ENGLISH MAJOR, B.A.

Contact Information
Department of English and Comparative Literature
http://englishcomplit.unc.edu
Greenlaw Hall, CB# 3520
(919) 962-5481

Dr. Eliza Richards, Director of Undergraduate Studies
ecr@email.unc.edu

Mary Floyd-Wilson, Chair

Hilary Lithgow, Lecturer-Advisor
lithgow@email.unc.edu

The major in English equips students to become incisive thinkers and powerful writers. At UNC, English majors develop these skills by learning to analyze a range of literary genres and cultural artifacts: from broadsides and books to digital archives and mp3s; from poetry and the novel to dramatic performance and film. The B.A. with a major in English foregrounds the inventive ways that individuals from various historical and cultural settings have engaged writing and artistic representation to understand—and remake—the world around them.

The core curriculum of the English major offers students a comprehensive overview of the history of English-language literature and thought, from their beginnings in the Middle Ages to the contemporary rise of English as a global language. The core also features introductory courses, which impart analytical, research, and writing skills that help students explore the relevance of literature and other media to questions of history, culture, and everyday life.

The B.A. launches English majors into a digital, global world with historical knowledge about what has shaped it. Because rigorous analysis of literary documents requires sensitivity to the context of their production, students who major in English enter this increasingly technological and transnational world with a crucial skill: the ability to think contextually. In learning to describe and analyze relations between an individual work and its social, cultural, and political environment, our students are equipped for the world outside of the university with the tools for solving a host of intellectual problems—medical, legal, technological, and beyond.

Department Programs

Majors

• Comparative Literature Major, B.A. (http://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/programs-study/comparative-literature-major-ba)
• English Major, B.A. (p. 1)

Minors

• Comparative Literature Minor (http://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/programs-study/comparative-literature-minor)
• Composition, Rhetoric, and Digital Literacy Minor (http://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/programs-study/composition-rhetoric-digital-literacy-minor)
• Creative Writing Minor (http://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/programs-study/creative-writing-minor)
• English Minor (http://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/programs-study/english-minor)
• Global Cinema Minor (http://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/programs-study/global-cinema-minor)
• Latina/o Studies Minor (http://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/programs-study/latina-latino-studies-minor)
• Medicine, Literature, and Culture Minor (http://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/programs-study/medicine-literature-culture-minor)

Graduate Programs

• M.A. in Comparative Literature (http://catalog.unc.edu/graduate/schools-departments/english-comparative-literature)
• Ph.D. in Comparative Literature (http://catalog.unc.edu/graduate/schools-departments/english-comparative-literature)
• M.A. in English (http://catalog.unc.edu/graduate/schools-departments/english-comparative-literature)
• Ph.D. in English (http://catalog.unc.edu/graduate/schools-departments/english-comparative-literature)

Upon completion of the English program, students should be able to:

• Compose extended literary arguments
• Orally present and discuss ideas about literary texts
• Demonstrate knowledge of literary theory
• Analyze and interpret poetry

Requirements

In addition to the program requirements listed below, students must

• attain a final cumulative GPA of at least 2.0
• complete a minimum of 45 academic credit hours earned from UNC Chapel Hill courses
• take at least half of their major course requirements (courses and credit hours) at UNC Chapel Hill
• earn a minimum of 18 hours of C or better in the major core requirements (some majors require 21 hours).

For more information, please consult the degree requirements section of the catalog (http://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/general-education-curriculum-degree-requirements/#degreerequirementstext).

Core Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 120</td>
<td>British Literature, Medieval to 18th Century &lt;sup&gt;H&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 121</td>
<td>British Literature, 19th and Early 20th Century</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or ENGL 150</td>
<td>Introductory Seminar in Literary Studies</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 225</td>
<td>Shakespeare &lt;sup&gt;H&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One pre-1660 course</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One 1660–1900 course</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One post-1900 course</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Four elective courses (numbered between ENGL 200 and ENGL 699)</td>
<td>12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Hours</td>
<td>30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<sup>H</sup> Honors version available. An honors course fulfills the same requirements as the nonhonors version of that course. Enrollment and GPA restrictions may apply.

Course List Information:
• Pre-1660 (p. 2)
• 1660–1900 (p. 2)
• Post-1900 (p. 2)
• Electives (p. 3)

Pre-1660 Courses
ENGL 226 Renaissance Drama
ENGL 227 Literature of the Earlier Renaissance
ENGL 228 Literature of the Later Renaissance
ENGL 230 Milton
ENGL 285 Classical Backgrounds in English Literature
ENGL 314 History of the English Language
ENGL 316 Rhetorical Traditions
ENGL 319 Introduction to Medieval English Literature, excluding Chaucer
ENGL 320 Chaucer
ENGL 321 Medieval and Modern Arthurian Romance
ENGL 322 Medieval England and Its Literary Neighbors
ENGL 325 Shakespeare and His Contemporaries
ENGL 326 Renaissance Genres
ENGL 327 Renaissance Literature and Its Intellectual Contexts
ENGL 330 Perspectives on the Renaissance
ENGL 430 Renaissance Literature–Contemporary Issues
ENGL 619 Survey of Old and Middle English Literature
ENGL 630 Shakespeare and His Contemporaries
ENGL 660 War in Shakespeare’s Plays

ENGL 374 Southern Women Writers
ENGL 387 Canadian Literature
ENGL 436 Contemporary Approaches to 18th-Century Literature and Culture
ENGL 437 Chief British Romantic Writers
ENGL 439 English Literature, 1832-1890
ENGL 440 English Literature, 1850-1910
ENGL 441 Romantic Literature–Contemporary Issues
ENGL 442 Victorian Literature–Contemporary Issues
ENGL 443 American Literature before 1860–Contemporary Issues
ENGL 444 American Literature, 1860-1900–Contemporary Issues
ENGL 631 18th-Century Literature
ENGL 637 Chief British Romantic Writers
ENGL 638 19th-Century Women Writers

H Honors version available. An honors course fulfills the same requirements as the nonhonors version of that course. Enrollment and GPA restrictions may apply.

1 Courses may fit more than one category but can be counted only once. For example, ENGL 347 may fulfill either the 1660–1900 or the post-1900 requirement, but not both.

H 18th-Century Drama
H 18th-Century Fiction
H The Romantic Revolution in the Arts
H 19th-Century British Novel
H English Romantic-Period Drama
H Studies in Jane Austen
H American Literature before 1860
H American Literature, 1860-1900
H The American Novel
H African American Literature to 1930
H Southern American Literature

Post-1900 Courses
ENGL 266 Science and Literature
ENGL 269 Introduction to Disability Studies
ENGL 278 Irish Writing, 1800-2000
ENGL 281 Literature and Media
ENGL 288 Literary Modernism
ENGL 289 Jewish American Literature and Culture of the 20th Century
ENGL 313 Grammar of Current English
ENGL 314 History of the English Language
ENGL 315 English in the U.S.A.
ENGL 316 Rhetorical Traditions
ENGL 317 Networked Composition
ENGL 318 Multimedia Composition
ENGL 345 American Literature, 1900-2000
ENGL 347 The American Novel
ENGL 348 American Poetry
ENGL 350 20th-Century British and American Poetry
ENGL 355 The British Novel from 1870 to World War II
ENGL 356 British and American Fiction since World War II
ENGL 357 20th-Century British Literature and Culture
ENGL 359 Latina Feminisms
ENGL 360 Contemporary Asian American Literature and Theory
ENGL 364 Introduction to Latina/o Studies
ENGL 365 Migration and Globalization
ENGL 368 African American Literature, 1930-1970
ENGL 369 African American Literature, 1970 to the Present
ENGL 370 Race, Health, and Narrative
ENGL 373 Southern American Literature
Elective Courses

Students may choose elective courses numbered between ENGL 200 and ENGL 699 (which may include any of the courses listed among the core requirements). Students have the option to group these electives within a concentrated area of study called a "pathway." Pathways are not required, but choosing (or creating) one can help focus studies (e.g., in order to prepare for graduate school or to develop an area of interest to pursue later as a profession). Students may create their own pathway or choose one of the following pre-selected pathways:

- Transnational literature
- Writing, editing, publishing
- Archives to digital humanities: 21st century research methods
- English and education
- Gender and sexuality

English majors may choose additional courses, though they should keep in mind that no more than 45 semester hours of English (excluding ENGL 100 and ENGL 105/ENGL 105I) may be used toward the B.A. graduation requirement.

Students must have a grade of C or better in at least 18 semester hours in courses numbered ENGL 120 and above to satisfy the major requirements. All General Education requirements apply.

English (ENGL) course descriptions (http://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/departments/english-comparative-literature/#coursertext).

English Major, NUS Joint Degree

English majors may wish to consider applying for the Joint Degree Program, an innovative joint undergraduate degree program between the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and the National University of Singapore. UNC–Chapel Hill undergraduates spend anywhere from two to four semesters at the National University of Singapore and receive a joint bachelor of arts degree from both institutions. For further information, contact the Study Abroad Office.

English Majors in the School of Education

A student interested in teaching English in public high schools can apply to the M.A.T. program for certification after completing a B.A. in English. To meet certification requirements, students should take the following courses as part of, or in addition to, the English major (remaining within the 45-hour limit referenced above):

Three required courses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 313</td>
<td>Grammar of Current English</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 368</td>
<td>African American Literature, 1930-1970</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or ENGL 369</td>
<td>African American Literature, 1970 to the Present</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Two recommended courses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 314</td>
<td>History of the English Language</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 374</td>
<td>Southern Women Writers</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 400</td>
<td>Advanced Composition for Teachers</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 401</td>
<td>Advanced Composition for Elementary Teachers</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 446</td>
<td>American Women Authors</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Hours 15

H Honors version available. An honors course fulfills the same requirements as the nonhonors version of that course. Enrollment and GPA restrictions may apply.
Special Opportunities in English and Comparative Literature

Honors in Comparative Literature
Majors with an overall 3.3 grade point average may elect to write an honors thesis by applying for permission to the director of undergraduate studies in the spring semester of their junior year. Students then register for CMPL 691H and CMPL 692H during their senior year. These courses may count as credit towards completion of the major. Students write the 50- to 70-page thesis on a comparative topic under the direction of any faculty member. The student conducts independent research during the summer between junior and senior years, often with the assistance of research funding. The first semester of the senior year involves regular tutorial sessions with the faculty advisor, as well as the completion of most of the writing of the thesis. In the spring students finish the process of writing and defend the completed thesis at an oral examination. For more information about the honors thesis in comparative literature, including examples of past thesis topics, please visit the English and Comparative Literature Honors Thesis Web site (http://englishcomplit.unc.edu/complit/undergraduate/honors_thesis).

Honors in Creative Writing
See “Creative Writing Minor (http://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/programs-study/creative-writing-minor).”

Honors in English
The department offers at least two English honors seminars each semester. In addition, students seeking a degree with honors in English (a 3.3 cumulative grade point average and a 3.6 grade point average in major courses required) undertake a year-long independent project during their senior year (ENGL 691H and ENGL 692H) and usually produce a 40- to 50-page thesis. Students pursuing a degree with honors normally meet every week with the professors supervising their projects. This opportunity for individually directed research and writing often proves to be a high point of the student’s academic career.

Study Abroad
Some of the best programs offered at the University for study overseas are especially appropriate and useful to majors in the Department of English and Comparative Literature. These include semester or year-long programs at Bristol, Manchester, Sussex, Edinburgh, Glasgow, and certain Australian universities. Students who have a minimum grade point average of 3.3 at the end of their sophomore year can participate in the King’s College Exchange Program at King’s College, London (representing either English or comparative literature). Special opportunities are also available at Oxford University and through the Joint Degree Program with the National University of Singapore. Comparative literature students most frequently travel to non-English-speaking destinations. For information on all overseas programs, see the Study Abroad Office. (http://studyabroad.unc.edu)