English Department

Jonathan Sawday, Ph.D. Chair

Faculty:
Paul Acker, Ph.D.
Saheer Alam, M.A.
Toby Benis, Ph.D.
Harold Bush, Ph.D.
Vincent Casaregola, Ph.D.
Stephen Casmier, Ph.D.
Ellen Crowell, Ph.D.
Ruth Evans, Ph.D.
Nathan Grant, Ph.D.
Antony Hasler, Ph.D.
Devin Johnston, Ph.D.
Georgia Johnston, Ph.D.
Janice McIntire-Strasburg, Ph.D.
Joya Uraizee, Ph.D.
Phyllis Weliver, D.Phil.

English majors study original works of fiction – and non-fiction – and learn how to write compelling arguments about those works. The SLU Department of English, like many English departments, not only teaches courses on major authors and in major periods of British and American literature but is also home to creative writing, rhetoric, critical theory, postcolonial literature, African-American writing, native American writing, gender and sexuality, and the history of the English language. We also teach new and emergent areas of the discipline: film, new media, ecocriticism, literature and technology, business and professional writing, literature and pedagogy. Through the study of language, literature, and film, students understand cultural values and meanings; they understand persuasive argumentation; they develop analytical thinking and effective writing skills; they learn about literary forms, literary genres, and literary history (the characteristics of, for example, the Middle Ages, Renaissance, and Victorian periods, as well as the differences between them; literary and artistic movements such as Romanticism and Modernism); they appreciate human creativity; they engage imaginatively with the experiences of diverse people from different times and cultures.

English Major (BA)
Ellen Crowell, Ph.D., Undergraduate Program Director

Students interested in declaring a major, minor, or interdisciplinary minor must go to the Arts & Sciences advising office in Verhaegen 215. Students may not count English courses taken to fulfill the Arts and Sciences Core Requirement toward the English major or minor.

General Requirements
The English major consists of 12 courses (36 credit hours), made up of 1 course at the 2000-level, 5 courses in 3000-level Area Requirements, 5 electives at the 4000-level, and 1 Senior Seminar. With the approval of the undergraduate director, one upper-division course in a field closely related to English may be substituted to fulfill three hours of this requirement.

Overall requirements are as follows:
- Three hours at 2000-level
- Fifteen hours at the 3000-level, at least three hours from each area
- Fifteen hours at 4000-level
- Three hour senior inquiry requirement, fulfilled by taking and satisfactorily completing ENGL 4940.

2000-Level Coursework – 3 Hours
May serve for both Core Requirements and Major Requirements.

2250: Conflict, Social Justice and Literature
2350: Faith, Doubt and Literature
2450: Nature, Ecology and Literature
2550: Gender, Identity and Literature
2650: Technology, Media and Literature
2750: Film, Culture and Literature

3000-Level Coursework – 15 Hours
Three hours may serve for both Core Requirements and Major Distribution Requirements. Students must take at least one course from each area, while taking an additional course of their choosing.

Distribution Requirements

Form and Genre - 3 Hours
3040: Writing Literary Narratives
3050: Creative Writing: Poetry
3060: Creative Writing: Fiction
3070: Creative Writing: Drama
3080: Creative Writing: Non-Fiction
3090: Creative Writing: Poetry and Translation
3100: Creative Writing: Special Topics
3110: American Short Story
3130: American Fiction
3140: Poetry
3180: Film
3190: Literature of Satire
3200: Detective Fiction
3210: Fantasy and Literature
3220: Film and Literature
3230: Journalism and Literature
3240: Reading the Female Bildungsroman

History and Context – 3 Hours
3250: British Literary Traditions to 1800

All English Courses Listed are 3 Credit Hours
A student planning to major in English with a Creative Writing emphasis may wish to take an Introductory Creative Writing course (ENGL 3040-3090) as part of the core literature requirement. No course taken to fulfill the core literature requirement can count toward the major requirement.

**General Requirements**

The requirements for the English major with emphasis in Creative Writing are the same as those for the English major; students who wish to major in English with a Creative Writing emphasis must fulfill the fifteen hours of Distribution Requirements and take ENGL 4940, the senior seminar. Each student is required to submit a portfolio of representative work for assessment prior to graduation. For this emphasis, student’s elective courses are replaced by twelve hours of coursework in creative writing, chosen from:

- ENGL 3040 Writing Literary Narratives
- ENGL 3050 Creative Writing: Poetry
- ENGL 3060 Creative Writing: Fiction
- ENGL 3070 Creative Writing: Drama
- ENGL 3080 Creative Writing: Non-Fiction
- ENGL 3090 Creative Writing: Poetry and Translation
- ENGL 4050 Advanced Creative Writing: Poetry
- ENGL 4060 Advanced Creative Writing: Fiction
- ENGL 4070 Advanced Creative Writing: Drama
- ENGL 4080 Advanced Creative Writing: Non-Fiction
- ENGL 4090 Advanced Creative Writing: Special Topics
- ENGL 4120 Language Studies: Special Topics

**English Minor**

General Requirements
The English minor requires 18 hours from the following areas.

**Introductory Course- 3 Hours**
Any course at the 2000-level can count as an Introductory Course.

**History and Context – 3 Hours**
List as for Majors

**Culture and Critique – 3 Hours**
List as for Majors

**Rhetoric and Argument– 3 Hours**
List as for Majors

**Form and Genre - 3 Hours**
List as for Majors

**Electives- 3 Hours**
Any English course at the 4000-level can count as the elective for the English minor.

**Creative Writing (Minor)**
The requirements for the creative writing minor are 15 hours chosen from:

Creative Writing – 9 Hours
3 Hours from
ENGL 3040 Writing Literacy Narratives
ENGL 3050 Creative Writing: Poetry
ENGL 3060 Creative Writing: Fiction
ENGL 3070 Creative Writing: Drama
ENGL 3080 Creative Writing: Non-Fiction
ENGL 3090 Creative Writing: Poetry and Translation

6 Hours from
ENGL 4050 Advanced Creative Writing: Poetry
ENGL 4060 Advanced Creative Writing: Fiction
ENGL 4070 Advanced Creative Writing: Drama
ENGL 4080 Advanced Creative Writing: Non-Fiction
ENGL 4090 Advanced Creative Writing: Special Topics
ENGL 4120 Language Studies: Special Topics

Literature Courses – 6 Hours
Six hours of complementary courses in literature are to be chosen in consultation with the chair of creative writing.

Research Intensive English Concentration
Ellen Crowell, Ph.D. Director of Research Intensive English

The Department of English invites advanced students (Junior status or above) to apply for our selective Research Intensive English concentration. This track within the major, which admits a maximum cohort of 12 English majors per academic year, offers our most talented majors opportunities for pursuing literary and rhetorical studies in smaller, more rigorous settings. Research Intensive students must take at least 2 Research Intensive Seminars (while maintaining a 3.75 or higher GPA in English) and must complete a Senior research project in either the fall or the spring semester of their senior year. Students will graduate with the Research Intensive designation, and will leave our program well prepared for advanced study in English.

General Requirements
The Concentration requires that Research Intensive English students complete at least two (2) Research Intensive English seminars (ENGL 4XXX) and one (1) Senior Research Project (ENGL 4990). RI-English Seminars will be 4000-level courses; course numbers will vary but enrollment will be limited to RI-English students. The Senior Research Project is a one-semester research and writing requirement that students enter into individually, guided by a faculty mentor. This course (ENGL 4990) may be taken in the fall or spring semester of a student’s senior year; student must submit a formal project proposal with Faculty Mentor approval the semester before enrolling in ENGL 4990.

Rhetoric, Writing and Technology Concentration
Janice McIntire-Strausburg, Ph.D., Program Director

Students interested in the study of rhetoric and digital writing are invited to pursue the department’s emphasis in Rhetoric, Writing, and Technology (RWT). In these courses, students will study both the history of rhetorical expression and the present possibilities of digital expression. Coursework in Rhetoric, Writing, and Technology dovetails with a variety of majors, minors and courses of study across the university: Communication, Health Management, Entrepreneurship, Business, Marketing, Pre-Law, and Environmental Studies. RWT’s focus on the public writing and rhetoric likewise fits with Saint Louis University’s Jesuit mission of service to humanity.

General Requirements
The RWT Emphasis offers students a focus for their elective study within the English major. In other words, English majors can complete RWT through their four elective courses.

Required Courses
All students who elect the RWT Emphasis would take the following courses:

English 3850 Foundations in Rhetoric and Writing and either
English 4020 History of Rhetoric from Classical Athens until 1700 or English 4030 History of Rhetoric from 1701 until the present

Recommended Courses
Students in the RWT Emphasis could then elect either one or two more courses from the following group:

English 3760 Topics in Rhetorical Analysis
English 3860 Public Rhetoric
English 3870 Technical Writing
English 4010 New Media Writing
English 4040 Special Topics in Rhetoric
English 4080 Advanced Creative Writing: Non-Fiction
English 4120 Language Studies: Special Topics

Courses not on this list may be substituted with the permission of the Program Director.

Capstone
Instead of taking 4940 as the English major capstone, students completing a degree in English with the RWT emphasis will complete a capstone project. This will be an independent project completed under the direction of a professor. (Students would register for an independent study under 4980.) The project will include both a research component and a production component. That is, the project should offer a rhetorically sophisticated intervention into a discernible rhetorical context, and that intervention should be supported by thorough and rigorous research.

All English Courses Listed are 3 Credit Hours
Creative and Professional Writing Concentration

Devin Johnston, Ph.D. and Avis Meyer, Ph.D., Program Directors

The interdisciplinary Concentration in Creative and Professional Writing offers students an opportunity to gain experience in many different kinds of writing from poetry and fiction to journalism and public relations. The Concentration helps students develop and mature as writers by providing extensive practice in both creative and professional forms of writing. Though English and Communication majors frequently seek the Concentration in Creative and Professional Writing as an additional credential, students from any discipline may pursue it. The Concentration can help students prepare directly for careers in journalism, public relations, advertising, or corporate communications, as well as for graduate study in creative writing or journalism. Any student who completes the Concentration will have strengthened his or her ability to compete in the many professional settings that demand extensive writing.

General Requirements
The Concentration requires 18 semester hours of writing courses, nine hours from English and nine hours from Communication. 4000-level writing courses in the English department may count both for the Concentration and as an elective for the English major or minor. Only one 3000-level course may count for both the Concentration and the English major or minor (as long as the student has already completed the 3000-level literature course required for the College of Arts and Sciences core).

English Courses – 9 Hours
ENGL 3030 Creative Writing: Prose Nonfiction
ENGL 3040 Writing Literacy Narratives
ENGL 3050 Creative Writing: Poetry
ENGL 3060 Creative Writing: Fiction
ENGL 3070 Creative Writing: Drama
ENGL 3080 Creative Writing: Non-Fiction
ENGL 3090 Creative Writing: Poetry and Translation
ENGL 4000 Business & Professional Writing
ENGL 4010 Advanced Expository Writing
ENGL 4050 Advanced Creative Writing: Poetry
ENGL 4060 Advanced Creative Writing: Fiction
ENGL 4070 Advanced Creative Writing: Drama
ENGL 4080 Advanced Creative Writing: Non-Fiction
ENGL 4090 Advanced Creative Writing: Special Topics
ENGL 4980 Advanced Independent Study; may be a writing internship

Communication Courses – 9 Hours
CMM 210 Journalism: Newswriting
OR
CMM 212 Message Design

All English Courses Listed are 3 Credit Hours