

ENGLISH, B.HUM.

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: Harrisburg

Degree Requirements

For the Bachelor of Humanities degree in English a minimum of 120 credits is required for the Creative Writing option, a minimum of 120 credits is required for the General English option, and a minimum of 122 credits is required for the Secondary Education option.

Requirement	Credits
General Education	45
Electives	0-18
Bachelor of Humanities Degree Requirements	15
Requirements for the Major	48-77

0-15 of the 45 credits for General Education are included in the Requirements for the Major. For the Creative Writing option, this includes 0 credits. For the General English option, this includes 6 credits of GA and/or GS courses. For the Secondary Education option, this includes 6 credits of GH courses, 6 credits of GQ courses, and 3 credits of GS courses.

Requirements for the Major

At least 15 credits of Prescribed, Additional, and/or Supporting courses must be taken at the 400 level.

To graduate, a student enrolled in the major must earn a grade of C or better in each course designated by the major as a C-required course, as specified by Senate Policy 82-44 (<https://senate.psu.edu/students/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/>).

Common Requirements for the Major (All Options)

Code	Title	Credits
Prescribed Courses		
<i>Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
ENGL 200W	Introduction to Critical Reading	3
ENGL 444	Shakespeare	3
Additional Courses		
Select 3 credits from the following:		3
ENGL 221	British Literature to 1798	
ENGL 221W	British Literature to 1798	
ENGL 222	British Literature from 1798	
ENGL 222W	British Literature from 1798	
ENGL 231	American Literature to 1865	
ENGL 231Y	American Literature to 1865	
ENGL 232	American Literature from 1865	
ENGL 232Y	American Literature from 1865	

Supporting Courses and Related Areas ¹

Select 3 credits in American ethnic literature or African-American literature from department list	3
Select 3 credits in world literature or comparative literature from department list	3
<i>Supporting Courses and Related Areas: Require a grade of C or better</i>	
Select 3 credits in American literature at the 300 or 400 level from department list	3
Select 3 credits in British literature at the 300 or 400 level from department list	3
Requirements for the Option	
Select an option	27-56

¹ At least 9 credits must be at the 300-400 level.

Requirements for the Option

Creative Writing Option (30 credits)

Code	Title	Credits
Prescribed Courses		
<i>Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
ENGL 212	Introduction to Fiction Writing	3
ENGL 213	Introduction to Poetry Writing	3
ENGL 214	Introduction to Creative Nonfiction Writing	3

Additional Courses

Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better

In semesters 3-5, take 6 credits from this list:		6
COMM 346	Writing for the Screen I	
ENGL 136	The Graphic Novel	
ENGL 180	Literature and the Natural World	
ENGL 191	Science Fiction	
ENGL 192	The Literature of Fantasy	
ENGL 209	Journal or Magazine Practicum	
ENGL 210	The Process of Writing	
ENGL 211	Introduction to Writing Studies	
ENGL 262	Reading Fiction	
ENGL 263	Reading Poetry	
ENGL 265	Reading Nonfiction	
In semesters 5-8, take 6 credits from this list:		6
COMM 446	Advanced Screenwriting	
ENGL 412	Advanced Fiction Writing	
ENGL 413	Advanced Poetry Writing	
ENGL 415	Advanced Nonfiction Writing	
ENGL 420	Writing for the Web	
ENGL 422	Fiction Workshop	
ENGL/ENVST 424	Creative Writing and the Natural World	
ENGL 497	Special Topics	
ENGL 498	Special Topics	

Supporting Courses and Related Areas

Select 3 credits from courses designated as Literature, Writing, or Rhetoric (any courses with an ENGL, except ENGL 4, ENGL 5, ENGL 15, ENGL 202, or CMLIT prefix) or from the department approved list	3
Select any upper-level writing or rhetoric course picked in consultation with an adviser	3

Select HUM 400N or 3 credits of an approved 400-level CMLIT or ENGL course 3

General English Option (27 credits)

Code	Title	Credits
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Additional Courses

Select 3 credits from the following: 3

ENGL 100	English Language Analysis	
ENGL 191	Science Fiction	
ENGL 261	Exploring Literary Forms	
ENGL 262	Reading Fiction	
ENGL 263	Reading Poetry	
ENGL 265	Reading Nonfiction	
ENGL 268	Reading Drama	
ENGL 400	Authors, Texts, Contexts	
ENGL 401	Studies in Genre	
ENGL 407	History of the English Language	
ENGL 458	Twentieth-Century Poetry	
ENGL 482	Contemporary Literary Theory and Practice	

Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better

Select 3 credits from the following: 3

ENGL 50	Introduction to Creative Writing	
ENGL 210	The Process of Writing	
ENGL 212	Introduction to Fiction Writing	
ENGL 213	Introduction to Poetry Writing	
ENGL 215	Introduction to General Nonfiction Writing	
ENGL 250	Peer Tutoring in Writing	
ENGL 412	Advanced Fiction Writing	
ENGL 413	Advanced Poetry Writing	
ENGL 415	Advanced Nonfiction Writing	
ENGL 416	Science Writing	
ENGL 417	The Editorial Process	
ENGL 418	Advanced Technical Writing and Editing	
ENGL 419	Advanced Business Writing	
ENGL 420	Writing for the Web	
ENGL 421	Advanced Expository Writing	
ENGL 422	Fiction Workshop	
ENGL 470	Rhetorical Theory and Practice	
ENGL 491	The Capstone Course in Professional Writing	

Supporting Courses and Related Areas

Select 12 credits in Literature, Writing, and/or Rhetoric 12

Select 6 credits from General Education Arts (GA) and/or Social and Behavioral Sciences (GS) 6

Supporting Courses and Related Areas: Require a grade of C or better

Select HUM 400N or 3 credits of an approved 400-level CMLIT or ENGL course 3

Secondary Education Option (56 credits)

Code	Title	Credits
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Prescribed Courses

Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better

EDPSY 14	Learning and Instruction	3
EDUC 313	Secondary Education Field Experience	2
EDUC 314	Learning Theory and Instructional Procedures	3

EDUC 315Y	Social and Cultural Factors in Education	3
EDUC 385	Professional Development in Teaching	3
EDUC 400	Diversity and Cultural Awareness Practices in the K-12 Classroom	3
EDUC 416	Teaching Secondary English and the Humanities	3
EDUC 458	Behavior Management Strategies for Inclusive Classrooms	3
EDUC 459	Strategies for Effective Teaching in Inclusive Classrooms	3
EDUC 466N	Foundations of Teaching English as a Second Language	3
EDUC 490	Student Teaching	9
ENGL 470	Rhetorical Theory and Practice	3
HDFS 239	Adolescent Development	3
LLED 420	Teaching Adolescent Literature and Literacy	3

Additional Courses

Select 6 credits of General Education Quantification courses (GQ) with a MATH or STAT prefix 6

Select 3 credits of GH literature from department list 3

General Education

Connecting career and curiosity, the General Education curriculum provides the opportunity for students to acquire transferable skills necessary to be successful in the future and to thrive while living in interconnected contexts. General Education aids students in developing intellectual curiosity, a strengthened ability to think, and a deeper sense of aesthetic appreciation. These are requirements for all baccalaureate students and are often partially incorporated into the requirements of a program. For additional information, see the General Education Requirements (<https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-education/baccalaureate-degree-general-education-program/>) section of the Bulletin and consult your academic adviser.

The keystone symbol appears next to the title of any course that is designated as a General Education course. Program requirements may also satisfy General Education requirements and vary for each program.

Foundations (grade of C or better is required and Inter-Domain courses do not meet this requirement.)

- Quantification (GQ): 6 credits
- Writing and Speaking (GWS): 9 credits

Breadth in the Knowledge Domains (Inter-Domain courses do not meet this requirement.)

- Arts (GA): 3 credits
- Health and Wellness (GHW): 3 credits
- Humanities (GH): 3 credits
- Social and Behavioral Sciences (GS): 3 credits
- Natural Sciences (GN): 3 credits

Integrative Studies

- Inter-Domain Courses (Inter-Domain): 6 credits

Exploration

- GN, may be completed with Inter-Domain courses: 3 credits
- GA, GH, GN, GS, Inter-Domain courses. This may include 3 credits of World Language course work beyond the 12th credit level or the requirements for the student's degree program, whichever is higher: 6 credits

University Degree Requirements

First Year Engagement

All students enrolled in a college or the Division of Undergraduate Studies at University Park, and the World Campus are required to take 1 to 3 credits of the First-Year Seminar, as specified by their college First-Year Engagement Plan.

Other Penn State colleges and campuses may require the First-Year Seminar; colleges and campuses that do not require a First-Year Seminar provide students with a first-year engagement experience.

First-year baccalaureate students entering Penn State should consult their academic adviser for these requirements.

Cultures Requirement

6 credits are required and may satisfy other requirements

- United States Cultures: 3 credits
- International Cultures: 3 credits

Writing Across the Curriculum

3 credits required from the college of graduation and likely prescribed as part of major requirements.

Total Minimum Credits

A minimum of 120 degree credits must be earned for a baccalaureate degree. The requirements for some programs may exceed 120 credits. Students should consult with their college or department adviser for information on specific credit requirements.

Quality of Work

Candidates must complete the degree requirements for their major and earn at least a 2.00 grade-point average for all courses completed within their degree program.

Limitations on Source and Time for Credit Acquisition

The college dean or campus chancellor and program faculty may require up to 24 credits of course work in the major to be taken at the location or in the college or program where the degree is earned. Credit used toward degree programs may need to be earned from a particular source or within time constraints (see Senate Policy 83-80 (<https://senate.psu.edu/students/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/>)). For more information, check the Suggested Academic Plan for your intended program.