

Major in English

The B.A. in English at Northeastern offers students a foundation in critical and creative methods along with advanced study in literature, literary history and criticism, cultural studies, critical and cultural theory, rhetoric, creative writing, and composition. Courses develop students' engagement with texts and their cultural, historical and aesthetic contexts while advancing their abilities in creative and critical thinking, reading, and writing. The rigorous study of critical analysis and the craft of effective writing prepares students to engage in society and to compete in degree programs and fields as diverse as professional and technical writing, public relations, web content management and writing, teaching, research, publishing, marketing, library science, law, medicine, and many others.

Proceeding through the Major:

English majors take six required courses and six electives of their own choosing; in fact there are many options even within our requirements.

Students should take our designated WIP (Writing Intensive Program) course, ENGL 210, as soon as possible--preferably in their first term with us, but possibly in their second. This course offers students practice in particular skills and content areas of the discipline, with an emphasis on drafting, revision and the protocols of incorporating research into argumentation.

During their first and second terms, students should try to satisfy their second requirement--three surveys in British and American literature (among ENGL 218, 219, 221 and 222), which provide the basis for many courses at higher levels as well as an introduction to literary history and the relations among texts, writers and broad historical forces.

The remaining requirements for the major are two: ENGL 345: Practical Criticism, which should be taken the term after ENGL 210 if possible; and one course concentrating on a "Major Author"--ENGL 314 (Chaucer), ENGL 329 (Milton) ENGL 330 or 331 (Shakespeare) or any course under the rubric ENGL 349 (Baldwin, Morrison, Anzaldúa, Wright, and many others).

Complete the major with six elective courses at the 300-level, with no more than four courses in any of the areas designated below (British Literature, American Literature, International Literature or Creative Writing/Composition).

Note: the English major offers many options designated as Engaged Learning Experience (ELE) courses, allowing majors ways of taking courses that count three ways: for the major, for an ELE, and for part of the student's required 40 credit hours at the 300 level for graduation.

Accelerated Concentrations:

Students pursuing the English major who plan to continue on to our MAT in Secondary Education program or either the MA program in Literature or the MA in Composition may enroll in Accelerated Concentrations for those programs. These concentrations provide pathways for qualified undergraduates to move seamlessly into the MAT in Secondary Education or MA programs while sharing up to 12 credits between their undergraduate and graduate work, thus saving tuition cost and time to degree.

The pre-requisites to the English major and to all its individual required courses are ENGL 101 and ENGL 102. Students are advised to take ENGL 102 before taking any required or elective course in the major. ENGL 101 and ENGL 102 are the only pre-requisites for 200-level courses in English. While students may receive special permission to enroll in 300-level courses in some cases after ENGL 102, the pre-requisites to most 300-level courses are ENGL 210 and one other 200-level course (one of our surveys or ENGL 235: Introduction to Creative Writing).

Admission to Accelerated Concentrations:

To apply for any Accelerated Concentration in English leading to an MA degree, students must have a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 and have earned at least 60 credits toward their bachelor's degree; at least 12 of those credits must have been earned at NEIU. In addition, students must receive approval from their undergraduate advisor in English, complete the online application for the relevant graduate program and meet all admission requirements for that program. Accepted students may begin the graduate-level shared coursework once they have earned a minimum of 72 undergraduate credits, at least 12 of which were at NEIU.

University Core Curriculum Requirements

General Education Distribution Area	Cr. Hrs.
Fine Arts (FA)* 2 courses, from at least two of the following areas of study: Art, CMT (Mass Media or Theatre), Music (includes Dance).	6
Humanities (HU)* 3 courses, from at least two of the following areas of study: CMT (Communication), English, Linguistics, Philosophy, Women's and Gender Studies, World Languages and Cultures, (Note: No more than two foreign language courses may be used to fulfill this requirement.)	9

Behavioral/Social Sciences (SB)* 9

3 courses, from at least two of the following areas of study: African & African American Studies, Anthropology, Computer Science, Economics, Geography & Environmental Studies, History, Justice Studies, Latino & Latin American Studies, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology, Social Work

Natural Sciences (NS and NSL)** 9

3 courses, from at least two of the following areas of study; one course must have a laboratory component (NSL): Biology, Chemistry, Earth Science, Environmental Science, Physics (Note: If an FYE ANTH that counts as Natural Science is taken, only one Biology course may be used for Natural Science).

Engaged Learning Experiences

Students must complete, at Northeastern, three courses designated as Engaged Learning Experiences courses. One of the Engaged Learning Experiences courses must be at the 300-level, and one Engaged Learning Experiences course must be designated as "Boundary Crossing".

Discipline Specific (ELE-DS)

These courses have pre-requisites that are specific courses within a program of study. Discipline Specific courses give students a deeper understanding of how knowledge is created and applied in their field.

Boundary Crossing (ELE-X)

These are courses that cross disciplinary boundaries and/or cross boundaries through engagements outside the classroom or University allowing students to see how knowledge gained in one field might inform other fields or other aspects of society.

Math/Quantitative Reasoning (MA)

1 Math course, that has intermediate Algebra as prerequisite OR is a course listed on the General Education Distributive Learning List of Approved Courses. Any 3 hour college level math course, beyond Intermediate Algebra, meets this requirement.

* Majors in Fine Arts, Humanities or Social/Behavioral Sciences, may waive up to 6 credit hours of General Education requirements in the corresponding distribution area.

** Majors in Natural Sciences may waive up to 9 credit hours of General Education requirements in the Natural Sciences distribution area.

Students should also be aware of all other university requirements to obtain a degree - NEIU requirements (<http://catalog.neiu.edu/graduation-requirements/bachelors-degree/>)

Major in English for the Bachelor of Arts Degree

Prerequisites: ENGL-101 AND ENGL-102 or equivalent. Note: No more than 15 hours may be transferred into the major in English.

Core Courses

Code	Title	Hours
Required courses		
ENGL-210	Writing Intensive Program: Methods for English Majors	3
ENGL-345	Practical Criticism	4
Select three Literary Surveys:		9
ENGL-218	American Literature:Beginnings To 1865	
ENGL-219	American Literature:1865 To The Present	
ENGL-221	English Literature:The Beginnings To C. 1750	
ENGL-222	English Literature: C. 1750 To The Present	
Select one Major Author:		3
ENGL-314	Chaucer And His Age	
ENGL-329	Milton	

ENGL-330	Shakespeare: Comedies, Romances And Poetry
ENGL-331	Shakespeare: Tragedies And Histories
ENGL-349A	Toni Morrison: A Deep Dive
ENGL-349B	James Baldwin: A Deep Dive
ENGL-349G	Gloria Anzaldúa: A Deep Dive

Electives: 2,3,4

18

Choose 18 hours from the four categories below, with no more than 12 hours from any one category.

BRITISH LITERATURE

ENGL-307	Medieval Studies- The Development Of The Arthurian Legend
ENGL-308	English Literature From Beowulf To Malory
ENGL-321	Literature Of The Romantic Movement
ENGL-323	Modern British Drama
ENGL-324	The Romantic Novel
ENGL-328	Seventeenth Century Literature
ENGL-341	Restoration And Eighteenth Century Literature I
ENGL-342	Restoration And Eighteenth Century Literature II
ENGL-348	Prose And Poetry Of The Victorian Age
ENGL-350	The Victorian Novel
ENGL-378	Twentieth Century Fiction I
ENGL-379	Twentieth Century Fiction II

AMERICAN LITERATURE

ENGL-312	Literature Of Colonial Times
ENGL-313	American Literary Renaissance-1830-1860
ENGL-322	The American Short Story
ENGL-352	Jewish-American Literature: People Of The Books
ENGL-353	Writing About Music In The U.S.: Contemporary History And Criticism
ENGL-356A	Graphic Novels And Comics (Graphic Novels and Comics)
ENGL-357	Land, Labor, & Literature: Studying The Works Of U.S. Working-Class & Colonized Writers
ENGL-361	Development Of The American Novel
ENGL-362	United States Fiction: Traditions And Counter-Traditions
ENGL-367	Re-Thinking Race And Gender
ENGL-364	Reading Film
ENGL-368	American Realism
ENGL-369	U.S. Latino/a Literature And Culture
ENGL-372	American Women Writers Of The Nineteenth Century
ENGL-378	Twentieth Century Fiction I
ENGL-379	Twentieth Century Fiction II
ENGL-380	Multi-Cultural Literature In America
ENGL-381	African-American Literature
ENGL-382	Chicana/o/x Literature
ENGL-383S	Special Topics In Latina/o And Latin American Literary And Cultural Studies
ENGL-389	Contemporary Poetry
ENGL-393	Literature Live: Studying The Works Of NEIU Visiting Writers
ENGL-397	Summer Creative Writing Institute

INTERNATIONAL LITERATURE

ENGL-205	Literatures And Literacies
ENGL-300	Russian Literature: From Gogol To Chekhov
ENGL-302	Literatures And Theories Of Love
ENGL-303	Contemporary LGBTQ+ Literature
ENGL-311	Introduction To Popular Culture Studies
ENGL-320	Globalizing Literacies
ENGL-333	Mythological Backgrounds Of English And American Literature

ENGL-334	Biblical Backgrounds Of English And American Literature
ENGL-360	Detective Fiction
ENGL-365	Caribbean Literature
ENGL-370	Folklore And The Fairy Tale
ENGL-371	Studies In Women's Literature
ENGL-373	Yiddish Literature In Translation
ENGL-383	Postcolonial African Literature

COMPOSITION and CREATIVE WRITING

ENGL-235	Introduction To Creative Writing I
ENGL-309	Reading & Writing In A Changing Digital Economy
ENGL-335	Written Communications For Business
ENGL-340A	Elements Of Style For Creative Writers ⁵
ENGL-346A	Critical Writing For Creative Writers
ENGL-374A	Hybrid-form Writing
ENGL-374B	Creative Writing: Flash Forms
ENGL-375	Becoming A Writing Tutor
ENGL-376	Advanced Composition
ENGL-377	Argumentative Prose
ENGL-384 & ENGL-385	Creative Writing: Poetry I and Creative Writing: Poetry II
ENGL-386 & ENGL-387	Creative Writing: Fiction I and Creative Writing: Fiction II
ENGL-394	Writing The Personal Essay
ENGL-395	The Craft Of The Short Story
ENGL-396	Screenwriting: The Short Script

Accelerated Program Courses: MAT

EDFN-415	Educational Thought And Secondary Schooling
SCED-415	Introduction To Secondary School Curriculum
SCED-402E	Methods Of Teaching English Language Arts In Secondary Schools
LTCY-502	Disciplinary Literacy Instruction In Secondary Grades (Accelerated Program Courses: MAT)

Accelerated Program Courses: MA Literature

ENGL-410	Literary Methods And Practice
plus a maximum of three additional graduate level courses	

Accelerated Program Courses: MA Composition

ENGL-433	Seminar In Composition Theory
ENGL-435	Writing Assessment: Theory And Practice
plus a maximum of two additional graduate-level courses	

Total Hours**37**

- ¹ This course is designed as an introduction to the English major, and should be taken as early as possible.
- ² Note: that the English Department is continually creating new courses. Therefore, the list below is not complete.
- ³ Note: Gen. Ed. courses (ENGL-201, ENGL-202, and ENGL-203) do not count towards the Major.
- ⁴ Note: A limit of six 200-level courses may be applied to the English Major.
- ⁵ English 340A is replacing English 240A.

English Majors must complete an electronic portfolio. For more information, please see your English Advisor.

This sample curricular map is provided to guide you in the planning of your progression for this major. This guide should not replace regular consultations with your program advisor. For specific recommendations of courses not identified, please consult your program advisor.

First Year

Term 1		Hours
ENGL-101	Writing I	3
MATH-091 (If Necessary - does not count toward graduation)	Intermediate Algebra I	3
General Education Course		3

General Education Course		3
Elective		3
Term Hours		15
Term 2		
ENGL-102	Writing II	3
MATH-092 (If Necessary - does not count toward graduation)	Intermediate Algebra II	3
General Education Course		3
General Education Course		3
Elective		3
Term Hours		15
Second Year		
Term 1		
ENGL-210	Writing Intensive Program: Methods for English Majors	3
English Literary Survey (ENGL 218 or ENGL 221)		3
General Education Course		3
General Education Course		3
Elective		3
Term Hours		15
Term 2		
Elective		3
General Education Course		3
General Education Course		3
ENGL Literary Survey		3
ENGL Literary Survey		3
Term Hours		15
Third Year		
Term 1		
ENGL-345	Practical Criticism	4
ENGL Elective		3
ENGL Major Author Course		3
General Education Course		3
General Education Course		3
Term Hours		16
Term 2		
Elective		3
General Education Course		3
ENGL Elective		3
ENGL Elective		3
ENGL Elective		3
Term Hours		15
Fourth Year		
Term 1		
ENGL Elective		3
ENGL Elective		3
Elective		3
Elective		3
Elective		3
Term Hours		15
Term 2		
Elective		3
Elective		3
Elective		3
Elective		3
Elective		3
Term Hours		15
Total Hours:		121