

BALL STATE UNIVERSITY ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

THE ENGLISH MAJOR

In a culture saturated with texts of all kinds, the abilities developed in the English department have never been more imperative. While learning to research, read carefully, think critically, and clearly articulate their thoughts both in class discussions and in writing, our English majors develop advanced skills that are increasingly in demand. We prepare aspiring writers, researchers, and scholars of all kinds who understand the cultural place and importance of a wide variety of texts. Professional and creative command of the English language is essential for jobs in education, law, business, government and virtually every professional field. The English major is for those who want to excel by immersing themselves in the myriad uses of the English language.

OUR RESOURCES

- Awards and Scholarships
- *The Broken Plate* Literary Magazine
- Engaged Faculty and Students
- Small Class Sizes
- Visiting Writers Series

Teaching English/Language Arts (48 Hours)

The Teaching English/Language Arts major prepares you for a career in secondary school teaching. Students take content courses in English and Communications and courses in the methods and strategies for the classroom from our dedicated faculty who have taught in public schools and published research on pedagogy. Students who successfully complete the program, which includes a semester of student teaching, are licensed to teach both English/Language Arts and Communications in Indiana public schools. In addition, we also offer classes leading to licensure in English as a second language (ESL).

MAJOR AREAS

Creative Writing (36 Hours)

Our faculty of published poets and writers of fiction and creative nonfiction offer classes in these three genres, as well as a multi-genre introductory class, screenplay writing, and a variety of special topics. You also study literature, and advanced classes in literary editing and writing-in-the-community give you the opportunity to bring your writing skills outside the classroom and into the wider worlds of community service and publishing.

English Studies (36 Hours)

English studies offers diverse gateways into the study of language. Literature courses expose you to imaginative writing from various times and cultures. Linguistics offers an understanding of how languages function and how they both shape and respond to cultures. Writing and rhetoric courses show you how writing contributes to lifelong learning and professional success. In creative writing courses, you'll explore multiple genres and hone your writing clarity, structure, and expression.

Literature (36 Hours)

You'll read a wide variety of American, British, and World literature, ranging from the canonical "masterpieces" to works by writers whose contributions have historically been ignored. Our dedicated and diverse faculty of published literary scholars challenge you to sharpen your analytical and communicative abilities and inspire a lifetime of learning and reading.

Rhetoric and Writing (36 Hours)

Our rhetoric and writing courses immerse you in the theory and practice of discourse, with an emphasis on written forms. Faculty with expertise in rhetoric from the classical period to the present and in composition theory will help you develop the ability to write for various audiences, utilize emerging media, understand the historical and social significance of written communication, and interpret and situate texts and strategies.

ANALYSIS + CREATIVITY

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ENGLISH + FLEXIBILITY

The English major offers a flexible degree that is designed to give students many options for combining their study in English with other academic pursuits. You can complete the English major (36 hours), the core (30 hours when students double-count one foreign language class for the Tier One humanities requirement and one English major class for the Tier Two humanities requirement), and the foreign language requirement (14 credit hours) in 80 hours. Because students need 120 hours to graduate, this will allow you to use your remaining 40 hours to pursue other majors or minors. To the right is a list of possible double-majors that will keep students under 120 hours. All of these departments offer minors as well. An additional list of popular minors in other departments has been provided. These minors will work well with English majors and, depending on your career goals, will help provide additional skill sets for post-college life. Those students heading into the workforce should especially explore the Digital Media minor (as well as the English Professional Writing minor).

QUESTIONS?

Contact the Director of English Programs

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Call the English Department

765-285-8580

Visit our:

Website: www.bsu.edu/english

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Blog: bsuenglish.wordpress.com

DOUBLE MAJORS

Anthropology (34-39 hours)

History (34-45 hours)

Modern Languages and Classics (33-37 hours)

Philosophy/Religious Studies (33 hours)

Psychology (42-43 hours)

Political Science (42 hours)

Sociology (36 hours)

Telecommunications (45-59 hours)

Women's Studies (36 hours)

POPULAR MINORS IN OTHER DEPARTMENTS

Business (21 hours)

Campaign Communication (21-24 hours)

Communication Studies (21 hours)

Digital Media Certificate (15 hours)

Digital Publishing (18 hours)

Entrepreneurship (18 hours)

Environmental Management (22 hours)

Film/Screenwriting (18 hours)

Marketing (18 hours)

Management (21 hours)

Natural Resources (21 hours)

Organizational Communication (21 hours)

Telecommunications (24 hours)

Theatre (20 hours)

Travel and Tourism (21 hours)

CHALLENGE + OPPORTUNITY