Mission Statement
The Department of English offers to all students, wherever their professional and vocational interests lie, skills in critical thinking, analysis and writing along with an appreciation of the great literary heritage of Western civilization, with particular emphasis upon British and American literature. The program also promotes global awareness and the appreciation of cultural diversity through numerous opportunities for world or multicultural studies. Our goal is that, through the humanistic study of a variety of literature, students will obtain a better understanding of themselves, their culture and other cultures with which they must invariably come into contact.

A senior requirement ensures that each major will have a final capstone experience through courses designed to integrate earlier training and focus it toward postgraduate needs and opportunities.

Goals
To build upon the skills introduced in the General Education program, the Department of English strives to:
- Provide students advanced instruction in writing styles ranging from expository and creative writing to literary criticism.
- Help students master advanced skills in analytical and critical thinking.
- Develop skills in research and information access.

Career Opportunities
Careers that involve critical thinking, document analysis or oral and written communication such as:
- Consulting
- Editing
- Graduate school in English, creative writing and composition
- Law school
- Public relations
- Publishing
- Research
- Teaching

Co-curricular Activities and Organizations
- Sigma Tau Delta (the National English Honor Society)
- gardy loo! (a literary magazine)
- Sister Speak (JMU’s feminist journal)

Degree and Major Requirements
Students majoring in English earn the B.A. degree unless they are completing an English major with an interdisciplinary focus or an additional major in a degree program other than the B.A. The minimum requirement for a major in English is 36 credit hours of course work in the major.

The department recommends that students choose a variety of courses covering contemporary and early literature, as well as period, genre and linguistics courses. In addition to core courses, English majors must take nine credit hours of English electives on or above the 300 level. Courses taken to fulfill General Education Cluster Two requirements may also fulfill requirements in the English major. Students may complete credit requirements by taking additional electives.

The minimum requirement for a major in English with an interdisciplinary focus is 36 credit hours of course work; 24 of these hours must be in English courses, with 15 hours at the 300 level or above. Twelve hours from another discipline or disciplines must be chosen in conference with the student’s adviser and approved by the department head. For more information about the interdisciplinary focus, contact a departmental adviser.

Degree Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required Courses</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Education ¹</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign language classes (intermediate level required) ²</td>
<td>0-14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philosophy course (in addition to General Education courses)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University electives</td>
<td>26-40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major requirements (listed below)</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹ The General Education program contains a set of requirements each student must fulfill. The number of credit hours necessary to fulfill these requirements may vary.
² The foreign language requirement may be satisfied by successful completion of the second semester of the intermediate level of the student’s chosen language (typically 230) or by placing out of that language through the Department of Foreign Languages, Literatures and Cultures’ placement test.
Major Requirements

All students must include in their program the following core courses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Core Courses</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENG 299. Writing About Literature¹</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Choose one from the the following:</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENG 221. Literature/Culture/Ideas</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENG 222. Genre(s)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENG 235. Survey of English Literature: From Beowulf to the 18th Century</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Choose one from the following:</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENG 236. Survey of English Literature: Victorian Era through the 20th Century</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENG 239. Studies in World Literature</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENG 247. Survey of American Literature: From the Beginning to the Civil War</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENG 248. Survey of American Literature: From the Civil War to the Modern Period</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENG 260. Survey of African-American Literature</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Choose one at the 200 or 300 level |

Choice one course at the 300 or 400 level, pre-1900:

ENG 301. Old English Language and Literature
ENG 306. The Bible as Literature
ENG 311. Medieval Literature and Culture
ENG 313. Sixteenth Century British Literature
ENG 315. Seventeenth Century British Literature
ENG 316. Early Modern Drama
ENG 317. Shakespeare’s Tragedies and Romances
ENG 318. Shakespeare’s Comedies and Histories
ENG 319. Teaching Shakespeare
ENG 320. Shakespeare on the Page and Stage in London
ENG 327. The Gothic
ENG 328. Studies in South Asian Literature
ENG 330. The Nineteenth Century Novel
ENG 331. The Nineteenth Century Novel
ENG 332. Antebellum American Literature
ENG 343. Early American Literature
ENG 344. Late Nineteenth Century American Literature
ENG 352. The American Novel to 1914
ENG 401. Advanced Studies in Medieval Literature
ENG 402. Advanced Studies in British Literature Before 1700

One course from the Identity, Diversity and Power selections:

ENG 358. Oral Literature
ENG 361. African-American Fiction Writers
ENG 362. African-American Poets
ENG 368. Women’s Literature
ENG 369. Feminist Literary Theory
ENG 370. Queer Literature
ENG 371. Introduction to African Literature
ENG 378. Studies in South Asian Literature
ENG 379. Literature and Empire
ENG 423. Advanced Studies in Gender and Sexuality in Literature
ENG 431. Studies in Caribbean Literature
ENG 432. Studies in African Literature
ENG/SPAN 434. Latin American Literature in Translation
ENG 466. Advanced Studies in Women’s Literature

Two courses at the 400 level:

ENG 401. Advanced Studies in Medieval Literature
ENG 402. Advanced Studies in British Literature Before 1700
ENG 403. Advanced Studies in British Literature After 1700
ENG 405. Advanced Studies in Anglophone Literature
ENG 407. Advanced Studies in American Literature
ENG 408. Advanced Studies in African-American Literature
ENG 410. Advanced Studies in Author
ENG 413. Advanced Studies in Literature and Ideas
ENG 414. Advanced Studies in Genre
ENG 415. Advanced Studies in Textuality and the History of the Book
ENG 417. Advanced Studies in Linguistics and the English Language
ENG 420. Advanced Studies in Theory and Cultural Studies
ENG 423. Advanced Studies in Gender and Sexuality in Literature
ENG 430. Advanced Studies in Comparative Literature
ENG 431. Advanced Studies in Caribbean Literature
ENG 432. Advanced Studies in African Literature
ENG 434. Advanced Studies in Latin American Literature in Translation
ENG 439. Advanced Studies in Major Authors of Literature in Spanish
ENG 466. Advanced Studies in Women’s Literature

Other courses may be applied to these requirements via course directive. Students should consult advisers and the departmental semesterly list about other options.

¹ This course fulfills the College of Arts and Letters writing-intensive requirement for the major.

Recommended Schedule for Majors

Prior to declaring a major in English, students should consult with an assigned English adviser to plan a course of study tailored to their interests and goals. Students should contact the department office (Keezell Hall, Room 215) to request an adviser. The following chart shows a typical four-year program.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Year</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Foreign language courses</td>
<td>6-8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Education courses</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

http://www.jmu.edu/catalog/12
Concentrations

Majors may use their electives to concentrate in British, American, or World Literature or Creative Writing.

British or American Literatures

In consultation with their advisers, students may choose nine credit hours of courses beyond the core offerings that lead to a coherent view of the scope and development of British or American literature.

World Literature

In consultation with their advisers, students may choose nine credit hours of courses beyond the core offerings that acquaint them with the scope of world literature.

Courses

Choose three of the following:

- ENG 305. Mythology
- ENG 306. The Bible as Literature
- ENG 430. Advanced Studies in Comparative Literature
- ENG 431. Advanced Studies in Caribbean Literature
- ENG 432. Advanced Studies in African Literature
- ENG 433. Studies in Arabic Literature
- ENG/FR 435. Studies in French Literature
- ENG/GER 436. Studies in German Literature
- ENG/ITAL 437. Studies in Italian Literature
- ENG/RUS 438. Studies in Russian Literature

Choose one of the following:

- ENG 310. Traditional English Grammar
- ENG 311. Modern English Grammar

Choose one of the following:

- ENG 317. Shakespeare’s Tragedies and Romances
- ENG 318. Shakespeare’s Comedies and Histories
- ENG 319. Teaching Shakespeare
- ENG 320. Shakespeare on the Page and Stage in London

At least one course at any level in American literature
At least one course at any level in British literature
At least one course at any level in world literature

In addition to the general education and academic major requirements, English majors desiring secondary teacher licensure must be admitted to teacher education, complete the pre-professional program in secondary education at the undergraduate level and complete the graduate level Master of Arts in Teaching degree.

It is critical that students seeking licensure consult regularly with both their education adviser and their major adviser to support their progression through the programs. For a full description of the program in secondary teaching, refer to the Department of Middle, Secondary and Mathematics Education, in addition to the College of Education section of the catalog.

Minor Requirements

The minimum requirement for a minor in English is 18 credit hours. At least nine hours must be taken in courses at the 300 level or above. A General Education required course cannot double count as a minor requirement. A minor in English does not meet requirements for the Secondary Teaching License.

American Studies Minor

American Studies is a cross disciplinary program of study that promotes an enhanced understanding of the whole of American civilization, past and present through examination of the diverse aspects of our culture and changing patterns of ideas and values. Courses come from the departments within the College of Arts and Letters and students will take courses from within three groupings: Multicultural Studies, Ideas and the Arts, and History and Politics.

Creative Writing Minor

The cross disciplinary minor in creative writing is designed to give students an opportunity to develop their writing talents across a number of literary forms and communication contexts.

Film Studies Minor

The cross disciplinary minor in film studies is designed for students who wish to extend their critical understanding of visual communication and narrative form by studying how movies tell stories, convey information and influence audiences.