

# Department of English

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**Major Advisors: Professor Richard Raymond (Head)**

**Associate Professor Lara Dodds (M.A. program)**

**Associate Professor Ginger Pizer (B.A. program)**

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The study of English not only gives students knowledge of language and literature but also helps to develop their ability to read perceptively, think critically, analyze problems, and write correctly and persuasively. For this reason, a major in English has traditionally been viewed as good training for careers in law, government, business, and publishing, as well as for careers in teaching and writing.

The department offers an undergraduate major (B.A.), an undergraduate minor in English, an undergraduate minor in linguistics, a certificate in TESOL, and an M.A. The department also edits and publishes two distinguished journals. *Mississippi Quarterly* is a refereed scholarly journal dedicated to the life and culture of the American South, past and present. *Jabberwock Review* is a literary journal publishing stories, poems, and essays by writers across the country. Additionally, the department operates the university Writing Center to assist all MSU students with their writing.

The Department of English awards several scholarships annually: the Howell H. and Elizabeth Gwin Scholarships to outstanding juniors or seniors majoring in English and to graduate students in English; the Helen W. Skelton Annual Scholarship and the Ann Pittman Andrews Memorial Scholarship to full-time English majors maintaining at least a 3.0 GPA and demonstrating good character, leadership and financial need; the William H. Magruder Scholarship to an upper-division or graduate English major; the Roger LeMoyne Dabbs Memorial Scholarship to an English or Communication major; and the Eugene Butler Creative Writing Scholarship to an undergraduate or graduate student. The Department of English sponsors the Xi Kappa Chapter of Sigma Tau Delta National English Honor Society; memberships are offered by invitation to scholastically qualified junior and senior undergraduate students and to second-year graduate students who are English majors. The Department of English also offers the Nolan Book Award competition for junior and senior English majors and sponsors several writing contests and awards.

In addition to two semesters of freshman composition, which the department recommends be taken at the Accelerated or Honors level, English majors take EN 2213, EN 2223, EN 2243, EN 2253, and EN 3414, and at least 21 additional hours of English electives, of which 15 hours must be 4000 level and taken in residence, distributed among English, American, and World literature. EN 2203 does not count toward the requirements for the major.

1. English majors must maintain at least a 2.5GQPA in all upper-division English courses. Students who fall below a 2.5 GPA must bring it up to 2.5 the next semester or drop the English major.
2. English majors must attain a C or better in all English courses at the 2000 level or above in order for those courses to count toward the requirements of the major.

Students seeking secondary-school teaching certification should consult with an English Education advisor.

English minors take at least 18 hours of English electives with a grade of C or better beyond completion of the freshman composition requirement of their major. Of these hours, at least six must be at the 4000 level; these must be completed in residence. No more than six hours may be linguistics classes, i.e., classes which count toward the linguistics minor. Students should consult the English major advisor to plan a minor program which will complement their major studies and career interests.

## General Education and College Requirements

### English Composition

EN 1103	English Composition I	3
or EN 1163	Accelerated Composition I	
EN 1113	English Composition II	3
or EN 1173	Accelerated Composition II	

### Foreign Language

3 semesters: One Foreign Language (see advisor)	9
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### Humanities

Philosophy Elective - see advisor	3
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History Sequence - select one of the following:	6
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HI 1063 & HI 1073	Early U.S. History and Modern U.S. History
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HI 1163 & HI 1173	World History Before 1500 and World History Since 1500
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HI 1213	Early Western World
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HI 1223 & 1223	Modern Western World and Modern Western World
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<b>Math</b>		
MA 1313	College Algebra	3
3 hours above College Algebra		3
<b>Fine Arts</b>		
See A&S requirements		3
<b>Natural Sciences</b>		
Physical Science w/Lab <sup>1</sup>		3-4
Biological Science w/Lab <sup>2</sup>		3-4
Natural Science Elective <sup>3</sup>		3-4
<b>Social Sciences</b> <sup>4</sup>		
See A&S requirements		6
Social Sciences Electives		12
<b>Major Core</b>		
Fourth semester in chosen Foreign Language		3
Upper Division A&S Humanities (HI, FL, PHI) or Study Abroad Elective		3
EN 1111	English Studies	1
EN 2213	English Literature before 1800	3
EN 2223	English Literature After 1800	3
EN 2243	American Literature Before 1865	3
EN 2253	American Literature After 1865	3
EN 3414	Critical Writing and Research in Literary Studies	4
EN 4111	Portfolios and Reflective Writing	1
<b>Upper Division Requirements</b>		
Pre-1660 English Lit Elective (Group I) (one course)		3
EN 4503	Shakespeare	
EN 4513	Shakespeare	
EN 4523	Chaucer	
EN 4533	Milton	
EN 4703	English Literature of the Sixteenth-Century	
EN 4713	English Literature of the Seventeenth-Century	
Post-1660 English Lit Elective (Group II)		3
EN 4643	The Eighteenth-Century British Novel	
EN 4653	The Nineteenth-Century British Novel	
EN 4663	British and Irish Novel Since 1900	
EN 4723	British Literature and Culture from 1600-1700	
EN 4733	British Literature and Culture of the Eighteenth-Century	
EN 4863	The Romantic Poets and Prose Writers	
EN 4883	Victorian Poets and Prose Writers	
Postcolonial or World Lit Elective (Group III) or one more course from Group I or Group II (one course)		3
EN 4393	Postcolonial Literature and Theory	
EN 4813	The World Novel Since 1900	
American or Contemporary Lit Elective (Group IV)(two courses)		6
EN 4333	Southern Literature	
EN 4343	Studies in African American Literature	
EN 4903	American Literature: 1800-1860	
EN 4913	American Literature: 1860-1900	
EN 4923	American Novel Since 1900	
EN 4933	Survey of Contemporary Literature	
English Lit Elective		3
<b>English Vocational Elective</b>		
Select one of the following:		3

EN 3303	Creative Writing	
EN 3313	Writing for the Workplace	
EN 4223	Principles of Legal Writing	
EN 4233	Composition Pedagogy	
EN 4243	Writing Center Tutor Training	
EN 4323	Literary Criticism from Plato-Present	
EN 4353	Critical Theory Since 1900	
EN 4403	Introduction to Linguistics	

**Oral Communication Requirement**

CO 1003	Fundamentals of Public Speaking	3
or CO 1013	Introduction to Communication	

**General Electives**

General Electives - Consult advisor		15
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<b>Total Hours</b>		<b>124</b>
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(Must maintain a 2.5 GPA in upper-division English courses. Must make a grade of C or higher in all upper-division English courses. Must complete 31 upper division A&S hours. Must take 15 hours at the 4000 level in residence.)

- 1 CH, GG, or PH; see General Education courses.
- 2 BIO, EPP, or PO; see General Education courses.
- 3 Consult advisor.
- 4 No more than two courses per discipline (no more than one CO and EC) and must include 4 disciplines over the 18 hours.

## Linguistics Minor

Linguistics is the study of language, including the structure of sounds, words, and sentences, how our brains process it, how people learn it, and the roles it plays in our societies. Studying linguistics raises students' awareness of patterns in the language of their daily lives and can contribute to careers such as language teaching, editing and publishing, speech therapy, advertising, and more.

The Minor in Linguistics is open to undergraduate students in any major except General Liberal Arts with a focus in Linguistics.

The minor requires a minimum of 18 semester hours with a grade of C or above in each course. In addition to the courses listed below, up to two Special Topics or Directed Individual Study courses will count toward the minor when approved in advance by the Linguistics Committee. Courses that are cross-listed in more than one department may be taken under any cross-listing.

<b>Required Course</b>		<b>3</b>
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EN /AN 4403	Introduction to Linguistics	
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<b>Minor Core Courses</b>		<b>9-15</b>
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EN /AN 2403	Introduction to the Study of Language	
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EN 3423	Descriptive English Grammar <sup>1</sup>	
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EN 4413	History of the English Language	
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EN 4443	English Syntax <sup>1</sup>	
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EN 4463	Studies in Second Language Acquisition	
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EN /PSY 4473	Phonetics	
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EN /AN /SO 4623	Language and Culture	
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EN /AN /SO 4633	Language and Society	
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<b>Minor Electives</b>		<b>0-6</b>
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AN 1103	Introduction to Anthropology	
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AN 1143	Introduction to Cultural Anthropology	
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AN 4143	Ethnographic Methods	
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CO 4203	Nonverbal Communication	
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CO 4273	Intercultural Communication	
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CSE 3813	Introduction to Formal Languages and Automata	
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PHI 1113	Introduction to Logic	
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PHI 4223	Philosophy of Cognitive Science	
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PSY 3713	Cognitive Psychology <sup>2</sup>	
PSY 3723	Cognitive Neuroscience	
PSY 4653	Cognitive Science	
PSY 4713	Language and Thought	
<b>Total Hours</b>		<b>18</b>

<sup>1</sup> Only one of EN 3423 or EN 4443 may count toward the minor.

<sup>2</sup> Only one of PSY 3713 or PSY 4653 may count toward the minor.

## Certificate in TESOL

The certificate in Teaching of English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) is designed to provide students with the theoretical and practical knowledge needed to begin a career in English language teaching. The program requires 15 credit hours (5 courses) in linguistics and English language teaching methods that introduce students to basic methods of linguistic analysis and principles of communicative language teaching. Students who earn the certificate will be prepared to teach English as a foreign language in countries outside the United States and English as a second language in positions inside the United States that do not require a teacher's license.

The certificate program is open to undergraduate and graduate students in good standing who are currently enrolled at the university in any major.

The program requires a minimum of 15 hours with a grade of C or better in each course. Graduate students are required to attain a minimum GPA of 3.0 for their coursework.

Students must take the following courses in theoretical background:

EN 4403/6403	Introduction to Linguistics	3
EN 4463/6463	Studies in Second Language Acquisition	3
EN 4443/6443	English Syntax	3
Students must take two of the following courses in pedagogy:		6

EN 4433/6433	Approaches to TESOL	
EN 4453/6453	Methods in TESOL	
EN 4493/6493	TESOL Practicum	
<b>Total Hours</b>		<b>15</b>