

UMBC ENGLISH MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

Effective Date: September 1, 2011

NOTE: Students who declared their English Major before September 1, 2011 may complete either the old or the new major requirements, but must choose which requirements they will follow and submit a signed curriculum selection form to their advisors by September 1. Students who declare their English Major after September 1, 2011 must complete the new major requirements listed below.

The Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in English consists of a minimum of 39 credits as distributed below. The major offers two tracks: (1) Literature and (2) Communication and Technology. These tracks share a common core of two courses and the same elective and diversity requirements. Additional requirements are listed under the separate tracks. Students completing a certificate in English Secondary Education should follow the Literature Track. Creative writing and journalism students may choose either track. All courses for the major must be passed with a grade of C or better.

COMMON CORE & ELECTIVE REQUIREMENTS (6 credits)

CORE (6 credits)

ENGL 300

Communication and Technology: Analysis of Texts and Contexts

ENGL 301

Analysis of Literary Language

NOTE: Students should take these two introductory courses as soon as they declare their major as English and before proceeding on to more advanced coursework. They are considered Gateway courses. ENGL 300 should be taken before ENGL 324 and ENGL 301 before ENGL 302.

ELECTIVES (12 credits)

Four English courses, which must include one Literature/Creative Writing course and one CT/Expository Writing course. These electives must be English courses at the 300- or 400-level, although students may, with their advisor's permission, include one 200-level course as part of this requirement. Students in either track may use creative writing courses to satisfy elective requirements.

Diversity Requirement

All English majors must take one course that addresses issues of diversity relating to experiences of race, ethnicity, gender, class, sexuality, ability or other markers of identity. ENGL 364: Perspectives on Women in Literature and ENGL 369: Race and Ethnicity in U.S. Literature fulfill the diversity requirement, as do other courses when so identified in the schedule of classes.

LITERATURE TRACK ENGL-LI (21 credits)

English majors in the Literature track develop skills of close reading, critical thinking, and analysis of literary texts. Students also develop an extensive historical knowledge of British, American, and world Anglophone literatures in their cultural and social contexts. Students will be prepared for graduate study in English as well as careers in such fields as education, business, law, journalism, publishing, and public relations.

Required Courses (21 credits)

It is recommended that students complete ENGL 301 in their first semester as a major and prior to taking ENGL 302.

ENGL 302

Literary Methodologies and Research
(Recommended Preparation: ENGL 301)

One 300- or 400-level course from four of the five historical periods. These courses need not be taken in chronological order, and they may be taken concurrently with any other major courses:

A) Medieval and Early Modern

B) Restoration to Romantic

C) Victorian and Modern

D) American Literature to the Civil War

E) American Literature from the Civil War to the Present

Two 400-level Literature courses, one of which must be a seminar (open to juniors as well as seniors).

COMMUNICATION & TECHNOLOGY TRACK ENGL-CT (21 credits)

English majors in the Communication and Technology track examine theories of communication, media and technology, hone composition skills, and develop a critical awareness of print and electronic texts. With these analytical skills, students within the Communication and Technology track prepare for careers in communication, law, journalism, publishing, business, and public relations.

Required Courses (21 credits)

ENGL 324

Theories of Communication and Technology
(Recommended Preparation: ENGL 300)

One course from each of the following categories:

A) Professional/Technical Communication
ENGL 326, ENGL 379, ENGL 383, ENGL 394

B) Rhetoric/Composition
ENGL 330, ENGL 386, ENGL 391, ENGL 392

C) Media Literacies
ENGL 342, ENGL 344, ENGL 385, ENGL 387

D) Journalism and Creative Nonfiction
ENGL 303, ENGL 380, ENGL 382

Two 400-level Communication and Technology courses, one of which must be a seminar (open to juniors as well as seniors).