Department of English

Major Advisors: Professor Daniel Punday (Head)
Professor Lara Dodds (M.A. program)
Associate Professor Ginger Pizer (B.A. program)
Office: 2000 Lee Hall

The study of English not only gives students knowledge of language and literature but also helps to develop their ability to read perpectively, think critically, analyze problems, and write correctly and persuasively. For this reason, a major in English has traditionally been viewed as good training for careers in law, government, business, and publishing, as well as for careers in teaching and writing.

The department offers an undergraduate major (B.A.); undergraduate minors in English, creative writing, and linguistics; a certificate in TESOL; and an M.A. The department also edits and publishes two distinguished journals. *Mississippi Quarterly* is a refereed scholarly journal dedicated to the life and culture of the American South, past and present. *Jabberwock Review* is a literary journal publishing stories, poems, and essays by writers across the country. Additionally, the department operates the university Writing Center to assist all MSU students with their writing.

The Department of English awards several scholarships annually: the Howell H. and Elizabeth S. Gwin Scholarships to outstanding juniors or seniors majoring in English and to graduate students in English; the Helen W. Skelton Annual Scholarship and the Ann Pittman Andrews Memorial Scholarship to full-time English majors maintaining at least a 3.0 GPA and demonstrating good character, leadership and financial need; the William H. Magruder Scholarship to an upper-division or graduate English major; the Roger LeMoyne Dabbs Memorial Scholarship to an English or Communication major; and the Eugene Butler Creative Writing Scholarship to an undergraduate or graduate student. The Department of English sponsors the Xi Kappa Chapter of Sigma Tau Delta National English Honor Society; memberships are offered by invitation to scholastically qualified junior and senior undergraduate students and to second-year graduate students who are English majors. The Department of English also offers the Nolan Book Award competition for junior and senior English majors and sponsors several writing contests and awards.

In addition to two semesters of freshman composition, which the department recommends be taken at the Accelerated or Honors level, English majors take EN 2213, EN 2223, EN 2243, EN 2253, and EN 3414, and at least 21 additional hours of English electives, of which 15 hours must be 4000 level and taken in residence, distributed among English, American, and World literature. EN 2203 does not count toward the requirements for the major.

English majors must attain a C or better in all English courses at the 2000 level or above in order for those courses to count toward the requirements of the major.

Students seeking secondary-school teaching certification should consult with an English Education advisor.

English minors take at least 18 hours of English electives with a grade of C or better beyond completion of the freshman composition requirement of their major. Of these hours, at least six must be at the 4000 level; these must be completed in residence. No more than six hours may be linguistics classes, i.e., classes which count toward the linguistics minor. Students who are earning the Creative Writing minor must complete 12 hours of English classes in addition to the requirements for that minor in order to earn the English minor as well. Students pursuing the English minor should consult the English major advisor to plan a minor program which will complement their major studies and career interests.

General Education and College Requirements

**English Composition**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EN 1103</td>
<td>English Composition I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EN 1113</td>
<td>English Composition II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or EN 1173</td>
<td>Accelerated Composition II</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Foreign Language**

3 semesters: One Foreign Language 9

**Humanities**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HI 1063</td>
<td>Early U.S. History</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HI 1163</td>
<td>World History Before 1500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HI 1213</td>
<td>Early Western World</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HI 1313</td>
<td>East Asian Civilizations to 1300</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Early History - choose one of the following:** 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HI 1073</td>
<td>Modern U.S. History</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HI 1173</td>
<td>World History Since 1500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HI 1223</td>
<td>Modern Western World</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HI 1323</td>
<td>East Asian Civilizations since 1300</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**late History - choose one of the following:** 3

<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HI 1063</td>
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</table>

**Philosophy Elective - see advisor** 3
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department of English</th>
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</thead>
</table>

**Math**

- MA 1313 College Algebra  
  3 hours above College Algebra  
  3

**Fine Arts**

See A&S requirements  
  3

**Natural Sciences**

- Physical Science w/Lab $^1$  
  3-4
- Biological Science w/Lab $^2$  
  3-4
- Natural Science Elective $^3$  
  3-4

**Social Sciences** $^4$

See A&S requirements  
  6
Social Science Electives  
  12

**Major Core**

Fourth semester in chosen Foreign Language  
  3
Upper Division A&S Humanities (HI, FL, PHI) or Study Abroad Elective  
  3
EN 1111 English Studies  
  1
EN 2213 English Literature Before 1800  
  3
EN 2223 English Literature After 1800  
  3
EN 2243 American Literature Before 1865  
  3
EN 2253 American Literature After 1865  
  3
EN 3414 Critical Writing and Research in Literary Studies  
  4
EN 4111 Portfolios and Reflective Writing  
  1

**Upper Division Requirements**

Pre-1660 English Lit Elective (Group I) (one course)  
  3
- EN 4503 Shakespeare  
- EN 4513 Shakespeare  
- EN 4523 Chaucer  
- EN 4533 Milton  
- EN 4703 English Literature of the Sixteenth Century  
- EN 4713 English Literature of the Seventeenth Century

Post-1660 English Lit Elective (Group II)(one course)  
  3
- EN 4643 The Eighteenth-Century British Novel  
- EN 4653 The Nineteenth-Century British Novel  
- EN 4663 British and Irish Novel Since 1900  
- EN 4723 British Literature and Culture from 1600-1700  
- EN 4733 British Literature and Culture of the Eighteenth Century  
- EN 4863 Romantic Poetry  
- EN 4883 Victorian Poets and Prose Writers

Postcolonial or World Lit Elective (Group III) or one more course from Group I or Group II (one course)  
  3
- EN 4393 Postcolonial Literature and Theory  
- EN 4813 The World Novel Since 1900

American or Contemporary Lit Elective (Group IV)(two courses)  
  6
- EN 4333 Southern Literature  
- EN 4343 Studies in African American Literature  
- EN 4833 The American Short Story  
- EN 4903 American Literature: 1800-1860  
- EN 4913 American Literature: 1860-1900  
- EN 4923 American Novel Since 1900  
- EN 4933 Survey of Contemporary Literature

**English Vocational Elective**

Select one of the following:  
  3
- EN 3303 Creative Writing
EN 3313  Writing for the Workplace
EN 4223  Principles of Legal Writing
EN 4233  Composition Pedagogy
EN 4243  Writing Center Tutor Training
EN 4323  Literary Criticism from Plato-Present
EN 4353  Critical Theory Since 1900
EN 4403  Introduction to Linguistics
EN 4413  History of the English Language

English Elective  3
any EN course except EN 2203

Oral Communication Requirement
CO 1003  Fundamentals of Public Speaking  3
or CO 1013  Introduction to Communication

General Electives
General Electives - Consult advisor  15

Total Hours  124

Must make a grade of C or higher in all English courses at the 2000 level or above. Must complete 31 upper division A&S hours. Must take 15 hours at the 4000 level in residence.)

1  CH, GG, GR, or PH; see General Education courses.
2  AN or BIO; see General Education courses.
3  Consult advisor.
4  No more than two courses per discipline (no more than one CO and EC) and must include 4 disciplines over the 18 hours.

Linguistics Minor

Linguistics is the study of language, including the structure of sounds, words, and sentences, how our brains process it, how people learn it, and the roles it plays in our societies. Studying linguistics raises students' awareness of patterns in the language of their daily lives and can contribute to careers such as language teaching, editing and publishing, speech therapy, advertising, and more.

The Minor in Linguistics is open to undergraduate students in any major except General Liberal Arts with a focus in Linguistics.

The minor requires a minimum of 18 semester hours with a grade of C or above in each course. In addition to the courses listed below, up to two Special Topics or Directed Individual Study courses will count toward the minor when approved in advance by the Linguistics Committee. Courses that are cross-listed in more than one department may be taken under any cross-listing.

Required Course  3
EN /AN 4403  Introduction to Linguistics

Minor Core Courses  9-15
EN /AN 2403  Introduction to the Study of Language
EN 3423  Descriptive English Grammar 1
EN 4413  History of the English Language
EN 4443  English Syntax 1
EN 4463  Studies in Second Language Acquisition
EN /PSY 4473  Phonetics
EN /AN /SO 4623  Language and Culture
EN /AN /SO 4633  Language and Society

Minor Electives  0-6
AN 1103  Introduction to Anthropology
AN 1143  Introduction to Cultural Anthropology
AN 4143  Ethnographic Methods
CO 4203  Nonverbal Communication
CO 4273  Intercultural Communication
CSE 3813  Introduction to Formal Languages and Automata
PHI 1113  Introduction to Logic
Creative Writing Minor

The minor in creative writing will focus on the study of poetry and fiction writing, including the learning of techniques, forms, and approaches of creative expression. Creative writing offers students the opportunity to use language as a means of making art that explores the complexity of human experience. A background in creative writing prepares students for a variety of future paths, including teaching, editing, publishing, law, advertising, public relations, and any career that places emphasis on the written word.

The minor requires 18 semester hours (six courses) with a grade of C or above in each course. Transfer credit awarded if approved by the Director of the Creative Writing program.

Required Course 9

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EN 3303</td>
<td>Creative Writing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EN 3803</td>
<td>Intermediate Poetry Writing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EN 3903</td>
<td>Intermediate Fiction Writing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Choose one or two of the following: 3-6

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EN 4303</td>
<td>Craft of Poetry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EN 4313</td>
<td>Craft of Fiction</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Choose one or two of the following (depending on major): 3-6

English Majors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EN 4943</td>
<td>Form and Theory of Fiction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EN 4953</td>
<td>Form and Theory of Poetry</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Non-English Majors

See advisor for list of approved electives

Total Hours 18

Certificate in TESOL

The certificate in Teaching of English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) is designed to provide students with the theoretical and practical knowledge needed to begin a career in English language teaching. The program requires 15 credit hours (5 courses) in linguistics and English language teaching methods that introduce students to basic methods of linguistic analysis and principles of communicative language teaching. Students who earn the certificate will be prepared to teach English as a foreign language in countries outside the United States and English as a second language in positions inside the United States that do not require a teacher’s license.

The certificate program is open to undergraduate and graduate students in good standing who are currently enrolled at the university in any major.

The program requires a minimum of 15 hours with a grade of C or better in each course. Graduate students are required to attain a minimum GPA of 3.0 for their coursework.

Students must take the following courses in theoretical background:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EN 4403/6403</td>
<td>Introduction to Linguistics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EN 4463/6463</td>
<td>Studies in Second Language Acquisition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EN 4443/6443</td>
<td>English Syntax</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students must take two of the following courses in pedagogy: 6

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EN 4433/6433</td>
<td>Approaches to TESOL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EN 4453/6453</td>
<td>Methods in TESOL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EN 4493/6493</td>
<td>TESOL Practicum</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Hours 15