

ENGLISH, B.A. (BEHREND)

Seven Penn State campuses are scheduled for closure after Spring 2027: DuBois, Fayette, New Kensington, Mont Alto, Shenango, Wilkes-Barre, and York. New students are not being admitted at these campuses.

Begin Campus: Any Penn State Campus

End Campus: Erie

Program Description

This major offers courses in literary and cultural studies, and in various forms of writing. It provides a sound foundation in the liberal arts and opportunities to develop creative and analytical skills, as well as to cultivate an appreciation for literary expression. Students will develop a broad understanding of the ways in which literature works in various critical and cultural contexts. Majors can concentrate on literary and cultural studies or professional and media writing based on their interests and career goals.

Students will learn to communicate in diverse ways, using different technologies and forms of writing to convey their ideas. English majors will be able to reason critically, write cogently, construct and deconstruct ideas and arguments, and verbalize opinions and judgments. In addition, students will become adept researchers, learning how to find information and assess its quality. They will also master skills that will prepare them for success in a variety of careers and graduate programs, including translating technical information into accessible English, managing teams and organizing teamwork, and collaborating efficiently with individuals from different cultural backgrounds. The English major provides an excellent foundation for a variety of postgraduate programs in the humanities and beyond, including law, marketing, administration, education, public relations, and publishing.

What is English?

English refers to a broad field of study related to literature, professional writing, creative writing, and rhetoric. Majors develop critical thinking skills and produce influential academic, creative, professional, and digital texts. They learn to analyze genres, texts, and contexts that involve, for instance, race, class, gender, sexuality, and nationality. They also learn how various texts communicate value, meaning, and social and cultural critique.

You Might Like This Program If...

- You like words.
- You enjoy reading, writing, and editing.
- You love a good argument, a good book, a good play, or a good film.
- You're looking for a degree that can lead to many different career paths.