

# Department of English

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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.); undergraduate minors in English, creative writing, film studies, linguistics, and 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 S. 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 LeMoyné 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 four 2000-level literature surveys, 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 three categories: Literature and Culture: Periods and Figures; Literature and Culture: Cultural Geographies; and Theory, Genre, and Methods.

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. No more than two classes may be classes which count toward the minor in Film Studies. Students who are earning the Creative Writing minor must complete 12 hours of English classes in addition to the requirements for that minor in order to earn the English minor as well. Students pursuing the English minor 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	3-4
or EN 1104	Expanded English Composition I	
EN 1113	English Composition II	3
or EN 1173	Accelerated Composition II	

### Foreign Language

Foreign Language I	3
Foreign Language II	3
Foreign Language III	3

### Humanities

History - A&S core	6
Philosophy - A&S core	3

### Math

A&S core	3
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### Fine Arts

A&S core	3
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**Natural Sciences**

Physical Science w/Lab - A&S core	3-4
Life Science w/Lab - A&S core	3-4
Natural Science w/Lab - A&S core	3-4

**Social Sciences**

A&S core	6
Social Science Electives <sup>1</sup>	12

**Major Core**

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 3414 Critical Writing and Research in Literary Studies	4
EN 4111 Portfolios and Reflective Writing	1
Choose four of the literature surveys below, including at least one focused on each of the following; English literature, American literature, pre-1800 literature, post-1800 literature. (A single course may satisfy multiple criteria simultaneously.)	12
EN 2213 English Literature Before 1800	
EN 2223 English Literature After 1800	
EN 2243 American Literature Before 1865	
EN 2253 American Literature After 1865	
EN 2263 Multiethnic U.S. Literature	
EN 2363 Introduction to African American Literature	

**Upper Division Requirements****Literature and Culture: Periods and Figures**

Choose two of the following:	6
EN 4503 Shakespeare	
EN 4513 Shakespeare	
EN 4523 Chaucer	
EN 4533 Milton	
EN 4643 The Eighteenth-Century British Novel	
EN 4653 The Nineteenth-Century British Novel	
EN 4663 British and Irish Novel Since 1900	
EN 4703 English Literature of the Sixteenth Century	
EN 4713 English Literature of the Seventeenth Century	
EN 4723 British Literature and Culture from 1600-1700	
EN 4733 British Literature and Culture of the Eighteenth Century	
EN 4883 Victorian Poets and Prose Writers	
EN 4893 American Literature to 1800	
EN 4903 Nineteenth-Century U.S. Literature	
EN 4933 Survey of Contemporary Literature	

**Literature and Culture: Cultural Geographies**

Choose one of the following:	3
EN 4333 Southern Literature	
EN 4343 Studies in African American Literature	
EN 4363 Studies in Global Anglophone Literatures	
EN 4383 Digital Ethnic Studies	
EN 4393 Postcolonial Literature and Theory	
EN 4813 The World Novel Since 1900	

**Theory, Genre, and Methods**

Choose one of the following:	3
EN 4323 Literary Criticism from Plato-Present	
EN 4353 Critical Theory Since 1900	
EN 4803 Types of Drama Since 1900	

EN 4823	Poetry Since 1900	
EN 4833	The Short Story	
EN 4923	American Novel Since 1900	
EN 4924	Film Theory	
EN 4943	Form and Theory of Fiction	
EN 4953	Form and Theory of Poetry	
<b>4000-Level Literature Elective</b>		
Choose one more course listed above under Periods and Figures, Cultural Geographies, or Theory, Genre, and Methods		3
<b>Fields of English Studies</b>		
Choose one of the following:		3
EN 3243	Writing Center Tutor Training	
EN 3303	Creative Writing	
EN 3313	Writing for the Workplace	
EN 3333	Internship in English	
EN 3423	Descriptive English Grammar	
EN 3803	Intermediate Poetry Writing	
EN 3903	Intermediate Fiction Writing	
EN 4124	Topics in Film	
EN 4223	Principles of Legal Writing	
EN 4233	Composition Pedagogy	
EN 4303	Craft of Poetry	
EN 4313	Craft of Fiction	
EN 4403	Introduction to Linguistics	
EN 4413	History of the English Language	
EN 4433	Approaches to TESOL	
EN 4443	English Syntax	
EN 4453	Methods in TESOL	
EN 4463	Studies in Second Language Acquisition	
EN 4473	Phonetics	
EN 4493	TESOL Practicum	
EN 4623	Language and Culture	
EN 4633	Language and Society	
<b>English Elective</b>		
any EN course		3
<b>Oral Communication</b>		
CO 1003	Fundamentals of Public Speaking	3
or CO 1013	Introduction to Communication	
<b>Jr/Sr Writing</b>		
Satisfied within the major		
<b>General Electives</b>		
Consult advisor		15-19
<b>Total Hours</b>		<b>124</b>

Note: Students must earn a grade of C or higher in all English courses at the 2000 level or above.

Students must complete 31 upper division hours in A&S in residence at MSU. Additionally, all English majors must earn 15 hours of Literature courses at the 4000 level in residence.

<sup>1</sup> Social Science electives must be courses in A&S. The total 18 hours in Social Science must cover four disciplines; maximum of 6 hours per discipline; only one EC and one CO from A&S core list allowed.

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

## Creative Writing Minor

The minor in creative writing will focus on the study of poetry and fiction writing, including the learning of techniques, forms, and approaches of creative expression. Creative writing offers students the opportunity to use language as a means of making art that explores the complexity of human experience. A background in creative writing prepares students for a variety of future paths, including teaching, editing, publishing, law, advertising, public relations, and any career that places emphasis on the written word.

The minor requires 18 semester hours (six courses) with a grade of C or above in each course. Transfer credit awarded if approved by the Director of the Creative Writing program.

<b>Required Course</b>		<b>9</b>
EN 3303	Creative Writing	
EN 3803	Intermediate Poetry Writing	
EN 3903	Intermediate Fiction Writing	
Choose one or two of the following:		<b>3-6</b>
EN 4303	Craft of Poetry	

EN 4313	Craft of Fiction	
Choose one or two of the following (depending on major):		3-6
English Majors		
EN 4943	Form and Theory of Fiction	
EN 4953	Form and Theory of Poetry	
Non-English Majors		
See advisor for list of approved electives		
<b>Total Hours</b>		<b>18</b>

## Film Studies Minor

The minor in Film Studies provides students with a strong background in the study of film language, history, theory, and production, emphasizing varied filmmaking practices throughout the world. Students will gain a proficiency in what filmmakers call "film language" and a working knowledge of film form. Students will be able to apply film language to the analysis of film, literature and art, and convergent media technologies. Students will learn the specificity of global film traditions through comparative study, will be introduced to the basics of film theory and production, and will gain knowledge of the economic, social, cultural, and historical roots of cinema from diverse parts of the world.

<b>Required Course</b>		<b>4</b>
ART /CO /EN 2904	Introduction to Film	
<b>Core Courses (select at least one core course from the list below. Students may take additional core courses to meet the electives requirement.)</b>		<b>3</b>
CO 3903	Advanced Cinema Studies	
ART /CO /EN 4124	Topics in Film	
ART /CO /EN 4924	Film Theory	
<b>Electives</b>		<b>12</b>
ART 2103	Photography Survey	
ART 3233	Studio Lighting	
ART 3613	Art and Film	
ART 3633	History of Photography	
ART 3643	Art of the Graphic Novel	
ART 3873	Digital Photography	
ART 4893	Video Art	
CO 2503	Acting	
CO 3403	Photographic Communication	
CO /GS 4233	Gender and Media	
CO 4423	Advanced Photo Communication	
CO 4504		
CO 4524		
CO /AAS /SO 4643	Race and the Media	
EN 2434	Literature and Film	
EN 3523	Shakespeare and Film	
<b>Total Hours</b>		<b>19</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 TESOL certificate alone does not lead to a K-12 teaching license, which is required to teach in the public school system in the U.S., but it can be added as an ESL supplemental endorsement to an existing or in-progress teaching 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 graduate-level certificate program is also open to non-degree-seeking students who have completed a bachelor's degree 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	

**Total Hours** 15