

Department of English

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Field Description

Language is one of the most powerful tools at the disposal of educated men and women. English is the discipline where students encounter works of fiction, poetry, and drama that unlock the richest potentialities of language. Students are also afforded a range of opportunities for developing their own writing to the fullest: critical essays on literature in a variety of courses, workshops in creative writing (poetry, fiction, and nonfiction), and the art of the essay. Language is also approached through linguistics, the history of English, and global English. With advanced training in English increasingly necessary for business and professional careers, this course of study is universally recognized as an ideal "preprofessional major"---one that opens career possibilities in such fields as law, publishing, teaching, and community service.

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The Major

The English major offers a rich variety of courses for students interested in literature, creative writing, and language and society. Among the interdisciplinary offerings are courses in film, linguistics, and global studies.

Students may prepare for the study of literature on the graduate level. Concentrated work in English will be of great value to students preparing for such business and professional careers as editing, publishing, science and technical writing, advertising, public relations, and communications. The literature courses are designed to help students sharpen their reading and writing skills, gain new insights into human nature and cultural diversity, and achieve increased flexibility in their own approach to life.

Students preparing for graduate study in literature should have some knowledge of the range of English, American, and non-Western literature and should be acquainted with such major figures as Chaucer and Shakespeare. Because most graduate schools have foreign language requirements and candidates must sometimes demonstrate competence in several languages, prospective graduate students are urged to undertake their study of foreign languages as early as possible.

Students in English are encouraged to broaden their base of knowledge in as many fields as possible, many of which will resonate with interdisciplinary approaches in their English courses. Courses in comparative literature, foreign languages, communication studies, history, art, music, religion, philosophy, psychology, sociology, and education are especially recommended.

Program Learning Goals

Upon completion of a major in English, students will be able to:

1. Read closely works in the major literary genres (narrative, poetry, drama, essay) and comprehend individual works' themes, formal organization, and stylistic features.
2. Write cogent essays developing a persuasive interpretation of a literary work and arguing for that interpretation through commentary on the text; formal, thematic, or stylistic analysis; and contextualization in terms of literary, cultural, political, or intellectual history.
3. Comprehend the broad historical outlines of British, American, and global literatures in English, including concepts of periodization (like Medieval, Elizabethan, Restoration, Romantic, American Renaissance, Modernism) and some major events corresponding to those periods.
4. Find critical works on specific texts or topics through library and internet research and make salient comparisons between competing interpretations and contrasting critical approaches.
5. Make connections between literary studies and related fields of inquiry such as aesthetics, cultural studies, film, gender, linguistics, philosophy, psychology, and queer theory.

Major Course Requirements

Program Prerequisites*No credit toward the major/specialization*

ENG 2100	Writing I (or its equivalent)	3 credits
ENG 2150	Writing II	3 credits
ENG 2800 or CMP 2800	Great Works of Literature I	3 credits
	or	
ENG 2850 or CMP 2850	Great Works of Literature II	3 credits

Major/Specialization: 30 credits

Required Courses 15 credits

ENG 3010	Survey of English Literature I	3 credits
ENG 3015	Survey of English Literature II	3 credits
ENG 3020	Survey of American Literature I	3 credits
	or	
ENG 3025	Survey of American Literature I	3 credits
ENG 3030	Contemporary Literature from Asia, Africa, and Latin America	3 credits
	or	
ENG 3032	Ethnic Literature	3 credits
	or	
ENG 3034	A Survey of African American Literature	3 credits
	or	
ENG 3036	Postcolonial Literature	3 credits
	or	
ENG 3038	A Survey of Caribbean Literature in English	3 credits

ENG 4120	Chaucer	3 credits
	or	
ENG 4140	Shakespeare	3 credits
	or	
ENG 4145	Topics in Shakespeare	3 credits

Electives 15 credits

Choose five additional courses for 15 credits. Electives must be selected from Department of English offerings numbered at the 3000, 4000, 5000, and 6000-levels. Courses offered by the Harman Writer-in-Residence are also included.

Note: Interdisciplinary courses, such as Feit Seminars ([IDC 4050H](#)), and appropriate film studies courses may be included with prior permission of the department.

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The Minor

Advanced training in English language and literature is increasingly necessary for business and professional careers. Students who choose to develop their intellectual abilities in these areas may select two courses numbered 3000 or above from the offerings of the Department of English. To complete their minors, they enroll in an appropriate capstone course. All 4000-level offerings in the Department of English or an approved 3-credit Independent Studies course in English may serve as the capstone course.

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Special Program

The Sidney Harman Writer-In-Residence Program

The Sidney Harman Writer-in-Residence Program, an endowed residency in the Weissman School of Arts and Sciences, offers gifted undergraduates the opportunity to enroll in writing workshops taught by distinguished visiting professors. Since its inception in the fall of 1998, Harman Writers-in-Residence have included poets Yehuda Amichai, Agha Shahid Ali, April Bernard, Carol Muske-Dukes, Charles Simic, and Major Jackson; playwrights Edward Albee and Tony Kushner; authors William Finnegan, Philip Gourevitch, Jane Kramer, Mark Kurlansky, and George Packer; fiction writers Paul Auster, Susan Choi, Anita Desai, Francisco Goldman, Colum McCann, Lorrie Moore, Sigrid Nunez, Francine Prose, Joseph O'Connor, and John Edgar Wideman; and graphic novelist, Ben Katchor.

Harman courses vary in numbering and in subject, depending on the choice of the visiting writer. Interested students of all majors are encouraged to submit transcripts and writing portfolios for review to Professor Esther Allen, 646-312-4214; e-mail: Esther.Allen@baruch.cuny.edu .

Harman classes can be taken for honors credit and students can use the Harman courses to fulfill their honors course requirements. The courses also can be used in the Journalism major and minor and in the English major and minor.

Additional information on the Harman Residency is available at www.baruch.cuny.edu/wsas/harman.

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Advice For Students Registering For English Composition Courses

All students are required to take:

[ENG 2100](#) Writing I (3 credits)

and

[ENG 2150](#) Writing II (3 credits).

Requirements for Placement into ENG 2100:

- A minimum score of 480+ on the SAT Verbal OR
- 20+ on the ACT English OR
- 75+ on the NY State Regents exam OR
- 56+ on the CUNY Assessment in Writing (CATW) and 70+ on the CAT in Reading.

Special requirements for second-degree transfer students from universities in which English is not the language of instruction: Prior to their first semester at Baruch, all such transfer students must take a writing placement test administered by the Department of English. Students who pass the test will be awarded any and all composition credits to which they are entitled. Students who do not pass the writing placement test or who have earned fewer than 6 credits in composition will be placed in an appropriate English course.

Exemption Criteria

Students who earn a **4 or 5** on the Advanced Placement English Language and Composition or AP English Literature and Composition exam will receive credit for ENG 2100: Writing I. No advanced placement credit is available for ENG 2150 for first-year students.

Advanced students with over 60 hours who transfer to Baruch may be eligible for exemption from ENG 2100 and 2150 under certain circumstances. For exemption determination, please contact Writing Director [Lisa Blankenship](#) in the Department of English.

For questions about transferring courses which may count as ENG 2100 and 2150 equivalents, please contact the Admissions Office or Dr. Blankenship, Writing Director.

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Courses

Courses in English (ENG)

ENG 2100	Writing I	4 hours; 3 credits
ENG 2150	Writing II	4 hours; 3 credits
ENG 2200	Literature and Economic Perspectives	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 2800	Great Works of Literature I	4 hours; 3 credits
ENG 2850	Great Works of Literature II	4 hours; 3 credits
ENG 3001	Naked English: Baring the Bones of the English Sentence	3 hours; 3 credits

ENG 3005	Introduction to Literary Studies	4 hours; 3 credits
ENG 3010	Survey of English Literature I	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 3015	Survey of English Literature II	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 3020	Survey of American Literature I	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 3025	Survey of American Literature II	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 3030	Contemporary Literature From Asia, Africa, and Latin America	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 3032	Ethnic Literature	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 3034	A Survey of African American Literature	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 3036	Postcolonial Literature	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 3038	Survey of Caribbean Literature in English (BLS 3038), (CMP 3038)	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 3040	Children's Literature	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 3045	Literature for Young Adults	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 3201	Topics in Politics and Literature (POL 3201)	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 3215	Literature and Globalization	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 3260	The Art of Film	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 3270	Film and Literature	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 3280	Documentary Film (JRN 3280)	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 3285	Women in Film	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 3290	The Holocaust and Film (HIS 3290), (JWS 3290)	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 3610	Workshop: Fiction Writing (JRN 3610)	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 3615	Sudden Fiction - Crafting Short Short Stories (JRN 3615)	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 3640	Elements of Poetry: Presenting Subject Matter	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 3645	The Craft of Poetry: Form and Revision	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 3680	Advanced Essay Writing: Style & Styles in Prose	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 3685	Lyrics as Literature	3.0 credits; 3.0 Hours
ENG 3700	Introduction to Linguistics and Language Learning (COM 3700)	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 3720	Women in Literature	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 3730	Literature and Psychology (PSY 3730)	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 3750	The Structure and History of English (COM 3750)	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 3770	Masters of the Modern Drama: Ibsen through Tennessee Williams	3 hours; 3 credits

ENG 3780	Contemporary Drama: The New Theatre	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 3810	Holocaust Literature (HIS 3810), (JWS 3810)	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 3820	The American Short Story	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 3830	Tradition and Influence in African American Literature	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 3835	Black Women Writers	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 3840	Literature and Philosophy of South Asia	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 3850	Law and Literature	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 3940	Topics in Film	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 3950	Topics in Literature	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 3960	Topics in Language	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 4011	Literary Theory (CMP 4011)	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 4015	The Globalization of English (COM 4015), (SOC 4015)	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 4020	Approaches to Modern Criticism	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 4110	Medieval Literature	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 4120	Chaucer	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 4130	Renaissance Literature:Non-dramatic	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 4140	Shakespeare	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 4145	Topics in Shakespeare	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 4150	Renaissance Drama (CMP 4150)	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 4160	Renaissance Poetry	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 4170	Milton	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 4210	The Eighteenth-Century Novel	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 4230	Major Topics in Restoration and Eighteenth-Century Literature	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 4300	Romanticism	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 4310	Victorian Literature	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 4320	The Nineteenth-Century English Novel	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 4360	Aestheticism and Decadence	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 4380	Oscar Wilde	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 4410	Modern Irish Writers	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 4420	Twentieth-Century British Literature	3 hours; 3 credits

ENG 4440	Currents in the Modern Novel	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 4450	The Modern Short Story	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 4460	The Modern Short Novel	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 4500	The Main Currents of Literary Expression in Contemporary America	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 4510	The American Novel	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 4525	Readings In Queer Literature, Media, and Theory	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 4535	African Diasporas: U.S., Latin America, and the Caribbean (CMP 4535)	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 4540	Studies in American Poetry	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 4545	Literature of the Harlem Renaissance	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 4550	Jewish-American Literature	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 4560	Mixed-Race Literature	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 4615	The Global Business of Literature	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 4700	Insult, Abuse, and Ridicule: Satire Through the Ages	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 4710	Medieval Romance: A Comparative Study	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 4740	Gothic Mysteries	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 4910	Perspectives on Literary Interpretation	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 4920	Narrative Writing (JRN 4920)	4 hours; 4 credits
ENG 4950	Advanced Topics in Language, Literature, or Film	3 hours; 3 credits
ENG 5000	Independent Study I	Hours and credits to be arranged
ENG 5001	Independent Study II	Hours and credits to be arranged
ENG 5002	Independent Study III	Hours and credits to be arranged
ENG 5003	Independent Study IV	Hours and credits to be arranged
ENG 5004	Independent Study V	Hours and credits to be arranged
ENG 6001H	Honors in English I	Hours to be arranged; 3 credits
ENG 6002H	Honors in English II	Hours to be arranged; 3 credits

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