A Guide for English Majors & Minors in English and Writing

The major in English is designed to develop students’ understanding of the complexity and versatility of the English language and to cultivate skill in critical and creative thinking, writing, and research. In addition to a small set of core courses, students in the English major may choose to continue exploring the breadth of this field in the General English Studies program, or if they wish, they may choose from a number of different concentrations. What all of these options have in common is a careful engagement with the varied and multiple ways that language is used, whether as a medium of persuasion or of artistic expression. Readings are selected for literature and language courses because they broaden our perspective on the world, human values, and personal and community life, requiring us to come to terms with uncertainties, value judgments, and emotions.

English majors learn how to read situations, interpret details, detect meaningful patterns, evaluate competing points of view, examine cultural perspectives, and form insightful questions. Responding to complex texts helps students sharpen their thinking and develop their capacity to communicate ideas with nuance and precision. The habits of mind that English majors develop—analytical acumen, attention to detail, sensitivity to tone, and clarity of thought and expression—prepare students for success in a variety of fields, from medicine to law, philosophy to commerce, diplomacy to applied technology, as well as the creative arts and education.

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Core Requirements for the English Major

Students must receive a grade of C or higher in all courses being counted toward major requirements.

A student must take at least two 300-level English courses.

**The minimum requirements for the major total 42 ENG credits** beyond the Liberal Arts Core, with these exceptions:

- ENG 202 Introduction to English Studies substitutes for Liberal Arts Core Tier 1 Literature and Thought.
- Any ENG course in the Creative Expressions and Cultural Perspectives categories of Tier 2 may be counted for both the Liberal Arts Core and the English major.
- Credits for ENG 100 or ENG 100P College Writing cannot be used as part of the 42 credits required for the major.

**Required Gateway Courses: 9 credits**

ENG 202  Introduction to English Studies

and two of the following writing-intensive courses (as specified in concentration requirements):

ENG 203  Introduction to Writing Literary Criticism
ENG 204  Introduction to Writing Studies
ENG 205  Introduction to Creative Writing

**Concentration: 15-18 credits**

See pages 3-9 for specific concentrations and their requirements. Beginning in Spring 2019, students who do not choose another concentration are automatically enrolled in the General English Studies concentration.

Students may pursue multiple concentrations by fulfilling the requirements of each (up to 6 credits may be counted for more than one concentration).

**Detailed advisement audit forms for each concentration in the English major are available from your faculty advisor, the English department office, and on the department's website.**

**Electives: 9-15 credits**

Students are encouraged to use their electives to explore courses in concentrations other than the one they have chosen. They are encouraged to study with as many faculty members as possible.

**Capstone: 3-6 credits**

For their capstone experience, students should examine a topic related in some way to their declared concentration. English majors have three options for the capstone requirement, all of which satisfy the third level University Writing requirement and the Liberal Arts Core Tier 3 Independent Inquiry requirement:

ENG 461/462  Capstone Seminars (6 credits)
  *(a two-semester sequence and the most common path to completion of the capstone requirement)*

**or**

ENG 499  Directed Research (3-6 credits)

Independent project under the supervision of a faculty mentor, with approval of the department chair. **Complete proposals (written in collaboration with the faculty mentor) must be submitted to the department chair at least two weeks before senior registration for the semester in which the project will begin.** Proposals will be vetted by the department's Programs and Curriculum Committee before approval by the chair. ENG 499 should be taken for a total of 6 credits over two semesters; rare exceptions to this rule may be granted under extenuating circumstances.

**or**

HON 380/488  Directed Honors Research and Thesis (6 credits)
  *(for English majors completing a University Honors thesis with an English professor, with approval of the department chair)*

**Exit Portfolio**

English majors must complete a non-graded exit portfolio in order to graduate. **Details of the exit portfolio requirement are available in the department office and at the department website.** The department chair will report completion of the exit portfolio to the Registrar. Portfolios are due no later than the last day of final exams if students expect to graduate at the end of the semester.
Concentration Requirements

Students majoring in English may choose to concentrate in any of several areas: Creative Writing; Cultural Studies; English for Early Childhood or Elementary Education; English for Secondary Education; Literary Studies; or Rhetoric and Composition. A student with a clearly defined interest that isn’t encompassed by any of these concentrations may propose an individualized Student-Designed concentration.

Students may pursue multiple concentrations by fulfilling the requirements of each (up to 6 credits may be counted for more than one concentration).

The requirements of each concentration are described below.

General English Studies Concentration

All students declaring the English major are automatically enrolled in the General English Studies program unless and until they formally declare one of the other concentration options listed on the following pages. The General English Studies program allows students to explore the expanse of English studies, sampling courses from all the concentration areas and developing a breadth of knowledge in this diverse field of study.

Writing Intensive Gateway

Students in the General English Studies concentration may choose any two courses from ENG 203, ENG 204, and ENG 205.

General English Studies Concentration Requirements:

Category I: Literary Analysis, Form, and Theory – 3 credits

Choose one course:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENG 125</td>
<td>Introduction to Literature</td>
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<td>ENG 130</td>
<td>Literary Analysis</td>
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<td>ENG 225</td>
<td>Fiction</td>
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<td>ENG 226</td>
<td>Drama</td>
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<td>ENG 227</td>
<td>Poetry</td>
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Category II: Literary History and Traditions – 3 credits

Choose one course:

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<th>Course</th>
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<tr>
<td>ENG 214</td>
<td>English Literature to 1798</td>
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<td>ENG 215</td>
<td>English Literature from 1798</td>
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<td>ENG 223</td>
<td>Survey of American Literature</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENG 234</td>
<td>Contemporary Fiction</td>
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<td>ENG 317</td>
<td>Renaissance Literature</td>
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<td>ENG 321</td>
<td>19th C. American Short Story</td>
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<td>ENG 325</td>
<td>Modern Drama</td>
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Category III: Literature in Cultural Context – 3 credits

Choose one course:

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<tr>
<td>ENG 216</td>
<td>Scottish Literature and Culture</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENG 218</td>
<td>18th C. Britain in Global Context</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENG 228</td>
<td>Poetry of Women</td>
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<td>ENG 233</td>
<td>Contemporary Poetry</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENG 252</td>
<td>Literature &amp; Culture of the Harlem Renaissance</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENG 255</td>
<td>African American Literature</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENG 256</td>
<td>Native American Literature</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENG 257</td>
<td>Contemporary Drama &amp; Society</td>
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<td>ENG 258</td>
<td>Asian American Literature</td>
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<td>ENG 316</td>
<td>Love &amp; War in Medieval British Literature</td>
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<td>ENG 318</td>
<td>Restoration Literature</td>
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<td>ENG 319</td>
<td>Age of Sensibility</td>
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<td>ENG 320</td>
<td>Victorian Literature &amp; Culture</td>
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<td>ENG 322</td>
<td>The Romantic Period</td>
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<td>ENG 329</td>
<td>Young Adult Literature</td>
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<td>ENG 330</td>
<td>Science Fiction</td>
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<td>ENG 331</td>
<td>Early Eighteenth-Century Literature</td>
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<td>ENG 337</td>
<td>Sex and Love in Chaucer</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENG 339</td>
<td>Shakespeare and Film</td>
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</table>
Category IV: Rhetoric and Composition – 3 credits

Choose one course:

- ENG 206 Multimodal Writing Workshop
- ENG 271 Classical Rhetoric
- ENG 272 Introduction to Rhetorical Criticism
- ENG 273 Introductory Topics in Rhetoric/Comp
- ENG 300 Business and Technical Writing
- ENG 305 Composing Multimodal Narratives
- ENG 306 Digital Rhetorics and Literacies
- ENG 362 Writing for Digital Environments
- ENG 370 Composition Theory & Pedagogy
- ENG 371 Rhetoric and Cultural Studies
- ENG 373 Studies in Rhetoric & Composition
- ENG 374 Rhetoric of Hollywood Film
- ENG 380 Creative Nonfiction
- ENG 393 Latinx and Chicana Rhetorics

Category V: Creative Writing – 3 credits

Choose one course:

- ENG 207 Forms in Creative Writing
- ENG 209 Writing for Children and YA
- ENG 301 Writing Fiction
- ENG 302 Writing Poetry
- ENG 305 Composing Multimodal Narratives
- ENG 308 Playwriting
- ENG 353 Storytelling
- ENG 369 Cultural Studies & Creative Writing
- ENG 372 Creative Writing Abroad
- ENG 376 Advanced Forms, Theory, & Practice in Creative Writing
- ENG 380 Creative Nonfiction
- ENG 381 Advanced Fiction Workshop
- ENG 382 Advanced Poetry Workshop

Certain sections of ENG 365 Topics in Literature or Language or ENG 373 Studies in Rhetoric and Composition may be designated as meeting course requirements in the categories above. Students should see the department chair or department website for more information.

**Creative Writing Concentration**

This concentration enables students to gain an in-depth understanding of the creative writing process through the writing and revising of original poetry, fiction, creative nonfiction, and drama.

Coursework will foster the development of voice, knowledge of craft, and ability to read literary work from a writer’s perspective. In addition to working closely with Eastern’s published faculty, students will have access to frequent visiting writers of international acclaim. Other opportunities include pre-professional coursework and internships in editing and publishing as well as global field courses to study creative writing abroad. As a complement to their courses in the craft of writing, students pursuing the Creative Writing concentration are required to take at least one literature course (preferably early in their coursework), and are encouraged to take others as part of the English major. Students should consider courses in literature from a variety of genres, areas, and periods.
**Writing Intensive Gateway:**
Students pursuing the Creative Writing concentration must take ENG 205 Introduction to Creative Writing and may choose either ENG 203 or ENG 204 to complete the gateway requirement.

**Creative Writing Concentration Requirements (18 credits):**

Category I: Writing in Forms and Genres (200-level) – 3 credits
Choose one course:
- ENG 207 Forms in Creative Writing
- ENG 209 Writing for Children and Young Adults

Category II: Literature – 3 credits
Choose one course:
- ENG 225 Fiction
- ENG 226 Drama
- ENG 227 Poetry
- ENG 228 Poetry of Women
- ENG 233 Contemporary Poetry
- ENG 234 Contemporary Fiction
- ENG 257 Contemporary Drama and Society

- ENG 321 Nineteenth-Century American Short Story
- ENG 325 Modern Drama
- ENG 328 Children’s Literature
- ENG 329 Young Adult Literature
- ENG 330 Science Fiction
- ENG 332 Modern British and American Poetry
- ENG 333 The Modern Novel

Category III: Creative Writing Workshops (300-level) – 9 credits
Choose three courses:
- ENG 301 Writing Fiction
- ENG 302 Writing Poetry
- ENG 305 Composing Multimodal Narratives
- ENG 308 Playwriting
- ENG 353 Storytelling
- ENG 372 Creative Writing Abroad
- ENG 376 Advanced Forms/Theory/Practice in CW
- ENG 380 Creative Nonfiction
- ENG 381 Advanced Fiction Workshop
- ENG 382 Advanced Poetry Workshop

Category IV: Professional Experiences – 3 credits
Choose one course:
- ENG 238 Literary Magazine Editing
- ENG 310 Contemporary African American Poetry
- ENG 313 Native American Novel
- ENG 339 The Modern Novel
- ENG 363 Copyright in the Digital Age
- ENG 383 Literary Publishing
- ENG 481 LAW Ind. Study in Writing for Publication
- ENG 495 Internship in Writing or Editing

Certain sections of ENG 365 Topics in Literature or Language may be designated as meeting a requirement in one or more of the above categories. Students should see the department chair or department website for more information.

**Cultural Studies Concentration**

The Cultural Studies concentration offers an opportunity to examine texts using an approach focused on the study of cultural formations and their effects. The theory and praxis of Cultural Studies will link the courses in this concentration, so that a connecting thread will be a close examination of power, agency, subjectivity and how gender, race, and class produce and reflect our exploration of different texts.

**Writing Intensive Gateway:**
Students in the Cultural Studies concentration may choose any two courses from ENG 203, ENG 204, and ENG 205.

**Cultural Studies Concentration Requirements (18 credits):**

ENG 242 Literature and Cultural Studies – 3 credits
ENG 371 Rhetoric and Cultural Studies – 3 credits

Choose four courses, at least three of which must be at the 300-level – 12 credits
- ENG 216 Scottish Literature and Culture
- ENG 218 Eighteenth-Century Britain in Global Context
- ENG 310 Contemporary African American Poetry
- ENG 313 Native American Novel
ENG 255 African American Literature
ENG 256 Native American Literature
ENG 258 Asian American Literature
ENG 259 Chicano/Chicana Literature and Culture
ENG 260 Introduction to Women’s Studies

ENG 314 Indigenous Studies
ENG 350 Southwestern Literature
ENG 351 Feminist Theories
ENG 352 Lesbian Literature
ENG 356 Women Writers to 1900
ENG 357 20th Century Women Writers

Certain sections of ENG 365 Topics in Literature or Language and of ENG 373 Studies in Rhetoric and Composition may be designated as meeting course requirements in the Cultural Studies concentration. Students should see the department chair or department website for more information.

Students in the Cultural Studies concentration are strongly encouraged to include courses in Rhetoric and Composition among their electives.

**English for Early Childhood or Elementary Education Concentration**

This concentration is designed for English majors who want to pursue a career in teaching at the preschool or elementary levels. While English majors who pursue other concentrations can certainly become certified teachers, this concentration assembles a group of courses that the English department believes best prepare students for success both in their own future classrooms and on certification examinations.

**Writing Intensive Gateway:**

Students pursuing the English for Early Childhood or Elementary Education concentration should take ENG 203 & ENG 204.

**English for Early Childhood or Elementary Education Concentration Requirements (18 credits):**

**Choose one course in Creative Writing:**
- ENG 205 Introduction to Creative Writing
- ENG 206 Multimodal Writing Workshop
- ENG 209 Writing for Children and Young Adults
- ENG 230 Reading and Writing Electronic Literature

**Choose one course in Reading Culture:**
- ENG 228 Poetry of Women
- ENG 242 Literature and Cultural Studies
- ENG 252 Harlem Renaissance
- ENG 255 African American Literature
- ENG 256 Native American Literature
- ENG 257 Contemporary Drama and Society
- ENG 258 Asian American Literature

- ENG 241 Critical and Creative Thinking
- ENG 243 Storytelling
- ENG 249 Chicano/Chicana Literature and Culture

- ENG 310 Contemporary African American Poetry
- ENG 313 Native American Novel

- ENG 314 Indigenous Studies
- ENG 315 African American Literature

- ENG 316 Native American Literature
- ENG 317 African American Literature

- ENG 318 Contemporary Drama and Society
- ENG 319 Native American Literature

- ENG 320 Contemporary African American Literature
- ENG 321 Native American Literature

- ENG 322 Contemporary African American Literature
- ENG 323 Native American Literature

- ENG 324 Contemporary African American Literature
- ENG 325 Native American Literature

- ENG 326 Contemporary African American Literature
- ENG 327 Native American Literature

- ENG 328 Contemporary African American Literature
- ENG 329 Native American Literature

- ENG 330 Contemporary African American Literature
- ENG 331 Native American Literature

- ENG 332 Contemporary African American Literature
- ENG 333 Native American Literature

- ENG 334 Contemporary African American Literature
- ENG 335 Native American Literature

- ENG 336 Contemporary African American Literature
- ENG 337 Native American Literature

- ENG 338 Contemporary African American Literature
- ENG 339 Native American Literature

- ENG 340 Contemporary African American Literature
- ENG 341 Native American Literature

- ENG 342 Contemporary African American Literature
- ENG 343 Native American Literature

- ENG 344 Contemporary African American Literature
- ENG 345 Native American Literature

Students may also count independent studies (ENG 480) on appropriate topics towards the completion of their concentration requirements.

Students pursuing the English for Early Childhood or Elementary Education concentration are encouraged to take one or more elective classes in Rhetoric and Composition.
**English for Secondary Education Concentration**

This concentration is designed for English majors who want to pursue a career in teaching at the secondary level. While English majors who pursue other concentrations can certainly become certified teachers, this concentration assembles a group of courses that the English department believes best prepare students for success both in their own future classrooms and on certification examinations.

Students who intend to pursue secondary certification are not required to complete this concentration, but should they choose a different concentration, they must complete ENG 329, 340, 341, and any survey course (ENG 214 or ENG 215 or ENG 223 or ENG 356) in order to meet state teacher certification requirements. If these courses are not included among the requirements for a student’s chosen concentration, the student may use them to complete their English electives.

**Writing Intensive Gateway.**

Students pursuing the English for Secondary Education concentration should take ENG 203 and ENG 204.

**Secondary Education Concentration Requirements (18 credits)**

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<tr>
<td>ENG 130 Literary Analysis</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENG 223 Survey of American Literature</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENG 329 Young Adult Literature</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENG 340 History and Development of the English Language</td>
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<td>ENG 341 Modern American Grammar</td>
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Choose one English Literature Survey:

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<tr>
<td>ENG 214</td>
<td>English Literature to 1798</td>
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<td>ENG 215</td>
<td>English Literature from 1798</td>
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Students pursuing the English for Secondary Education concentration are encouraged to take either ENG 335. Shakespeare’s Comedies or ENG 336 Shakespeare’s Tragedies and one or more classes in Rhetoric and Composition for their major electives.

**Literary Studies Concentration**

The concentration in Literary Studies invites students to study literature as an imaginative artifact conditioned by history, culture, and society. Students read various literary genres such as poetry, prose, and drama with sensitivity to literary and rhetorical devices, as well as aesthetic features, in order to understand how a text produces meaning, and how an interpretation is shaped by a community of readers. Given details from the imagined world of the literary text, students engage with ambiguity, draw inferences, employ critical terminology, and ultimately shape persuasive analytic readings in response to the patterns, representations, and ideas found in these works.

**Writing Intensive Gateway.**

Students in the Literary Studies concentration must take ENG 203 Introduction to Writing Literary Criticism and may choose either ENG 204 or ENG 205 to complete the gateway requirement.

**Literary Studies Concentration Requirements (18 credits):**

Choose one course from each of the three categories:

1. **Literary Analysis, Form, and Theory** – 3 credits

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<tr>
<td>ENG 125 Introduction to Literature</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENG 130 Literary Analysis</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENG 225 Fiction</td>
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<td>ENG 226 Drama</td>
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<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tr>
<td>ENG 227 Poetry</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENG 310 Contemporary African American Poetry</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENG 358 Literary Theory</td>
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<td>ENG 359 Film Theory</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
II. Literary History and Traditions – 3 credits

- ENG 214 English Literature to 1798
- ENG 215 English Literature from 1798
- ENG 223 Survey of American Literature
- ENG 234 Contemporary Fiction
- ENG 317 Renaissance Literature
- ENG 321 Nineteenth-Century American Short Story

III. Literature in Cultural Context – 3 credits

- ENG 216 Scottish Literature and Culture
- ENG 228 Poetry of Women
- ENG 233 Contemporary Poetry
- ENG 252 Lit. and Culture of the Harlem Renaissance
- ENG 255 African American Literature
- ENG 256 Native American Literature
- ENG 257 Contemporary Drama and Society
- ENG 258 Asian-American Literature
- ENG 259 Chicano/Chicana Literature and Culture
- ENG 307 Medieval Women Mystics
- ENG 313 Native American Novel
- ENG 314 Indigenous Studies
- ENG 316 Love and War in Medieval British Literature
- ENG 318 Restoration Literature

- ENG 325 Modern Drama
- ENG 327 Renaissance Drama
- ENG 328 Children’s Literature
- ENG 332 Modern British and American Poetry
- ENG 333 The Modern Novel
- ENG 335 Shakespeare’s Comedies
- ENG 336 Shakespeare’s Tragedies

- ENG 319 Age of Sensibility
- ENG 320 Victorian Literature and Culture
- ENG 322 The Romantic Period
- ENG 329 Young Adult Literature
- ENG 330 Science Fiction
- ENG 331 Early Eighteenth-Century Literature
- ENG 337 Sex and Love in Chaucer
- ENG 338 Shakespeare and Film
- ENG 342 Literature of New England
- ENG 344 Literature of Africa
- ENG 350 Southwestern Literature
- ENG 352 Lesbian Literature
- ENG 356 Women Writers to 1900
- ENG 357 Twentieth-Century Women Writers
- ENG 359 The Lord of the Rings

IV. Electives Within the Literary Studies Concentration – 9 credits

Choose any three additional literature courses listed above.

Sections of ENG 365 Topics in Literature or Language may be designated as fulfilling different categories in the Literary Studies concentration. Students may count multiple sections of ENG 365 towards the completion of their concentration requirements, provided that those sections are on different topics.

**Rhetoric and Composition Concentration**

The Rhetoric and Composition concentration provides students with a thorough foundation in the subfields of rhetorical theory and composition studies. Rhetoric is a field with deep roots in the Western academic tradition. Aristotle defines it as “the faculty of observing in any given case the available means of persuasion.” The study of rhetoric prepares students to be careful and critical readers and producers of texts (political arguments, films, literature, advertisements, social media, cultural movements, etc.). Composition studies, whose roots are in rhetoric, focuses on understanding the literacy practices of various groups (e.g., fifth graders, book clubs, advocacy groups, and scientists) and theories and practices of teaching writing in various contexts (e.g., college classrooms, writing centers, prisons, and community centers). Through coursework in composition studies, students gain greater critical understanding of the processes they and others use to write, and develop strategies for improving their own writing and helping others to develop as writers as well.

**Writing Intensive Gateway**

Students pursuing the Rhetoric and Composition concentration must take ENG 204 and may choose either ENG 203 or ENG 205 to complete the gateway requirement.
Rhetoric and Composition Concentration Requirements (18 credits):

Choose two courses – 6 credits

- ENG 206 Multimodal Writing Workshop
- ENG 271 Classical Rhetoric, Modern Contexts
- ENG 272 Introduction to Rhetorical Criticism
- ENG 373 Introductory Topics in Rhetoric & Comp

Choose four courses – 12 credits

- ENG 300 Business and Technical Writing
- ENG 305 Composing Multimodal Narratives
- ENG 306 Digital Rhetorics and Literacies
- ENG 362 Writing for Digital Environments
- ENG 370 Composition Theory and Pedagogy
- ENG 371 Rhetoric and Cultural Studies
- ENG 373 Studies in Rhetoric and Composition
- ENG 374 Rhetoric of Hollywood Film
- ENG 380 Creative Nonfiction
- ENG 393 Latinx & Chicanx Rhetorics
- ENG 480 Independent Study (on appropriate topic)

Students may count multiple sections of ENG 373, Studies in Rhetoric and Composition to complete their concentration, provided that those sections are on different topics.

Internships in tutoring writing (either in the Writing Center or for sections of College Writing Plus) taken for academic credit may not be counted toward the Rhetoric and Composition concentration, but may be counted as electives in the English major.

Student-Designed Concentration (18 credits)

Students with a well-developed area of interest that does not fit comfortably within any of the English department’s defined concentrations may opt to design their own concentrations in consultation with a faculty advisor. Students pursuing a self-designed concentration must complete the gateway coursework required of all English majors (ENG 202 plus two writing-intensive English courses in different areas) as well as a capstone experience (either the two-semester sequence of ENG 461 and 462 or an independent ENG 499; students in the University Honors program may substitute HON 380/488).

While the English department does not offer specific prescriptions as to what form a student-designed concentration must take, students should work in close collaboration with their faculty advisor to ensure that their proposed course of study addresses the goals that the department has set for all majors. A student-designed concentration must consist entirely of English courses, though students are encouraged to choose electives in other fields that complement their concentration. Students wishing to pursue interdisciplinary work that cannot be adequately addressed by English courses alone should consider the university’s option for an individualized major.
Learning Goals for the English Major

**Goal 1:** By the time they graduate, English majors should be able to read texts carefully and analytically, with an understanding and appreciation of the complexity of their verbal, rhetorical, and/or literary characteristics.

- summarize the contents of a text accurately
- make a claim about a text
- marshal evidence that supports that claim
- explain why/how that evidence supports that claim
- explain how literary and rhetorical elements and devices contribute to the text’s meaning and the reader’s experience
- select relevant passages worthy of extensive analysis

**Goal 2:** By the time they graduate, English majors should be able to communicate/create in multiple modes (writing, speech, visual/multimedia) appropriately adapted to the purpose at hand, and with an awareness of the needs of the imagined audience.

- articulate the audience and purpose of an artifact in the artifact and/or reflection
- produce artifacts in multiple modes
- produce artifacts for a variety of audiences and purposes
- create artifacts that fulfill the needs and expectations of the intended audiences
- cite the ideas of others in ways appropriate to the audience and purpose

**Goal 3:** By the time they graduate, English majors should be able to carry out independent research: conceiving of questions to pursue, identifying and accounting for other relevant voices, and appropriately registering one’s engagements with those voices using the conventions of the discipline.

- compose research questions that meet the demands of the assignment or problem to be addressed
- discriminate between reliable and unreliable sources
- cite sources ethically in a manner appropriate to the audience and genre
- explain how/why evidence drawn from sources advances one’s argument and addresses one’s research question
- respond (i.e., refute, accommodate, concede) to perspectives different from one’s own
- synthesize the perspectives offered by multiple sources
- explain why one’s conclusions are significant

**Goal 4:** By the time they graduate, English majors should be conversant with a broad range of texts (representing, e.g., different forms, different genres, different social and cultural perspectives, and different historical periods) in order to recognize something of the great variety of artistic and rhetorical expression comprehended by the field of English Studies.

- identify the form and genre of a text
- describe the characteristics of different literary movements (e.g., modernism, transcendentalism)
- explain how one can tell that a particular text belongs to a particular movement
- compare and contrast two texts representing different forms, genres, periods, or cultural perspectives

**Goal 5:** By the time they graduate, English majors should be able to recognize the ways that texts are situated in their cultural and historical settings—both shaped by and shaping the cultures and moments in which they were produced—in order to appreciate both the place of those texts in larger traditions and to appreciate the ways that the examination of those texts can open onto questions of broader historical and cultural import.

- identify the historical and cultural context in which a text was produced
- describe how a particular historical event, shift, or attitude is reflected in a text
- offer evidence to demonstrate this connection
- explain how a particular text influenced historical events or readers
- compare and contrast texts produced in different cultures or at different historical moments
- justify the importance of a particular text for understanding the period and culture in which it was produced
- describe how a text reflects its author’s identity (e.g., race, class, sexuality, gender)

**Goal 6:** By the time they graduate, English majors should understand the different kinds of questions that structure inquiry in English Studies and should be familiar with the kinds of critical approaches and theoretical frameworks that enable conversations in the discipline.

- differentiate between various theoretical and methodological approaches, explaining them in one’s own words
- identify a relevant disciplinary concept and/or theory and apply it to specific details within a text being analyzed (whether another author’s or one’s own)
- justify the application of a particular approach to a text being analyzed (whether another author’s or one’s own)
The English Major Exit Portfolio Requirement

The English Department is committed to providing our students with the best possible educational experience, helping them to develop valuable knowledge and skills. To support that ongoing commitment we regularly evaluate our success. One key form of evaluation is through the collection and examination of representative student writing. Therefore, the department instituted a requirement that each English major turn in a writing portfolio as a graduation requirement.

The results of the portfolio assessment will not affect your GPA or course grades in any way. We read the portfolios to determine how we are doing in achieving the goals of the English major and to help us plan for ways we might improve what we do in the future.

To be considered complete and meet the graduation requirement, your portfolio must include the following elements:

- At least seven pieces of finished and fully edited writing (artifacts), arranged in chronological order.
  - One of these must be your capstone project (senior seminar paper, ENG 499 thesis, or Honors thesis).
  - At least one artifact must be work from a writing intensive gateway course (ENG 203, 204, or 205).
  - At least one artifact must be work from a 300-level ENG course.
  - Include work from at least one additional English course taken at Eastern (not including ENG 100 or 100P).
  - You may also include artifacts from other courses you’ve taken at Eastern or from outside the university (such as work completed for an internship, a job, or for extra-curricular activities).

- A completed “Portfolio Framework Grid” (available on our website) indicating which artifacts you feel display your level of competency for each of the English major learning goals (see the list of goals and sample grid on our website). You should include at least one artifact related to each goal, and you may include the same artifact for multiple goals.

- A brief introduction to each artifact in the portfolio (minimum 250 words), explaining
  - why you think it is relevant for the specific goal(s) under which you listed it on your grid, and
  - how—specifically—it displays your level of competency with regard to the goal(s).

- A critical and reflective essay (750 to 1250 words) that introduces the portfolio as a whole, making clear how your portfolio reflects the sum of your education at Eastern, both within the English major and within the larger context of a Liberal Arts university. For this last component, you might want to refer to the guiding principles and core abilities for Eastern’s Liberal Arts Core (available on the LAC website). Additional guidance on composing the critical and reflective essay is available on our website.

- A printout of the email you received confirming your completion of the Survey for Graduating Seniors. (See your capstone instructor or the English department chair for the survey link.)

To meet the requirement in time for graduation, your full and final portfolio must be submitted no later than the last day of final exams for your final semester. For summer graduation, the portfolio must be submitted by the last day of summer classes. Please use a binder clip to hold your portfolio and use the checklist (available on our website) as the cover sheet for your portfolio.

If you have any questions about this requirement, please contact your faculty advisor or the English department chair.

Please note that your exit portfolio will not be returned to you. If you wish to have access to copies of your papers for future reference, you should save them to a storage space that you can continue to access in the long-term future.
The English Minor

The English minor is designed to complement students’ majors; to acquaint them with literary themes, genres, and periods; to introduce them to the study of language; and to help them become proficient writers.

The minor in English is a course of study planned with a department advisor and consists of 15 credits beyond the LAC and beyond first-year writing (ENG 100 or 100P). Courses to be counted must receive a grade of C or higher. At least 9 credits are to be earned in 300-level or above courses. Approval of a course of study for the minor program by the department chairperson is required.

The Writing Minor

Eastern’s minor in writing allows students to explore writing – from the imaginative to the persuasive, from fiction to political blogs, from graphic novels to digital hypertexts – as both writers and critics. Given the importance of clear written and multimodal communication in nearly every profession, the writing minor is an ideal complement to any major. The variety of courses in which writing is the subject of study enables students to develop their particular interests and goals, whether in creative writing, rhetoric, business writing, editing and publishing, or any combination of these.

The Writing Minor consists of 18 credits. (See “Course Options” below.) For English majors, 9 of the 18 credits must be earned in addition to the 42 needed to fulfill the English major requirement. Thus, an English major with a Writing Minor will be required to complete 51 total credits in English beyond the LAC.

Only three credits of Internship credit (in ENG 491, 492, 493, or 495) may be counted toward the Writing Minor.

Courses to be counted must receive a grade of C or higher.

Approval of a course of study for the Writing Minor program by the English Department chairperson is required.

Course Options:

At least 18 credits from the following:

- ENG 200 Reading and Writing Argument
- ENG 203 Introduction to Writing Literary Criticism
- ENG 204 Introduction to Writing Studies
- ENG 205 Introduction to Creative Writing
- ENG 206 Multimodal Writing Workshop
- ENG 207 Forms in Creative Writing
- ENG 209 Writing for Children and Young Adults
- ENG 230 Reading and Writing Electronic Literature
- ENG 237 Encoding Electronic Texts
- ENG 238 Literary Magazine Editing
- ENG 241 Critical and Creative Thinking
- ENG 271 Classical Rhetoric, Modern Contexts
- ENG 300 Business and Technical Writing
- ENG 301 Writing Fiction
- ENG 302 Writing Poetry
- ENG 305 Composing Multimodal Narrative
- ENG 306 Digital Rhetorics and Literacies
- ENG 308 Playwriting
- ENG 353 Storytelling

- ENG 362 Writing for Digital Environments
- ENG 363 Copyright in the Digital Age
- ENG 369 Cultural Studies and Creative Writing
- ENG 370 Composition Theory & Pedagogy
- ENG 371 Rhetoric and Cultural Studies
- ENG 372 Creative Writing Abroad
- ENG 373 Studies in Rhetoric
- ENG 374 Rhetoric of the Hollywood Film
- ENG 375 Advanced Forms, Theory, and Practice in Creative Writing
- ENG 380 Creative Nonfiction
- ENG 381 Advanced Fiction Workshop
- ENG 382 Advanced Poetry Workshop
- ENG 383 Literary Publishing
- ENG 393 Latinx & Chicana Rhetorics
- ENG 480 Independent Study in Creative Writing or Rhetoric and Composition
- ENG 481 LAW Independent Study in Writing for Publication
- ENG 491 Tutor in the Writing Center
- ENG 492 Tutor in College Writing
- ENG 493 Teaching Assistantship in Writing
- ENG 495 Internship in Writing or Editing
## English Department Directory

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Full-Time Faculty</th>
<th>Office</th>
<th>Areas of Specialty</th>
<th>Extension</th>
<th>Email</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chirico, Miriam</td>
<td>Webb Hall 322</td>
<td>History of Drama; Modern and Contemporary Drama; British Modernism</td>
<td>x50233</td>
<td>CHIRICOM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clermont-Ferrand, Meredith</td>
<td>Webb Hall 250</td>
<td>English Literature and Medieval Literature</td>
<td>x50178</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cormier, Emily</td>
<td>Webb Hall 249</td>
<td>Young Adult Literature; Children's Literature; Ecocriticism</td>
<td>X50341</td>
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<td>DeRosa, Susan</td>
<td>Webb Hall 236</td>
<td>Composition/Rhetoric and Creative Nonfiction</td>
<td>x54585</td>
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<td>Donaghy, Daniel</td>
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<td>19th and 20th Century British and American Poetry; Creative Writing</td>
<td>x50208</td>
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<td>Ferruci, Stephen</td>
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<td>Composition Theory and Pedagogy</td>
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<td>Flood, Reginald</td>
<td>Webb Hall 253</td>
<td>African American Literature; African American Studies Coordinator</td>
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<td>Garcia, Christine</td>
<td>Webb Hall 247</td>
<td>Latinx and Chicana Rhetoric; Writing Across Communities; Civil Rights Rhetoric</td>
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<td>James, Meredith</td>
<td>Webb Hall 255</td>
<td>Native American Literature; American Studies Coordinator</td>
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<td>Liu, Barbara</td>
<td>Webb Hall 252</td>
<td>Composition/Rhetoric; Associate Chair; Director of the Liberal Studies Major</td>
<td>x54576</td>
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<td>Malenczyk, Rita</td>
<td>Webb Hall 254</td>
<td>Composition/Rhetoric; Writing Program and Writing Center Director</td>
<td>x54573</td>
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<td>Mama, Raouf</td>
<td>Webb Hall 246</td>
<td>African Literature; Storytelling as a Multicultural Teaching Tool</td>
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<td>McDonnell, Maureen</td>
<td>Eastern Hall 1</td>
<td>Shakespeare; 17th Century English Literature; Women's Studies; Women's and Gender Studies Director</td>
<td>x50268</td>
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<td>McNeil, Kenneth</td>
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<td>British and Scottish Romanticism/Scottish Literature</td>
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<td>Otero, Manuel</td>
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<td>Pauley, Benjamin</td>
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<td>Speicher, Allison</td>
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<td>Nineteenth-century American literature and children's literature</td>
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<td>Torockio, Christopher</td>
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<td>Younghblood, Jordan</td>
<td>Webb Hall 248</td>
<td>Digital Media; Queer Theory; 20th Century American Literature</td>
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<td>YOUNGBLOODJ</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Frequently Asked Questions

Is there a recommended sequence for taking courses in the major?

During your **freshman year** (first semester, if possible), we recommend you take ENG 202 Introduction to English Studies, a gateway course that introduces beginning English majors to the different disciplines and concentrations within the major and to the major issues, debates, and controversies that drive English study in the 21st century.

As soon as possible after completing ENG 202 and ENG 100 or 100P, you should take one of the writing intensive gateway courses (ENG 203, 204, or 205). Note that most concentrations specify a particular requirement for one of these courses. Therefore, if you have declared or are considering a particular concentration, be sure to take the required writing intensive gateway course at some point within your first two years at Eastern. These writing intensive courses are required prerequisites for the capstone seminars and introduce you to the kinds of writing standards and demands that you will meet in junior and senior courses. They will also help confirm whether you have made the right decision in becoming an English major and/or in your choice of concentration.

In your first year, you might also take one or more 100 or 200-level ENG courses within concentrations you are interested in exploring. If you don’t follow through with a particular concentration, those courses can still be used to meet your elective requirements (9-12 credits) for the major.

In your **sophomore year**, plan to take 200-level courses (including your second writing intensive gateway requirement), and perhaps one or two 300-level courses in your chosen concentration.

In your **junior year**, you should take 300-level courses (both within your concentration and as electives). If you apply and are accepted for English Honors, you should begin your capstone coursework in the spring semester of your junior year. (See more about English Honors on page 13.)

In your **senior year**, in addition to completing any other remaining requirements you should plan to complete the capstone requirements—directed research and study culminating in a substantial scholarly essay. (NOTE: Completing two of the writing intensive gateways [203, 204, or 205] with a C or better is a prerequisite for the capstone courses.)

When and how do I declare a concentration?

If you became an English major after Spring 2018, you were automatically placed in the General English Studies concentration unless you specifically requested a different concentration. Generally, if you are going to declare another concentration, you should do so shortly after completing ENG 202 Introduction to English Studies, a course which will introduce you to the various disciplines within English Studies and the specific concentrations offered at Eastern.

Discuss your interests and plans with your faculty advisor and/or with the English department chair. They can help you decide if a particular concentration is a good fit for you.

Once you choose a concentration, you must complete the necessary paperwork to officially declare that concentration. Complete the form with your advisor and bring it to the department chair for approval. E-web’s degree evaluation tool will not be able to track your progress toward completion of your chosen a concentration until you complete this process.

When and where can I find out who my faculty advisor is?

If you enter Eastern as a declared major, you will automatically be assigned to an English department faculty advisor in addition to your professional advisor in the Advisement Center. To declare a major in English after you have entered Eastern, meet with the department chair, who will assign you an advisor when you fill out the Declaration of Major form. Once you are assigned an advisor, you can see his or her name on eWeb under “Student Information.”
How can I meet with my advisor or my instructors?
Each professor keeps a minimum of five office hours per week for student conferences and advising. After the first week of each semester, stop by our main office and pick up a new copy of the faculty directory with office hours, extension numbers, and e-mail addresses. This information is also available at our web page, http://www.easternct.edu/faculty-directory/index.html?department=english&link=/english/.

If listed hours are not suitable for you, make an appointment. Each professor makes her/his own appointments, so the department secretary cannot do this for you. However, you can speak with the professor by phone or leave a message on her/his voice mail or in the professor’s mailbox in Webb Hall 225. Also you may e-mail professors directly and ask for an appointment.

What is “double-dipping” and how does it work?
Double-dipping is the use of the same course to meet two different requirements. In the English major, if you choose to complete two concentrations, you may double-dip up to 6 credits of courses that appear in more than one concentration—that is, count the course for both concentrations. You may double-dip up to 9 credits of classes that count for both the English major and the Writing Minor. As for the LAC, you may double-dip any ENG courses available in Tier II Creative Expressions and Tier II Cultural Perspectives. If you take ENG classes in any other LAC categories, though, they cannot count toward both your English major requirements and the LAC, only one or the other. Please note that for English majors, ENG 202 substitutes for LAC Tier 1: Literature and Thought, so it is not necessary to take another course in that category.

What courses taken elsewhere may be used for the English major?
Consult the university catalog about minimum residency requirements. Courses that transfer as specific credit with ECSU numbers may, if applicable, be used for specific course requirements in the major and LAC. You should meet with your advisor or the department chair to confirm the courses in your English major. (The Advisement Center will assign your transfer credits to the relevant LAC). For example, ENG 204 from "New Community College" may appear on your transcript as ECSU ENG 214, a survey course that could be applied to your major. If the number appears as ENG 2**, it means that we apparently have no matching course and you will receive only elective credit toward the major. However, if you believe this transfer course is the equivalent of one of the requirements for the major, bring a course description and/or syllabus to the department chair to learn if and how you may request approval for a substitution for a requirement in the major.
English Department Awards & Scholarships

The English Department sponsors a number of awards and scholarships, and also honors its majors by holding readings of students’ creative or scholarly work.

**Awards for English Majors**
These are usually awarded to graduating seniors and include

**Award for Service to the Department** ... for a student who has helped with departmental projects, coordinated events, or organized student clubs that have connections with English studies

**Award for Lifelong Learning** ... for a returning or continuing student who has shown a steady love of literature, writing, and the pursuit of knowledge

**Award for Contributions to the Cultural Life of the Campus** ... for a student who has been actively involved in literary publications, theater, or other literary and artistic events on campus

**Award for Excellence in Teaching or Tutoring** ... for a student who has excelled in Teaching Internships, the Writing Associates program, or other teaching experiences

**Award for an Outstanding Future Educator** ... for a student who has achieved academic excellence while completing a double major in English and Early Childhood, Elementary, or Secondary Education in order to prepare for a career in teaching

**Award for Academic Excellence** ... for a student who has demonstrated superior ability in and dedication to English studies

**Dr. Celia Catlett Prize in English**...The $500 prize will be awarded annually to the best Capstone project by a senior English major, whether he/she graduates in the Spring or mid-year, via a nomination process. If the Capstone project program is discontinued, the prize will go to the best essay by a senior English major.

**Scholarships**

The English Department currently grants two scholarships, which are awarded to juniors or seniors:

**The Constance Campo Memorial Scholarship**: Established in memory of Constance Campo, who was a longtime member of the English Department staff, this scholarship is for a non-traditional student who has demonstrated excellence in his or her studies. This scholarship is awarded to someone who has shown sensitivity to gender and diversity issues as did Ms. Campo.

**The David and Janet Philips Endowed Scholarship**: Established in 1990 by Donald Philips in honor of his parents and their commitment to service and their longstanding association with Eastern. David Philips taught in the English Department at Eastern for 28 years. He was well known for his storytelling and published Legendary Connecticut, a collection of folklore. He volunteered in many capacities in the Windham community. Janet Philips is remembered as a quiet leader. She worked in the Windham Town Hall for many years. She also volunteered her time and talents to numerous local organizations. The scholarship is awarded to an excellent student who is either an English major or a Theater major, with preference for a student who is majoring in both or heavily involved in both areas.

**Alexander “Sandy” Taylor Memorial Endowed Scholarship**
This scholarship was launched by family, colleagues and friends of Sandy Taylor; a scholar, Eastern professor and publisher, following his death in 2007. The scholarship was endowed in 2015. The recipient will be an English major, and preference will be given to students who demonstrate a commitment to peace and the rights of mankind and to those who show an interest in poetry.
Sigma Tau Delta

Exceptional English majors may be recognized by the department by being offered membership in Sigma Tau Delta, the international English honor society.

Membership in Sigma Tau Delta is an outward recognition of personal accomplishment. It provides opportunities for those interested in English language and literature to join with like-minded persons on the local, regional, national, and international levels.

The minimum requirements for membership in the ECSU Alpha Epsilon Delta chapter of Sigma Tau Delta are as follows:

- Declared major in English or English-focused concentration in an interdisciplinary major
- Minimum of 4 ENG courses at 200-level or above completed at ECSU
- Minimum 3.5 average in the English major/concentration
- Minimum 3.0 overall GPA

Each fall, department faculty will consider a list of students meeting the above requirements and offer invitations to those whose intellectual ability, course work and character are deemed worthy of this special distinction. Students nominated by at least two faculty may be invited to join Sigma Tau Delta.

For additional information about Sigma Tau Delta and the many benefits available to members (such as scholarships and internship opportunities) visit their website at http://www.english.org/sigmatd/index.shtml.

English Honors

English majors with at least 60 credits and a GPA of at least 3.70 in the major who have both the aptitude and the motivation to carry out advanced independent work may ask to be considered for English Honors. Applicants must submit a letter of intent to the department chair explaining their interest in pursuing English Honors, and must also provide two letters of recommendation from English faculty at Eastern.

English Honors students will normally begin their senior capstone coursework in their junior year (though other arrangements are possible for transfer students who began their careers at Eastern as juniors). Following completion of the capstone, English Honors students will enroll in ENG 485 and write an honors thesis, under the direction of a faculty advisor, in which they either expand their capstone project (from ENG 462, ENG 499, or HON 488) or pursue a new advanced topic of their own devising. An important final component of the process is a presentation during which the student will be expected to discuss his or her research with an English class or with a committee of faculty. Around March 15, the English department notifies the Registrar of all students graduating with English Honors (pending completion of thesis).
Graduate Studies and Careers for English Majors

As an English major you learn to read critically and write clearly, good preparation for law, media, and many other fields beyond the few listed here.

**Graduate Studies:**
The major prepares you to enter M. A., M.F.A, and/or Ph.D. programs in fields such as

- American Studies
- Creative Writing
- Cultural Studies
- Comparative Literature
- Linguistics
- Rhetoric and Composition
- Editing and Publishing
- Communications
- Education
- Law
- Library and Information Science
- Media Studies
- Technical/Professional Writing

**Careers:**
While many English majors become teachers at all levels, a degree in English can also lead to a variety of other careers (sometimes with further academic study). Below are just a few of the possibilities.

**Business**
- Advertising
- Marketing
- Research
- Grant Development
- Public Relations
- Human Resources

**Government and Public Service**
- Campaign Communications
- Lobbying
- Policy Research

**Writing, Editing and Publishing**
- Books
- Corporate Newsletters and Reports
- Magazines and Newspapers
- Web Publishing
- Technical Writing
- Journalism

Consider choosing a minor or elective coursework that will complement your English major and provide additional skills and knowledge related to your career goals. Talk to your advisor, the English department chair, and/or Eastern’s Center for Internships and Career Development about the variety of career options open to English majors.
English Department Policies on Internships & Independent Studies

The purpose of internships and independent studies is to give English majors an opportunity to explore professional activities related to literature, writing, editing, and publishing or to work on a topic or special research project that is not part of our regular course offerings. These options should supplement courses rather than substitute for them.

The following policies are designed with these principles in mind.

1. A maximum of six credits in internships/independent studies may be applied (as electives) toward fulfilling the required number of courses for a major in English.
2. Except in rare circumstances, no internship or independent study may be used as a substitute for a required course.
3. Internships/independent studies require some type of paper (a written report on activities, a research paper, or a portfolio) that is graded by the faculty member who directs the student for the project.
4. All applications for internships/independent studies must be signed in person by the chair or, when the chair so designates, the associate chair of the department.
5. A waiver of any of these policies requires formal, written application to the chair of the English Department.

To arrange an independent study, first approach the professor with whom you would like to work.

English Department Policies on Teaching Internships
(in courses other than ENG 100 or 100P)

While students should understand that, in general, an instructor will select interns from students that the instructor has taught in class, or who come strongly recommended, you may approach a professor with whom you would like to work. You may also apply for a teaching internship through the department chair.

The following policies make sure that teaching internships adhere to sound educational and ethical principles.

- An intern should have a strong grade point average and have demonstrated competency as a writer.
- Both the student and the instructor will evaluate the internship.

Appropriate activities for interns include

- helping students to develop drafts and prepare for tests and quizzes either during class time or in individual conferences.
- assisting the instructor in evaluating written materials and oral presentations (although the instructor will monitor the grading process and is responsible for all grades).
- leading group discussions.
- lecturing sometimes or leading class discussions.
- acting as liaison between students and the instructor.
- monitoring the achievement of goals for the course (with the instructor).

Note regarding tutoring in ENG 100 or 100P: students may act as writing tutors in sections of ENG 100 or 100P, but tutors for those courses are recruited and hired by the Director of the University Writing Program and the Writing Center, Dr. Rita Malenczyk.

Other English Department Internship Opportunities

Student may also receive internship credit for editing our newsletter, Keep-ENG in Touch, or managing content on our social media channels (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and LinkedIn). Contact the department chair if you are interested in these opportunities.