The Department of English at UWM excels in adapting the study of literature, writing, and media to the interests and needs of today’s students and employers. Students develop a deeper understanding of and appreciation for literature; learn creative, technical, professional and persuasive writing skills; and analyze narratives in film, TV, and digital games.

The English language is both a means of communication in world affairs and the literary voice of diverse peoples. Your studies will embrace the international and cross-cultural importance of English and how it continues to evolve and transform with our digital culture.

Our program attracts talented students from around the world. You will get to work with and learn from exceptional faculty and some of the best graduate students in the field.

Many alumni pursue careers that depend on accurate, persuasive, and appealing communication; law, business administration, technical writing, advertising, public relations, editing, publishing, creative writing, journalism, marketing, and more. Others seek careers in teaching, healthcare or technical professions such as medicine, engineering, or architecture. An English major is perhaps one of the most flexible of all liberal arts majors.

**Majoring in English**

The major consists of 36 credits regardless of track. Fifteen of the credits for the major must be at the 300-level or above and taken at UWM.

Before declaring the major, students must complete English 215: Introduction to English Studies.

We have organized our courses into tracks to help students focus on the area that interests them most.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Degree Track:</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Literature and Cultural Theory</td>
<td>Students develop critical writing and thinking skills by studying literature from different countries, periods, and cultural traditions in a highly flexible program.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rhetoric and Professional Writing</td>
<td>This track provides students the theory and practical approaches for writing well in all genres and contexts, including business and technical documents. Students develop skills using digital communication tools.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creative Writing</td>
<td>Students create their own texts in multiple genres – including fiction, poetry, and creative non-fiction – and media, including print and digital.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Media, Cinema, and Digital Studies</td>
<td>Students examine cinema, television, video games, digital texts and popular culture from a comparative perspective.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open Focus</td>
<td>This track is designed for students seeking a broad education in various areas of English Studies in preparation for diverse professional careers.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Minoring in English

The minor in English requires English 215: Introduction to English Studies, and a minimum of 15 additional upper-level English credits. Students interested in the minor should contact the Associate Chair for Undergraduate Studies (gblasini@uwm.edu) for details.

Honors in the Major

English majors who have maintained at least a 3.5 GPA in courses for the major graduate with “Honors in the Major.”

Undergraduate Scholarships

Each year the English Department disburses several competitively selected scholarships of $1,000 each: Ruth B. Skretting-Bertschi Scholarships; Elizabeth Babbitt Memorial Scholarships; and Robert Jones Scholarships. Applications are due in the Spring semester.

Internships and Practical Experience

Internships – Through our Writing Internship Program, students work at local, real-world sites developing professional skills and experiences that are valuable in the professional marketplace.

Furrow - the undergraduate literary journal of UWM showcases outstanding undergraduate work and introduces students to the literary community within and beyond Milwaukee.

Centers and Programs

The Writing Center – Visitors to the Writing Center can work one-on-one, in-person or online, with a highly qualified and well-trained tutor to discuss any kind of writing project at any stage of the project. The center’s trained tutors help students generate topics, organize ideas, develop thesis statements and revise drafts. www4.uwm.edu/writingcenter/

Film Studies – The Film Studies major and minor combine critical, historical and theoretical analysis of the most significant and globally influential media forms with an emphasis on film, television, the internet, and other areas of popular culture. Students in Track H (Media, Cinema, and Digital Studies) can easily double major in Film Studies. uwm.edu/film-studies

Sigma Tau Delta – Sigma Tau Delta is an invitation-only association that confers distinction for high achievement in English language and literature studies. Candidates must have completed a minimum of two college courses in English language or literature beyond the usual requirements in freshman English with a minimum GPA of 3.0.

Want to Read More?

Of course you do. English students love reading! Learn more about UWM English online:

- Website: uwm.edu/English
- Facebook: www.facebook.com/UWMenglish
- Instagram: UWMEnglish
- Twitter: @UWMenglish

Or visit us in person – we’re on the fourth floor of Curtin Hall, and we host dozens of events on campus and around town each year.

Revised 01/2019

In a recent Association of American Colleges and Universities report, 93% of employers stated that excellent written and verbal communication skills are essential in an employee.
This sample four-year plan shows just one possible pathway to earning a degree with this major in four years. This plan does not replace the advice of your advisor, and students are cautioned to meet regularly with their advisor to create a personalized plan that matches their particular circumstances. This plan also follows the degree requirements for students who began their college education in Fall of 2013 or later. If you started college prior to Fall of 2013, your degree requirements may be different.

**Degree Requirements (brief summary):**

1. English Proficiency and UWM Oral and Written Communication (OWC) GER - English 102 (fulfills Part A) and one OWC-Part B course.
2. Math Proficiency, UWM Quantitative Literacy (QL) GER, and Formal Reasoning – two courses can satisfy all three requirements. Some courses have prerequisites, however, so a student may end up taking more than two total classes depending on his/her placement test scores. Students will usually take Math 103 or 105 AND three credits in either a 200-level or above math course, Philosophy 211, or an approved Letters & Science statistics course.
3. Foreign Language – 4 semesters of a single Foreign Language (or 3 semesters of one language and 2 semesters of another language) (May be satisfied through 4 years of a single Foreign Language in high school.)
4. L&S Humanities (HU) – 12 credits
5. L&S Social Sciences (SS) – 12 credits
6. L&S Natural Science (NS) – 12 credits including one lab
7. L&S International (Int'l) – 9 credits usually accomplished in conjunction with Humanities and/or Social Science courses
8. UWM Arts GER – 3 credits
9. UWM Cultural Diversity GER (CD) – 3 credits usually accomplished in conjunction with a Humanities or Social Science course
10. 120 credits including 90 credits in L&S and with 36 of the 90 credits in L&S upper-level (numbered above 300) courses
11. Complete the English major requirements in one of the tracks:
   - Literature and Cultural Studies - 36 credits with at least 15 credits in 300-level or above courses taken at UWM
     » English 215
     » Two of English 301-304, 451-458, 500-505, or 530, with at least one chosen from 301-303, 451-457, 500-504, or 530
     » One of English 307, 308, 460
     » One of English 378, 390, 392, 394, 395, 402, 432, 545, 547, 626
     » One of English 415, 416, 430, 431, 433, 434-438, 615, 616
   - Rhetoric and Professional Writing - 36 credits with at least 15 credits in 300-level or above courses taken at UWM
     » All of English 215, 240, 430, 633
     » English 201 or 230
     » One of English 301-303, 451-457, 500-504, 530
     » One of English 431 (“Rhetorical History and Theory” subtitle), Commun 435, or Commun 436
     » English 440 or 449
     » English 378 or Commun 335
     » One of English 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 463, 517, 520, 521, 523, 524, 631, 632
     » One of English 463, 628, 629
     » One upper-level English elective
   - Creative Writing - 36 credits with at least 15 credits in 300-level or above courses taken at UWM
     » English 215
     » One of English 233, 234, or 235
     » Three of English 414, 415, 416, 418, 611, 612
     » Two of English 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 341, 342, 343, 344, 360, 361, 378, 417, 515, 547
     » One of English 301, 302, 303, 451, 454, 456, 457, 500, 501, 504, 530
     » One upper-level English elective
     » English 615 or 616
   - Media, Cinema, & Digital Studies - 36 credits with at least 15 credits in 300-level or above courses taken at UWM
     » English 215
     » Two of English 290, 291, 294
     » English 390 or 391
     » 12 credits in media, cinema, and digital studies, including at least 3 credits from each area, selected from an approved list
     » FilmStd 690
     » 6 credits English upper-level electives
• Open Focus - 36 credits with at least 15 credits in 300-level or above courses taken at UWM
  » English 215
  » One American literature course chosen from English 307, 308, 309, 372-377, 460, 461, 463, 517, 520, 521, 523, 524, 631, 632
  » One British literature course chosen from English 301-305, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 500-505, 530, 621
  » One minority, women’s or world literature course chosen from English 306, 316, 332, 372–381, 463, 465, 514–524, 627–632
  » One theory and criticism course chosen from English 378, 390-395, 545, 547, 626
  » Two rhetoric, professional, academic, or creative writing courses chosen from English 310, 400-404, 414, 415, 416, 418, 426, 430, 431, 433-437, 439, 442-446, 448, 449, 611, 612, 615, 616, 633, 634
  » Two media, cinema, and digital studies courses chosen from English 312, 316, 320, 329, 380, 383, 390-395; or Film Studies 212, 350, 412, 669, 690
  » A capstone seminar chosen from English 615, 616, 620-634, 685, 690
  » 9 credits English electives to get to a minimum of 36 credits; no more than 9 credits of 200-level coursework will count towards the major, and at least one literature course that is chosen must cover the period before 1900.

Sample Four Year Plan:

There are hundreds of courses that satisfy various requirements and courses can count towards more than one requirement. For example, English 215 counts towards the major and as a humanities course. (This sample assumes no high school Foreign Language was taken and that the student placed into college-level math and English.) This sample follows the creative writing track as an example.