ENGLISH MAJOR, B.A.

Contact Information
Department of English and Comparative Literature
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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)

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>Title</th>
<th>Honors Version</th>
<th>Credit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 120</td>
<td>British Literature, Medieval to 18th Century</td>
<td>H</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 121</td>
<td>British Literature, 19th and Early 20th Century</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 150</td>
<td>Introductory Seminar in Literary Studies</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 225</td>
<td>Shakespeare H</td>
<td>H</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One pre-1660 course</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One 1660–1900 course</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One post-1900 course</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Four elective courses (numbered between ENGL 200 and ENGL 699)</td>
<td></td>
<td>12</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Total Hours 30

H 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. 1)
• 1660-1900 (p. )
• Post-1900 (p. 2)
• Electives (p. 3)

Pre-1660 Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 226</td>
<td>Renaissance Drama H</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 227</td>
<td>Literature of the Earlier Renaissance H</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 228</td>
<td>Literature of the Later Renaissance H</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ENGL 230  Milton H 3
ENGL 285  Classical Backgrounds in English Literature 3
ENGL 314  History of the English Language 1 3
ENGL 316  Rhetorical Traditions 1, H 3
ENGL 319  Introduction to Medieval English Literature, excluding Chaucer H 3
ENGL 320  Chaucer H 3
ENGL 321  Medieval and Modern Arthurian Romance 1, H 3
ENGL 322  Medieval England and Its Literary Neighbors H 3
ENGL 325  Shakespeare and His Contemporaries H 3
ENGL 326  Renaissance Genres 3
ENGL 327  Renaissance Literature and Its Intellectual Contexts 3
ENGL 330  Perspectives on the Renaissance 3
ENGL 430  Renaissance Literature—Contemporary Issues 3
ENGL 619  Survey of Old and Middle English Literature 3
ENGL 630  Shakespeare and His Contemporaries 3
ENGL 660  War in Shakespeare's Plays 3

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

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.

1660–1900 Courses
ENGL 278  Irish Writing, 1800-2000 1 3
ENGL 314  History of the English Language 1 3
ENGL 315  English in the U.S.A. 1, H 3
ENGL 316  Rhetorical Traditions 1, H 3
ENGL 321  Medieval and Modern Arthurian Romance 1, H 3
ENGL 330  Perspectives on the Renaissance 3
ENGL 331  18th-Century Literature H 3
ENGL 332  18th-Century Drama H 3
ENGL 333  18th-Century Fiction H 3
ENGL 337  The Romantic Revolution in the Arts H 3
ENGL 338  19th-Century British Novel H 3
ENGL 339  English Romantic-Period Drama 3
ENGL 340  Studies in Jane Austen 3
ENGL 343  American Literature before 1860 H 3
ENGL 344  American Literature, 1860-1900 H 3
ENGL 347  The American Novel 1, H 3
ENGL 367  African American Literature to 1930 H 3
ENGL 373  Southern American Literature 1, H 3
ENGL 374  Southern Women Writers 1 3
ENGL 376  Canadian Literature 1 3
ENGL 436  Contemporary Approaches to 18th-Century Literature and Culture H 3
ENGL 437  Chief British Romantic Writers H 3
ENGL 439  English Literature, 1832-1890 H 3
ENGL 440  English Literature, 1850-1910 H 3
ENGL 441  Romantic Literature—Contemporary Issues H 3
ENGL 442  Victorian Literature—Contemporary Issues H 3
ENGL 443  American Literature before 1860—Contemporary Issues H 3
ENGL 444  American Literature, 1860-1900—Contemporary Issues H 3
ENGL 631  18th-Century Literature 3
ENGL 637  Chief British Romantic Writers 3
ENGL 638  19th-Century Women Writers 3

Post-1900 Courses
ENGL 266  Science and Literature H 3
ENGL 269  Introduction to Disability Studies 3
ENGL 278  Irish Writing, 1800-2000 1 3
ENGL 281  Literature and Media 3
ENGL 288  Literary Modernism 3
ENGL 289  Jewish American Literature and Culture of the 20th Century 3
ENGL 313  Grammar of Current English 3
ENGL 314  History of the English Language 1 3
ENGL 315  English in the U.S.A. 1, H 3
ENGL 316  Rhetorical Traditions 1, H 3
ENGL 317  Networked Composition 3
ENGL 318  Multimodal Composition H 3
ENGL 345  American Literature, 1900-2000 H 3
ENGL 347  The American Novel 1, H 3
ENGL 348  American Poetry H 3
ENGL 350  20th-Century British and American Poetry H 3
ENGL 355  The British Novel from 1870 to World War II H 3
ENGL 356  British and American Fiction since World War II H 3
ENGL 357  20th-Century British Literature and Culture 3
ENGL 359  Latina Feminisms 3
ENGL 360  Contemporary Asian American Literature and Theory 3
ENGL 364  Introduction to Latina/o Studies H 3
ENGL 365  Migration and Globalization H 3
ENGL 368  African American Literature, 1930-1970 H 3
ENGL 369  African American Literature, 1970 to the Present H 3
ENGL 370  Race, Health, and Narrative H 3
ENGL 373  Southern American Literature 1, H 3
ENGL 374  Southern Women Writers 1 3
ENGL 375  Contemporary North Carolina Literature 3
ENGL 380  Film History H 3
ENGL 381  Literature and Cinema 3
ENGL 387  Canadian Literature 1 3
ENGL 388  Modernism: Movements and Moments 3
ENGL 389  Major Film Directors 3
ENGL 410  Documentary Film H 3
**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
- Music, the visual arts, and media studies
- Literature and social justice
- Literature, war, and empire
- Race and ethnicity studies
- Science, medicine, and literature
- Theory and philosophy

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/#coursestext).

### 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 Code</th>
<th>Course 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 H</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or ENGL 369</td>
<td>African American Literature, 1970 to the Present</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 373</td>
<td>Southern American Literature H</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Two recommended courses:

- ENGL 314 History of the English Language
- ENGL 374 Southern Women Writers
- ENGL 400 Advanced Composition for Teachers
- ENGL 401 Advanced Composition for Elementary Teachers
- ENGL 446 American Women Authors H

**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 yearlong 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 yearlong 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 or visit their Web site (http://studyabroad.unc.edu).