

English Major

Chair: Heather Hicks, Ph.D.

Office Location: 402 Saint Augustine Center

Telephone: 610-519-4630

[Website](#)

About

The English department believes that skillful, self-aware reading, writing, and thinking provide a foundation for meaningful living. We seek to develop forms of analysis and expression that are both critical and creative and that help us comprehend the multiple cultural practices and values of the twenty-first century. Villanova English majors acquire a broad understanding of Anglophone literary history as well as familiarity with the major genres of the tradition. A department of accomplished scholars, we focus on undergraduate education and make our majors the center of pedagogy. While preserving the value of literature as a cultural form, we cultivate in our students the analytical skills necessary for negotiating today's rapidly changing world.

Program: [English](#)

Type: Bachelor of Arts

MAJOR (33 credits)

English majors take a range of courses, from required courses (chosen from a number of possibilities) that provide a sense of the historical range and diversity of literature in English to electives covering contemporary writers, film, creative writing, and many more topics. Students can also form tracks (such as Professional Writing, World Literature, or Race and Ethnicity) within the major. English courses are particularly well-suited to helping students become better readers, writers, and analytical thinkers; because of those skills, and because of the breadth of literature, English courses are valuable in all aspects of our lives.

Program Notes:

- There is no prerequisite to the major, but we strongly recommend that you take English 3001 (Foundational Literature in English I) early, since it will introduce you to writers, texts, and issues that are crucial to most subsequent courses.
- "Special Topics" signifies that the specific focus of the course varies by semester.

Required Major Courses:

Item #	Title	Credits
	BIPOC Literature Course	3
	Pre-1800 Literature Courses	6
	Post-1800 Literature Course	6
ENG 2250	Ways of Reading:Lit Analysis	3
ENG 5000	Senior Seminar	3
	English Electives 1800 and Above	15

Category Descriptions

BIPOC Literature Course

Credits: 3

Choose one course focused on Black, Indigenous, Person of Color (BIPOC) literature from the historical requirements from the list below.

- The following courses may also fulfill the requirement: ENG 3661, ENG 4635.

Item #	Title	Credits
ENG 2304	Cont World Lit & Environment	3
ENG 2305	Black Life Writing	3
ENG 3618	Intro to African Lit I	3
ENG 3619	Intro to African Lit II	3
ENG 3650	African Drama	3
ENG 3660	Contemp. Lit & Film of India	3
ENG 4003	African-American Lit Trad 1	3
ENG 4010	Early American Textual Bodies	3
ENG 4500	American Slave Narrative	3
ENG 4502	The Black Atlantic	3
ENG 4503	Indigenous Lit of the Americas	3
ENG 4602	African American Lit Trad 2	3
ENG 4603	African American Short Story	3
ENG 4610	African American Poetry	3
ENG 4618	Harlem Renaissance	3
ENG 4622	African American Women Writers	3
ENG 4623	African American Novel	3
ENG 4632	African American Drama	3
ENG 4641	American Immigrant Narratives	3
ENG 4646	Race & Ethnicity: Amer Novel	3
ENG 4648	U.S. Empire & Cont. Am. Lit.	3
ENG 4649	Intro to Asian American Lit	3
ENG 4651	Lives of the Undocumented	3
ENG 4653	Work/Play in Cont. Latix Lit	3
ENG 4700	Caribbean Literature	3

Pre-1800 Literature Courses

Credits: 6

Choose two courses in literature before 1800, in two different areas.

Pre-1500

ENG 3190 and ENG 3195 may also fulfill this requirement.

Item #	Title	Credits
ENG 3000	Intro to OE Lang & Lit	3
ENG 3001	Foundational Lit in ENG 1	3
ENG 3150	Chaucer	3
ENG 3160	Fabulous Middle Ages	3
ENG 3170	Love & War in Medieval Romance	3
ENG 3181	Irish Epics, Visions&Hauntings	3

1500-1650

ENG 3290 may also fulfill this requirement.

Item #	Title	Credits
ENG 3001	Foundational Lit in ENG 1	3
ENG 3181	Irish Epics, Visions&Hauntings	3
ENG 3201	English Renaissance	3
ENG 3230	Eliz & Jacobean Drama	3
ENG 3250	Shakespeare	3
ENG 3260	Revenge Tragedy	3
ENG 3300	17th Cent Poetry & Prose	3
ENG 3350	Milton	3

1650-1800

ENG 3195, ENG 3426, ENG 3427, ENG 3428, and ENG 3490 may also fulfill this requirement.

Item #	Title	Credits
ENG 3001	Foundational Lit in ENG 1	3
ENG 3300	17th Cent Poetry & Prose	3
ENG 3350	Milton	3
ENG 3425	British Gothic Fiction	3
ENG 3430	Restor & 18th cent Drama	3
ENG 3440	Harlots, Rakes, & Libertines	3
ENG 3450	Dryden Swift & Pope	3
ENG 4010	Early American Textual Bodies	3
ENG 4503	Indigenous Lit of the Americas	3

Post-1800 Literature Course

Credits: 6

Choose two courses in literature after 1800, one from each time period.

1800- 1945

ENG 3428, ENG 3590, ENG 4590, and ENG 4624 may also count toward fulfilling the requirement.

Item #	Title	Credits
ENG 3425	British Gothic Fiction	3
ENG 3500	Foundational Lit. in English 2	3
ENG 3501	Early Romantic Writers	3
ENG 3502	Later Romantic Writers	3
ENG 3504	19th Cent Brit Women Writers	3
ENG 3505	Poetry & Prose 1830-1865	3
ENG 3506	Poetry & Prose 1865-1900	3
ENG 3507	Strange Cases: ImagHealth&Illnes	3
ENG 3520	19th Cent British Novel	3
ENG 3525	Dickens	3
ENG 3530	Victorian Doubles	3
ENG 3540	Institutional Fictions	3
ENG 3580	Topics in 19th C Irish Lit&Cul	3
ENG 3610	Modern British Poetry	3
ENG 3615	James Joyce	3
ENG 3617	Irish Revivalism	3
ENG 3618	Intro to African Lit I	3
ENG 3620	Modern British Novel	3
ENG 3622	Virginia Woolf	3
ENG 3630	Modern British Drama	3
ENG 3640	Irish Drama	3
ENG 4000	American Literary Trad 1	3
ENG 4001	Major Amer Writers I	3
ENG 4003	African-American Lit Trad 1	3
ENG 4500	American Slave Narrative	3
ENG 4501	Amer Transcendentalism	3
ENG 4502	The Black Atlantic	3
ENG 4503	Indigenous Lit of the Americas	3
ENG 4505	Concord Writers	3
ENG 4515	American Gothic	3
ENG 4520	American Novel to 1895	3
ENG 4530	The American Renaissance	3
ENG 4540	The American Revolutionary Era	3
ENG 4641	American Immigrant Narratives	3
ENG 4545	Early American Novel	3
ENG 4591	Am. Lit. & Cult. before 1900	3
ENG 4600	Amer Literary Trad 2	3
ENG 4603	African American Short Story	3
ENG 4605	Amer Poetry: 1900-1950	3
ENG 4606	Alone Together-Social Dist Lit	3
ENG 4610	African American Poetry	3
ENG 4618	Harlem Renaissance	3
ENG 4619	The Works of Edith Wharton	3
ENG 4620	American Novel 1895-1950	3

ENG 4622	African American Women Writers	3
ENG 4623	African American Novel	3
ENG 4652	Letters, Texts, & Twitter	3

1945 - Present

ENG 3661, ENG 3690, ENG 4624, and ENG 4690 may also count toward fulfilling the requirement.

Item #	Title	Credits
ENG 2304	Cont World Lit & Environment	3
ENG 2305	Black Life Writing	3
ENG 2360	Adaptation:Film as Literature	3
ENG 2410	The Art of Translation	3
ENG 3616	Irish American Drama & Film	3
ENG 3618	Intro to African Lit I	3
ENG 3619	Intro to African Lit II	3
ENG 3621	Contemp British Novel	3
ENG 3650	African Drama	3
ENG 3660	Contemp. Lit & Film of India	3
ENG 3680	Top: 20th-21st C Irish Lit&Cul	3
ENG 3682	Contemporary Irish Literature	3
ENG 3691	Br/Ir Lit. & Cult. after 1900	3
ENG 4600	Amer Literary Trad 2	3
ENG 4601	Major Ameri Writers II	3
ENG 4602	African American Lit Trad 2	3
ENG 4603	African American Short Story	3
ENG 4606	Alone Together-Social Dist Lit	3
ENG 4610	African American Poetry	3
ENG 4615	Amer Poetry since 1950	3
ENG 4621	Amer Novel since 1950	3
ENG 4622	African American Women Writers	3
ENG 4623	African American Novel	3
ENG 4630	American Drama to 1960	3
ENG 4631	Amer Drama since 1960	3
ENG 4632	African American Drama	3
ENG 4636	Contemp Amer Women's Poetry	3
ENG 4640	Contemp Amer Women's Lit	3
ENG 4641	American Immigrant Narratives	3
ENG 4645	Post Modern Amer Fiction	3
ENG 4646	Race & Ethnicity: Amer Novel	3
ENG 4647	Gender & Sexuality in US Lit	3
ENG 4648	U.S. Empire & Cont. Am. Lit.	3
ENG 4649	Intro to Asian American Lit	3
ENG 4651	Lives of the Undocumented	3
ENG 4652	Letters, Texts, & Twitter	3
ENG 4653	Work/Play in Cont. Latix Lit	3
ENG 4691	Amer. Lit. & Cult. after 1900	3
ENG 4700	Caribbean Literature	3
ENG 4702	Authors On & Off the Page	3
ENG 4703	21st C. American Apocalypse	3

English Electives 1800 and Above

Credits: 15

Choose five courses numbered 1800 and above, with the exception of 1975, which cannot be counted.