

GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

- Composition I (usually fulfilled via RHET 105 credit)
- Advanced Composition (ENGL 350)
- 6 hours Humanities & Arts (will fulfill via ENGL major)
- 6 hours Natural Science & Technology
- 6 hours Social & Behavioral Science
- Western/Comparative Cultures (will fulfill via ENGL major)
- Non-Western Cultures (*may* fulfill via ENGL major)
- US Minority Cultures (*may* fulfill via ENGL major)
- Two Quantitative Reasoning Courses (QRI and QRII)
- Language other than English
(4th level of one language or 3rd level of two different languages)

General education courses are a VITAL part of a well-rounded degree program and they should be spread out across your years as an undergraduate.

TOPICS IN ENGLISH REQUIREMENTS

(39 CREDIT HOURS)

CORE COURSES

- ENGL 200: Introduction to the Study of English (pre-req for 300-level English courses)
- ENGL 301: Introduction to Critical Theory
- ENGL 350: Writing About Literature, Text, and Culture

TOPICS (CHOOSE ONE AREA OF SPECIALIZATION)

- Literature and Science
 - Literature and Science Course 1
 - Literature and Science Course 2
 - Literature and Science Course 3
 - Literature and Science Course 4
- Media Cultures
 - Media Cultures Course 1
 - Media Cultures Course 2
 - Media Cultures Course 3
 - Media Cultures Course 4
- Race, Indigeneity, Gender, and Sexuality (RIGS)
 - RIGS Course 1
 - RIGS Course 2
 - RIGS Course 3
 - RIGS Course 4

For lists of courses that will satisfy requirements in the topic areas, contact an English department advisor or visit EB 200.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- ENGL 400: Capstone Course (guided research in your chosen topic)
- 15 Hours of any additional ENGL, CW, OR BTW courses (5 courses)
- At least one of the courses above must be a Difference and Diaspora course.

Difference and Diaspora courses focus on disability, ethnicity, gender, indigeneity, post-coloniality, race, and/or sexuality.

Of the total 39 hours required for the major, a minimum of 15 hours must be taken at the advanced level (300-400 level courses). ENGL 301, ENGL 350, and ENGL 400 count toward this total, and you must also have two advanced-level courses in your chosen topic area.

The Topics in English concentration gives students a chance to apply themselves to focused study in one of several areas. Before declaring this version of the English major, interested students will need to take at least two courses in their chosen topic area and then meet with a faculty advisor. To start the process, visit the English advising office in EB 200.

LITERATURE AND SCIENCE

This topic examines the complex intersections between science and culture, with particular emphasis on the problems of environmental sustainability, bio-ethics, and technology. Courses in this cluster include introductions to science fiction, ecocriticism, climate change, animal studies, and biohumanities. These courses explore the shifting relationships among imaginative texts, the natural world, and various scientific approaches that seek to describe the physical universe.

MEDIA CULTURES

This topic thinks not just about what stories a text tells or when particular texts were written but instead focuses on how those stories are packaged in multiple material forms, including manuscript, print, visual culture, film, new media, and live performance. Courses are intended to help students learn about how cultural aesthetics have changed over time with the advent of new art forms and media like print, photography, cinema, software, video games, comic books, and graphic novels, with a strong emphasis on the cultural, political, and societal implications of these different forms and formats.

RACE, INDIGENEITY, GENDER, AND SEXUALITY (RIGS)

This topic places at its center the history and culture of historically underrepresented groups, exploring the literature of the black diaspora, Asian Americans, indigenous people, LGBTQ people, Latinx people, and women. Drawing on the intertwined traditions of critical race theory, postcolonialism, feminism, and queer theory, students will investigate the role of literature in both reflecting and shaping our ideas about these categories of difference, as well as in imagining alternatives to them, with a strong emphasis on intersectional approaches to identity and the structural conditions that produce it.

Following is a sample list of courses for each of the topic areas. Remember that there are many more courses to choose from so your collection might look quite different!

LITERATURE AND SCIENCE

ENGL 220: Literature and Science

ENGL 222: Speculative Futures

ENGL 360: Environmental Writing

ENGL 455: Major Authors--Weird Writers: Poe, Lovecraft, Vandermeer, Miéville

MEDIA CULTURES

ENGL 253: Topics in Literature and New Media--Video Games and Narrative

ENGL 272: Minority Images in American Film

ENGL 380: Topics in Writing Studies--Internet Writing

ENGL 475: Literature and Other Disciplines--Early American Visual Culture

RIGS

ENGL 259: Early African American Literature & Culture

ENGL 260: Modern African American Literature & Culture

ENGL 396: Honors Seminar--Theorizing Hip Hop: Hip Hop (as) Narrative

ENGL 455: Major Authors--James Baldwin and Lorraine Hansberry

Note that we've given two examples of generalist approaches and one that is more focused on a particular category (African American literature and culture within the RIGS topic). Either approach is fine.