Explores a wide variety of plays from a literary as well as a theatrical perspective, with emphasis on Shakespeare’s development as a dramatist and the relationship of his plays to their historical and cultural context. Prerequisites: ENCC 102 or ENG 222 and ENG 232 for English majors.

ENG 322 Studies in Seventeenth-Century British Literature
3 CR
Examines the works of Jonson, Donne, Herbert, Marvell, some of the lesser-known Metaphysical and Cavalier poets and Milton. Prose writings of Browne, Burton and Bunyan are also studied. Prerequisites: ENCC 102 or ENG 222 and ENG 232 for English majors.

ENG 323 Studies in Restoration and Eighteenth-Century British Literature
3 CR
Dryden, Pope, Swift and Johnson are read, as well as Restoration dramatists (Congreve, Etherege, Wycherely) and early novelists (Defoe, Richardson, Fielding). Prerequisites: ENCC 102 or ENG 222 and ENG 232 for English majors.

ENG 324 Studies in the Romantic Period in British Literature
3 CR
Emphasis on the literature written during and immediately after the French Revolution and England’s ensuing war with France. The relationship between the individual and political, social and intellectual environments is studied. Blake, Wordsworth, Shelley and Keats are read. Prerequisites: ENCC 102 or ENG 222 and ENG 232 for English majors.

ENG 325 Studies in the Victorian Period in British Literature
3 CR
Explores the literature of Tennyson, Browning, Arnold, Dickens, Eliot, Newman, Ruskin, Pater,
Swinburne and others. Focuses on major writers of the period (1830–1901) beginning with the poetry and concluding with studies in the Victorian novel.
Prerequisites: ENCC 102 or ENG 322 and ENG 232 for English majors

**ENG 327 Studies in Twentieth-Century British Literature**
3 CR
Addresses modernism as it is shaped and constructed in the classic texts of Conrad, Woolf, Yeats, Joyce, Lawrence and others.
Prerequisites: ENCC 102 or ENG 222 and ENG 232 for English majors

**ENG 328–329: Studies in British Literature: Special Topics**
3 CR
Course description varies each time the course is offered.
Prerequisites: ENCC 102 or ENG 222 and ENG 232 for English majors

**ENG 330 Colonial and Federal American Literature**
3 CR
Prerequisites: ENCC 102 or ENG 222 and ENG 232 for English majors

**ENG 331 Literature of the American Renaissance**
3 CR
A study of transcendentalists, Hawthorne, Melville, Poe.
Prerequisites: ENCC 102 or ENG 222 and ENG 232 for English majors

**ENG 332 Studies in Dickinson to Eliot**
3 CR
Reveals much about America's “Gilded Age” and America's emergence into the modern world with its writers of the wasteland, the “lost generation.”
Prerequisites: ENCC 102 or ENG 222 and ENG 232 for English majors

**ENG 334 Studies in Faulkner to the Present**
3 CR
Modern American literature in content and technique reflects 20th-century preoccupation with loss of faith, the rise of individual consciousness and the dilemma of radical alienation in an increasingly fragmented society.
Prerequisites: ENCC 102 or ENG 222 and ENG 232 for English majors

**ENG 338–339: Studies in American Literature: Special Topics**
3 CR
Course description varies each time the course is offered.
Prerequisites: ENCC 102 or ENG 222 and ENG 232 for English majors

**ENG 340 Studies in Early American Black Literature**
3 CR
African-American literature from 1790 to 1900, including the slave narratives, the mockingbird school and folk poetry.
Prerequisites: ENCC 102 or ENG 222 and ENG 232 for English majors

**ENG 341 Studies in Black Writers in America**
3 CR
A consideration of Black writers from Dunbar and Chesnutt to the present. Study of Harlem Renaissance writers, including Wright, Ellison, Hayden, Brooks, Tolson, Baldwin, Baraka and the Black arts movement. Emphasis on the relation of the works to traditional images of Blacks in America and to themes found in American literature as a whole.
Prerequisites: ENCC 102 or ENG 222 and ENG 232 for English majors
ENG 344 Studies in World Literature
3 CR
Explores works both inside and outside the Western cannon.
Prerequisites: ENCC 102 or ENG 222 and ENG 232 for English majors

ENG 354 Studies in Writing: Nature Writing
3 CR
This course explores the connections between our natural environment and the diverse ways we communicate our ideas, perceptions and feelings about that environment. Writers work to discover a rhetorical stance and voice that effectively evokes the natural world in prose.

ENG 356 Studies in Writing: Playwriting
3 CR
Students learn the techniques of writing plays through reading and extensive writing assignments.

ENG 358-359 Studies in Writing: Special Topics
3 CR
Course description varies each time the course is offered.

ENG 360 History and Structure of the English Language
3 CR
A survey of the major changes in structure, vocabulary and uses of the language from the earliest times to the present. Explores important findings of modern linguistic scholarship. Required for secondary education. Usually offered as an independent study for students needing the course as a Connecticut state teaching requirement; see the English Department Chair.

ENG 361 Literary Theory
3 CR
An overview of the history and major concepts of critical theory from Nietzsche through Marx, Freud, Lacan, Barthes, Foucault, Kristeva, Cixous, Derrida, Gates and others. Important schools of thought include the New Criticism, Semiotics, Phenomenology, Structuralism, Neo-Marxism, Deconstruction, Gender Studies, African-American Criticism and Post-Colonialism.
Prerequisite: Permission of Department Chair for non-majors.

ENG 362 Rhetoric and Composition Pedagogy
3 CR
This course is designed for students who will be teaching writing in a secondary educational environment. The course demonstrates how research, scholarship and theory can inform the teaching of writing.

ENG 363-69 Studies in Criticism or Theory: Special Topics
3 CR
Course description changes each time course is offered.
Prerequisite: permission of the Department Chair for non-majors.

ENG 380 Independent Study
1–3 CR
Work on a special topic to be arranged with an instructor who will direct this work. Permission of the department chairperson is granted to qualified English majors on the basis of a written prospectus.
By special arrangement.

ENG 382-385 Seminars on Single Authors
3 CR
Studies the works and criticism of a single author. Limited enrollment.
Prerequisite: Permission of the Department Chair.

ENG 390-398 Capstone
3 CR
English majors only (see advisor)