

English

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The Department of English seeks to prepare students to pursue their chosen vocations with competence and versatility. Its goal is that graduates will enjoy good literature and write clear, coherent prose. The department endeavors to instill within each student a knowledge of major English and American authors, together with pertinent continental and non-Western ones, and a comprehension of the various critical approaches essential to a mature understanding and evaluation of literary achievement. We consistently endeavor to discover the relation of literature to biblical truth.

Students are encouraged but not required to meet the general education requirement with either [ENGL 101](#) or [105](#). Prospective English majors should take [ENGL 215](#) or [216](#) instead of 101 or 105.

Current lists of requirements are available in the department office or on the department website.

Requirements for a major in English are a minimum of 36 hours, including [ENGL 215](#) and [216](#), [494 Senior Seminar](#), four hours in pre-1800 British literature ([ENGL 331](#), [336](#), [337](#), or [353](#)), four hours in post-1800 British/European literature ([ENGL 355](#), [361](#), [364](#), or [371](#)), two of the three period courses in American literature ([ENGL 341](#), [342](#), [343](#)), one figure course, one special topics course, and one writing course beyond the 103/104 level. Students intending to pursue graduate study are strongly encouraged to elect [ENGL 434 Modern Literary Theory](#). For those anticipating graduate study, French and German are recommended.

Requirements for a major in English with Teaching Concentration are a minimum of 40 hours, including [ENGL 215](#) and [216](#), four hours in post-1800 British/European literature ([ENGL 355](#), [361](#), [364](#), or [371](#)), two of the three period courses in American literature ([ENGL 341](#), [342](#), [343](#)), [ENGL 494 Senior Seminar](#), [ENGL 285 Topics in Global Literature](#), [ENGL 327 Adolescent Literature](#), [ENGL 334 Shakespeare](#), and [ENG 271 History of the English Language](#). Prior to student teaching, students must also take [ENG 324 Methods of Teaching English](#) and [ENGW471 Composition Theory, Practice, and Pedagogy](#). Also recommended

are [ENGL 349 African American Literature](#), [ENGL 375 Women Writers](#), and [ENGL 434 Modern Literary Theory](#). In addition to the 40 hours in English, students must also meet specific general education requirements and certification requirements. See the [Education Department section](#) of the catalog.

Requirements for a major in English with a Writing Concentration are a minimum of 42 hours, including 26 hours in literature: [ENGL 215](#) and [216](#); four hours from pre-1800 courses ([ENGL 331](#), [336](#), [337](#), or [353](#)); four hours from post-1800 ([ENGL 355](#), [361](#), [364](#), or [371](#)); two of the three period courses in American literature ([ENGL 341](#), [342](#), [343](#)), plus one figure course, and 16 hours in writing courses (eight to ten hours in regular offerings of writing courses, two to four hours in special topics in writing, and a senior writing seminar).

All English majors must submit a departmental portfolio as part of the graduation requirements. Full details are available at www.wheaton.edu/english/majors/portfolio.

The department offers an honors program for outstanding junior and senior majors who want to undertake independent research. Details are available in the department office or on the [department website](#).

Requirements for a minor in English are 20 hours, including either [ENGL 101](#) or [215](#), either [105](#) or [216](#), and one American literature course ([ENGL 341](#), [342](#), [343](#)). Other courses are at the student's discretion, except that if a student takes neither [ENGL 215](#) nor [216](#), one of the remaining courses must be a course in British literature.

Literature Courses (ENGL)

ENGL 101. Classics of Western Literature. Selected masterpieces from ancient times through the Renaissance, including Homeric epic, Greek tragedy, Dante's *The Divine Comedy*, Shakespearean tragedy, and Milton's *Paradise Lost*.

ENGL 102. Modern Western Literature. A survey of modern western literature with emphasis on genres prominent in the 19th and 20th centuries.(2)

ENGL 105. Modern Global Literature. Representative works of global literature from 1700 to the present.

ENGL 285. Topics in Global Literature. An introductory survey of a literature outside the Western tradition, e.g. the literature of Africa, Latin America, India, or the Far East (China and/or Japan). (2)

ENGL 215. Classical and Early British Literature. An overview of Classical and early British literature, introducing students to major eras, authors, and genres through the sixteenth-century.

ENGL 216. British Literature, Seventeenth Century to Twentieth Century. An overview of British literature of the past four centuries, introducing students to major eras, authors, and genres.

ENGL 326. Children's Literature. A chronological survey by genre of books written for children, preschool through grade six. (Does not count toward general education requirement or English major.) (2)

ENGL 327. Adolescent Literature. Critical analysis and evaluation of contemporary novels for

adolescents in grades six through twelve. (Does not count toward general education requirement.) (Counts toward the 40 hr. minimum only for teaching concentration students.) (2)

ENGL 331. Medieval Literature. Representative major genres of the Middle Ages, including, Arthurian romance, drama, lyric, and frame narrative with a focus on the works of Chaucer.

ENGL 334. Shakespeare. The major comedies and tragedies, along with selective study of the history plays and romances.

ENGL 335. Studies in Literary Genre. Each offering of this course will investigate one of the major literary genres—novel, epic, tragedy, lyric, drama, essay, and so on—investigating its characteristic features and tracing its development over time.

ENGL 336. The English Renaissance. The chief literary works of the sixteenth century in their English setting, with emphasis on More, Marlowe, Sidney, Spenser, and Kyd.

ENGL 337. Seventeenth-Century English Literature. The metaphysical and Cavalier traditions of poetry, the work of Milton, and a sampling of prose traditions.

ENGL 341. American Literature: Beginnings through Romanticism. Early American literature from the writings of exploration and colonization through Romanticism. Writers may include Edwards, Franklin, Douglass, Emerson, Thoreau, Whitman, Melville, Hawthorne, Dickinson.

ENGL 342. American Literature: Realism to Modernism. Literature from the Civil War to the Great Depression. Writers may include Twain, Wharton, Chopin, Dreiser, Frost, Eliot, Hemingway, Fitzgerald.

ENGL 343. American Literature: Modernism and Beyond. Literature from 1930 to the present. Writers discussed may include Faulkner, O'Connor, Hurston, Miller, Kerouac, DeLillo, Carver, Levertov, Morrison, Cisneros, Wilbur.

ENGL 348. Selected Authors. In-depth study of a single author or a small number of authors. (2 or 4)

ENGL 349. African American Literature. A survey of the African American literary tradition from Phillis Wheatley and the slave narratives to Toni Morrison. Other writers include Chesnut, Hurston, Hughes, Wright, Baldwin, Baraka, and Clifton.

ENGL 353. Restoration and Eighteenth-Century Literature. Major English writers, 1660-1789, including Addison, Boswell, Cowper, Dryden, Fielding, Gray, Goldsmith, Johnson, More, and Pope.

ENGL 355. The Romantic Period. Major English Romantic writers, 1783-1832, together with a study of the meaning of Romanticism. Includes Jane Austen.

ENGL 361. Victorian Literature. The poetry, fiction, prose, and drama of the Victorian era (1832-1901), including major works of Tennyson, Browning, Arnold, Hopkins, the Brontës, Dickens, Eliot, Hardy, Carlyle, Ruskin, and the Pre-Raphaelites.

ENGL 364. Modern British Literature. Themes treated may include the history of Modernism, responses to the two World Wars, and the rise of multicultural Britain. Authors regularly studied will be Yeats, Joyce, Woolf, Auden, Larkin, and Stoppard, though others will appear from time to time.

ENGL 371. Modern European Literature. Poetry, fiction, drama, and non-fiction prose from

1850 to the present. Writers may include Flaubert, Dostoevsky, Ibsen, Mann, Kafka, Bonhoeffer, Mandelstam, Levi, Mulisch, Dinesen, and Milosz.

ENGL 373. Literature of the Bible. The literary forms and meaning of biblical literature.

ENGL 375. Women Writers. A study of major women novelists, essayists, poets, and playwrights from the Middle Ages to the present. (2)

ENGL 431. Christianity and Fantasy. An exploration of the complex interrelations of Christianity and the fantastic, primarily in twentieth-century literature. Authors studied will likely include George Macdonald, G.K. Chesterton, J.R.R. Tolkien, C.S. Lewis, J.K. Rowling, and Philip Pullman.

ENGL 433. Varied Literary Topics. Selected topics, studied with a view to giving added breadth and depth to the understanding of special areas of literature. Where appropriate, this course may be substituted for listed requirements. (2 or 4)

ENGL 434. Modern Literary Theory. An introduction to the most influential modern theories about what literature is and how we experience it, with particular emphasis on deconstruction, feminism, New Historicism, and post-colonial criticism.

ENGL 435. History of Literary Criticism. Key documents in the history of Western thought about literature, from Plato's banishment of the poets to the advent of Modernism. Other authors studied include Aristotle, Augustine, Dante, Sidney, Kant, Coleridge, Arnold, Nietzsche, and Marx.

ENGL 494. Senior Seminar. Selected subjects, such as a group of writers, a literary form, or a theme, studied with a view to critical concerns and the integration of faith and learning in literary study.

ENGL 495. Independent Study. An individually planned program of reading, research, and consultation under the supervision of a member of the department. (1-4)

ENGL 496. Literature Internship. English Department approval. Graded pass/fail.

English Courses (ENG)

ENG 271. History of the English Language. A study of the development of the English language with attention given to an understanding of semantics, syntax, morphology, phonology, and diversity in language use. Required of all English majors seeking secondary education certification. Offered in alternate years. (2)

ENG 324. Methods of Teaching English. Content will address the issues of planning, teacher/student interaction, literacy skills, pedagogy for various genres of literature, technology and instructional aids, assessment and grading procedures. Required of English majors pursuing secondary education certification, prior to student teaching. Open to all English majors interested in teaching. Prerequisite: Acceptance to the Wheaton Teacher Education Program (WheTEP) or the instructor's approval. (2)

ENG 429x. Problems in Reading. See [EDUC 429](#). (2)

Writing

Believing that the ability to write well is one of the marks of educated men and women, the English Department offers to students in all departments of the College opportunities to study and to practice various types of writing. Successful completion of the freshman writing requirement is a prerequisite for enrollment in any upper division writing course.

Writing Competency

Students should fulfill the writing requirement in their first year so that they will be introduced to ideas and skills that will be crucial for their progress through their liberal arts education. **All students must complete the writing requirement by the end of their sophomore year.** Since writing is a life-long skill, students are encouraged to take additional writing courses beyond Composition and Research.

Meeting the Writing Requirement

You may satisfy the writing requirement by taking [ENGW 103 \(4 hours\)](#).

You may satisfy the writing requirement by taking [ENGW 104 \(2 hours\)](#) if:

- You score a 3 on the LANGUAGE/Composition Advanced Placement.
- You score a 10, 11, or 12 on the SAT Essay or ACT Writing Test subscore.

Options to Waive the Requirement with Academic Credit

- If you score a 4 or 5 on the LANGUAGE/Composition Advanced Placement exam, you earn 4 semester hours of writing credit and have completed the writing requirement.
- If you score a 3 on the LANGUAGE/Composition Advanced Placement exam, you earn 2 semester hours of writing credit. You may complete the 4-hour requirement by taking ENGW 104 (2 hours) or passing the Writing Competency Exam. No academic credit is given for passing the exam.

Option to Waive the Requirement without Academic Credit

Freshmen and transfer students in their first year at Wheaton may take the Writing Competency Exam to waive part or all of the writing requirement without academic credit. Students must pass the first part of the exam (Library Research Skills) to qualify to take the second part of the exam (Research Essay). Students must pass both parts of the exam to waive the writing requirement. If students do not qualify to waive the requirement, they will be placed in [ENGW103](#) or [ENGW104](#) (no credit awarded) based on their score.

Writing Courses (ENGW)

ENGW 103. Composition and Research. Practice in methods of research; in the writing of persuasive, clear expository prose; in critical thinking and reading; and in foundational editing skills.

ENGW 104. Composition and Research. Practice in methods of research; in the writing of persuasive, clear expository prose; in critical thinking and reading; and in foundational editing skills. Credit not given in addition to [ENGW 103](#). Prerequisite: placement test scores as stated under [General Education Requirements](#). (2)

ENGW 213. Creative Writing. Practice in a variety of literary forms, with emphasis on the development of tone and style. Prerequisite: completion of general education writing requirement.

ENGW 214. Discursive Writing. Practice in a variety of essay forms, with emphasis on the development of a polished prose style. Prerequisite: completion of general education writing requirement. (2)

ENGW 251. Writing for Educators. Practice with a variety of writing skills and forms, emphasizing the sorts of processes and assignments applicable to K to 12 educators. Prerequisite: completion of general education writing requirement. (2)

ENGW 332. Creative Nonfiction. Practice combined with a study of the literary essay. Prerequisite: completion of the general education writing requirement. (2)

ENGW 335. Poetry Writing and Criticism. Practice combined with a study of modern and contemporary poetry. Prerequisite: [ENGW 213](#) or the permission of the instructor.

ENGW 336. Fiction Writing and Criticism. Practice combined with a study of modern and contemporary fiction. Prerequisite: [ENGW 213](#) or the permission of the instructor.

ENGW 444. Special Topics in Writing. Selected topics or genres, studied with a view to giving added breadth and depth to the understanding of special areas of writing. Open to writing concentration students or with permission of the instructor. Prerequisite: completion of at least one 200-level writing course. (2 or 4)

ENGW 471. Composition Theory, Practice, and Pedagogy. A survey of composition theory, grammar, and approaches to the teaching of writing, along with extensive practice in expository writing. Required for English majors pursuing secondary education certification, prior to student teaching. Open to English majors interested in teaching writing and elementary education majors with a language arts concentration (with the instructor's approval). Prerequisites: completion of general education writing requirement and junior status.

ENGW 494. Senior Seminar in Writing. Selected subjects or genres in writing, studied with a view to critical and professional concerns and the integration of faith and learning in issues of writing. **Open only to writing concentration students.**

ENGW 495. Writing Projects. (1-4)

ENGW 496. Writing Internship. English Department approval. Graded pass/fail.

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