

**The English Majors’
Handbook
2023-2024**

University of Wisconsin Oshkosh

English at UW-Oshkosh



Literature



Rhetoric



Professional
Writing



Linguistics



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Dear Students,

This handbook is filled with much useful information, and we hope that you read it carefully. But please remember that the most important resource in a community such as this is people. All of us in the English Department, and especially your advisor, will be happy to answer your questions about the English major or to talk about how you can use the major to explore your particular interests and realize your professional and personal goals.

*Sincerely,
The English Department*

The UW Oshkosh English Department

The English Department at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh is a diverse group of individuals who share one characteristic: a love of language and learning. Our interests range from classical literature to contemporary critical theory, and our specialties include linguistics, rhetoric, and writing, as well as literature. Through our substantial involvement in the UW Oshkosh general education program, now officially the University Studies Program, as well as through our major programs, we have consistently demonstrated a strong commitment to undergraduate teaching.

The department offers major coursework in literature, cultural studies, linguistics, rhetoric, creative writing, and professional writing. With a major in English at UW Oshkosh, you can expect to attain a level of familiarity with a wide range of contemporary theoretical approaches and gain exposure to literature from a variety of cultural traditions. You can expect to read, discuss, and analyze many of the texts that have helped to define the Western literary tradition as well as those that challenge it. You can also expect to learn a lot about writing and language generally, in addition to developing your own writing skills. With access to the computer teaching labs on campus, you will have a chance to work with some of the latest writing technology.

Our faculty members are active professionally and regularly present papers at national conferences and publish work in refereed journals and books. Our primary commitment, though, is to our students, whose own work the faculty cultivate with diligence and care.

Advising for English Majors and Minors

Your advisor is your most important advocate in the English Department. Each semester, your advisor will check the work completed toward your degree, point out the number of credits and kinds of courses that you need to fulfill your English major and any English minor, and make suggestions and recommendations for courses to take, as well as answer any questions you may have. On occasion, you may ask your advisor to approve a substitution for completed course work. You will need to obtain a copy of the Request for Modification of Undergraduate Curriculum form from the English Department office. Ask your advisor for assistance as you complete and sign the form. (This will be done at the advisor's discretion, in consultation with the Chair of the English Department.)

Advising for English Majors is mandatory every semester. There will be a hold on your account until you meet with your advisor. Please plan to meet with your advisor early enough so your time to enroll in classes is not affected.

Department of English

2001 Regents Teaching Excellence Award Winner

University of Wisconsin Oshkosh

Website: www.uwosh.edu/english

Department Personnel, Programs, and Resources

Faculty and Staff Oshkosh Campus

Abayomi Animashaun, PhD, Poetry Writing, Immigrant Literatures, Multi-Ethnic Literatures
Laura Jean Baker, MFA, Creative Writing, American Literature
Loren Baybrook, PhD, Modern American Literature, Criticism
Karl Boehler, PhD, Medieval Literature, Composition
Stewart Cole, PhD, Modern & Contemporary British Literature
Don Dingleline, PhD, 19th-Century American and African American Literature
Jennifer Donath, MA, Modern American Literature, Advanced Writing
Kelley Duhatschek, MA, Shakespeare, Composition
Aaron Duncel, British Literature, Criticism, Composition Robert Feldman, PhD, Modern American and European Drama Douglas Haynes, MFA, Creative Writing, Composition
Cary Henson, MA, Comparative Literature, Composition
Margaret Hostetler, PhD, Medieval Literature, Linguistics
Valerie Jahns, MA, Composition
H. Jordan Landry, PhD, American and Women's Literature
Samantha Looker-Koenigs, PhD, Rhetoric and Composition
Pascale Manning, PhD, 19th-Century British Literature and Science and Native Literatures
Stephen McCabe, PhD, Creative Writing, Composition
Crystal Mueller, PhD, Medieval and Early Modern Literature, Rhetoric and Composition
Adam Ochonicky, PhD, Film Studies, Composition
James Pesta, PhD, Renaissance Prose and Poetry
Ronald Rindo, PhD, Fiction Writing, 19th-Century American Literature
Christine Roth, PhD, 19th-Century British Literature
Paul Sager, Composition
Loren Snyder, MA, Professional Writing, Composition
Kristin Vielbig, MA, Multi-ethnic Literature, Composition
Michael Wirkus, MA, Composition

Faculty and Staff Fox Cities Campus

Heather Benson, MA, Composition
Scott Emmert, PhD, American Literature, Literature & Film

William Gillard, MFA, Creative Writing, Science Fiction, Poetry
Christina Marty, MA, Writing Program Administration
Sarah Getzin, MFA, Composition

Faculty and Staff Fond du Lac Campus

Alayne Peterson, MFA, Creative Writing, Composition
Lisa Schreibersdorf, PhD, American Literature, Multi-Ethnic Studies, Composition
Bijan Salmati, MA, Composition

Major and Minor Programs

Liberal Arts English Major
Secondary Education English Major
Liberal Arts Creative Writing Minor
Liberal Arts Rhetoric Minor
Liberal Arts Literature Minor
Liberal Arts Linguistics Minor
Liberal Arts Professional Writing Minor
Secondary Education English Minor

Department Resources

The Writing Center offers free tutoring service for all UW Oshkosh students:
<http://www.uwosh.edu/wcenter>

Department study tours feature literary study at domestic and international sites.

Outcomes of the Major in English at UW Oshkosh

Writing

1. Use clear, correct, and concrete language to develop focused, organized writing that is original and significant.
2. Use quotation and paraphrase effectively and appropriately.
3. Use rhetorical techniques and/or aesthetic devices that effectively establish the authority of the student's own voice for a given audience.

Reading

1. Comprehend complex and diverse texts in their own historical and generic contexts, while also remaining aware of multiple interpretations.
2. Analyze the defining characteristics, structures, and stylistic choices of complex texts.
3. Critically evaluate information from multiple sources, sites, or texts (e.g. rhetorical, linguistic, cultural, artistic, experiential, etc.).

Argumentation and Research

1. Develop a rationally defensible and significant argument that incorporates an awareness of competing claims.
2. Support an arguable claim with research that is adequate in terms of quality, quantity, relevance, and diversity.
3. Integrate sources precisely and efficiently without compromising the voice of either the source or the student.

Cultural Literacy

1. Understand how culture and history shape beliefs and customs in which texts operate.
2. Evaluate literary texts and other cultural artifacts from the perspective(s) in which they are situated.
3. Access and assess resources from a range of disciplines (sociology, psychology, history, philosophy, anthropology, etc.) and apply them in the study and creation of cultural productions of diverse communities.

Goals and Guidelines for English Major Core Courses

English 281: Introduction to English Studies

Course Description: An introduction to the many facets of English study, including the close analysis of texts, the rhetorical situation of the author and text, theoretical and critical approaches to textual analysis, and strategies for composing within and about a variety of genres both creatively and persuasively. Required for all English majors and minors; recommended for students contemplating an English major or minor.

Goals

1. Introduce students to the many facets of the English program (literature, creative writing, rhetoric, etc.). This can be accomplished through class discussion and/or presentations by other members of the department.
2. Introduce students to key terms and concepts (e.g., authorial intention, point of view, rhetorical situation, symbol, tragedy, writing process, etc.).
3. Introduce students to various theoretical, critical, and rhetorical approaches (e.g., Feminist, Marxist, New Historicist, etc.) through secondary sources.
4. Introduce students to the basic periodization of literatures in English from Anglo-Saxon to medieval to Early Modern and so on.
5. Require substantial writing, which will include at least three different kinds of writing assignments encompassing both creative and rhetorical approaches.
6. Introduce students to the fundamentals of scholarly research using both print-based and electronic media.
7. Introduce students to the citation and documentation conventions of MLA bibliographic style.
8. Introduce students to the major portfolio and assign a reflective essay that will be placed in the portfolio.

English 381: Foundations of Literary Criticism

Course Description: An investigation of modern literary theories, critical approaches, and their application to selected literary texts.

Goals

1. Study a representative range of theoretical texts.
2. Reinforce the concepts in these theoretical texts by having students apply them to literature.
3. Cultivate students' ability to bring various theoretical positions into dialogue with each other.
4. Explore the theoretical and historical movements that have led to the current configuration of ideas in literary studies.
5. Reinforce bibliographic methods.
6. Reinforce the importance of the major portfolio and assign a project that will be placed in the portfolio.

English 481: Seminar in English Studies

Course Description: An intensive capstone seminar in the study of literature; creative writing; linguistics, language, or rhetoric; or cultural, critical, or interdisciplinary studies, emphasizing synthesis and evaluation of work completed in the English major. Seminar paper and portfolio self-assessment required.

Goals

1. Read about and discuss a single, focused topic or author in the instructor's area. The readings should include theoretical and/or critical works, as well as texts to be analyzed.
2. Research, write, and share a substantial seminar paper or creative project.
3. Compile a selective assessment file for their major portfolio.
4. Write a self-review of the major portfolio, synthesizing and evaluating the work they have completed through their course of study.

ENGLISH MAJOR PROGRAMS

Students must complete requirements for all English programs with a grade of C or higher

(OC) - Optional Content courses may be taken twice with different topics and the signature of the Department Chair.

Liberal Arts Major	Secondary Education Major
<p>Core Courses ____ 281 - Introduction to English Studies ____ 381 - Foundations of Literary Criticism ____ 481 - Seminar in English Studies (OC)</p>	<p>Core Courses ____ 281 - Introduction to English Studies ____ 381 - Foundations of Literary Criticism ____ 481 - Seminar in English Studies (OC)</p>
<p>____ Area AI English Literary Tradition before 1700 (1 course) 332 - Early Women Writers 340 - Arthurian Legend and Romance 344 - Milton 346 - Chaucer and His Age 347 - Shakespeare I 351 - Medieval Literature 353 - Early Modern British Lit, 1485-1660 362 - British Literature of the Long 18th Century 448 - Topics in Shakespeare</p>	<p>____ Area AI English Literary Tradition (1 course) 331 - Contemporary Literature (ES) 332 - Early Women Writers 333 - British Poetry 340 - Arthurian Legend and Romance 342 - Literature of the Romantic Era 344 - Milton 346 - Chaucer and His Age 351 - Medieval Literature 353 - Early Modern British Lit, 1485-1660 356 - Special Topics in British and/or Irish Literature 362 - British Literature of the Long 18th Century 363- 18th-Century English Novel 364- 19th-Century English Novel 365 - Modern British Fiction 369 - Literature of the Victorian Period</p>
<p>____ Area AII English Literary Tradition after 1700 (1 course) 331 - Contemporary Literature (ES, OC) 333 - British Poetry (OC) [effective Fall 2006] 342 - Literature of the Romantic Era (OC) 356 - Special Topics in British and/or Irish Literature (OC) 363 - 18th-Century English Novel 364 - 19th-Century English Novel (OC) 365 - Modern British Fiction (OC) 369 - Literature of the Victorian Period (OC)</p>	<p>____ Area AII American Literary Tradition (1 course) 314 - 19th-Century American Novel 345 - 20th-Century Women Writers (OC) 349 - Honors: 20th-Century Women Authors 372 - American Short Story (OC) 373 - Colonial and Federalist Literature 374 - American Romanticism 375 - American Realism and Naturalism 376 - 20th-Century Literature (OC) 377 - Major Figures of American Literature (OC) 378 - Modern American Novel (OC) 379 - American Poetry (OC) 380 - Modern Drama (OC)</p>
<p>____ Area AIII American Literary Tradition (1 course) 314 - 19th-Century American Novel 345 - 20th-Century Women Writers (OC) 349 - Honors: 20th-Century Women Authors 372 - American Short Story (OC) 373 - Colonial and Federalist Literature 374 - American Romanticism 375 - American Realism and Naturalism 376 - 20th-Century Literature (OC) 377 - Major Figures of American Literature (OC) 378 - Modern American Novel (OC) 379 - American Poetry (OC) 380 - Modern Drama (OC)</p>	<p>____ Area AIII Shakespeare (1 course) 347 - Shakespeare I 448 - Topics in Shakespeare (OC)</p>
<p>____ Area AIV Literature by American Ethnic Writers and/or Post-Colonial Writers (1 course) 319 - African American Literature II (OC) 358 - Postcolonial Literature (OC) 361 - Asian American Literature (OC) 367 - African Literature (NW) 370 - Native American Literature II (ES, OC) 371 - African American Women Writers (ES, OC) 393 - Latina/o Literature (OC) 394 - Multiethnic Literatures (OC) 395 - Caribbean Literature (OC)</p>	<p>____ Area AIV Literature by American Ethnic Writers, and/or Post-Colonial Writers (2 courses) 319 - African American Literature II (OC) 358 - Postcolonial Literature (OC) 361 - Asian American Literature (OC) 367 - African Literature (NW) 370 - Native American Literature II (ES, OC) 371 - African American Women Writers (ES, OC) 393 - Latina/o Literature (OC) 394 - Multiethnic Literatures (OC) 395 - Caribbean Literature (OC)</p>

Liberal Arts Major	Secondary Education Major
<p>_____Area B Rhetoric/Linguistics (1 course) 207 - Introduction to Professional Writing 301 - Modern Grammars 320 - Special Topics in Linguistics (OC) 322 - Theories of Rhetoric and Writing 341 - History of the English Language 383 - Introduction to English Linguistics 384 - Sociolinguistics 385 - Professional and Digital Writing (OC) 386 - Rhetoric of Literature 387 - Special Topics in Rhetoric and Composition (OC) 388 - Grant Writing Foundations 397 - Digital & Multimodal Writing 452 - Applied Linguistics</p>	<p>_____Area B Linguistics (1 course) 301 - Modern Grammars 320 - Special Topics in Linguistics (OC) 341 - History of the English Language 383 - Introduction to English Linguistics 384 - Sociolinguistics 452 - Applied Linguistics</p>
<p>_____Area C Creative Writing (1 course) 204 - Introduction to Creative Writing 303 - Creative Writing: Fiction I 304 - Advanced Fiction Writing 305 - Creative Writing: Poetry I 306 -Advanced Poetry Writing 308 - Autobiography: Theory and Practice 329 - Creative Writing: Playwriting I 330 - Creative Writing: Playwriting II 405 - Creative Writing (OC) 434 - Advanced Narrative Scriptwriting</p>	<p>_____Area C Creative Writing (1 course) 204 - Introduction to Creative Writing 303 - Creative Writing: Fiction I 304 - Advanced Fiction Writing 305 - Creative Writing: Poetry I 306 - Advanced Poetry Writing 308 - Autobiography: Theory and Practice 329 - Creative Writing: Playwriting I 330 - Creative Writing: Playwriting II 405 - Creative Writing (OC) 434 - Advanced Narrative Scriptwriting</p>
<p>_____Area D Specialized Literary or Cultural Studies (1 course from either group) <u>Group 1 Cultural Studies</u> 354 - Studies in Travel, Literature, and Culture (OC) 357 - Literature and Other Arts (OC) 382 - Contemporary Cultural Mythology (OC) 390 - Film and Literary Studies (OC) 396 - Literature and History (OC) <u>Group 2 Specialized Literary Studies</u> 324 - Gender in Literature (OC) 326 - Studies in Classical Mythology 327 - Detective Fiction 333 - British Poetry (OC) [catalogues prior to 2006-2007] 334 - Wisconsin in Literature 335 - Personal Narratives (OC) 336 - The Bible as Literature 343 - Nature Writing (OC) [2004-2005 catalogue or newer] 350 - Literary Study Tour (OC) 359 - Literature and Science 360 - Literary Animal Studies 366 - Science Fiction 391 – Queer, Trans, and Non-Binary Literature (OC) 392 - Special Topics in Literature (OC) 399 - Utopian/Dystopian Literature 403 - Feminist Thought and Practice 482 - Recent Literary Criticism (OC)</p>	<p>_____Area D Specialized Literary or Cultural Studies (1 course from either group) <u>Group 1 Cultural Studies</u> 354 - Studies in Travel, Literature, and Culture (OC) 357 - Literature and Other Arts (OC) 382 - Contemporary Cultural Mythology (OC) 390 - Film and Literary Studies (OC) 396 - Literature and History (OC) <u>Group 2 Specialized Literary Studies</u> 324 - Gender in Literature (OC) 326 - Studies in Classical Mythology 327 - Detective Fiction 333 - British Poetry (OC) 334 - Wisconsin in Literature 335 - Personal Narratives (OC) 336 - The Bible as Literature 343 - Nature Writing (OC) 350 - Literary Study Tour (OC) 359 - Literature and Science 360 - Literary Animal Studies 366 - Science Fiction 391 – Queer, Trans, and Non-Binary Literature (OC) 392 - Special Topics in Literature (OC) 399 - Utopian/Dystopian Literature 403 - Feminist Thought and Practice 482 - Recent Literary Criticism (OC)</p>
<p>_____Area E 2 Electives of Student’s Choice</p>	<p>_____Area E Adolescent Literature One of the following courses: ENG 223 - Young Adult Literature EDLEAD 303 - Literature for Young Adults</p>

English Department Course Offerings 200-Level Courses for the Major

204 Introduction to Creative Writing	281 Introduction to English Studies
207 Introduction to Professional Writing	223 Young Adult Literature (Secondary Ed Major)

300- and 400-Level Courses for the Major

301/501 Modern Grammars	364/564 19 th -Century British Novel (OC)
303/503 Creative Writing: Fiction I	365/565 Modern British Fiction (OC)
304/504 Advanced Fiction Writing	366/566 Science Fiction
305/505 Creative Writing: Poetry I	367/567 African Literature (NW)
306/506 Advanced Poetry Writing	369/569 Literature of the Victorian Period (OC)
308/508 Autobiography: Theory and Practice	370/570 Native American Literature II (ES-OC)
314/514 19 th -Century American Novel	371/571 African American Women Writers (OC-ES)
317/517 Technical Writing (EN)	372/572 American Short Story (OC)
319/519 African American Literature II (ES-OC)	373/573 Colonial and Federalist Literature
320/520 Special Topics in Linguistics (OC)	374/574 American Romanticism
322/522 Theories of Rhetoric and Writing	375/575 American Realism and Naturalism
324/524 Gender in Literature (OC)	376/576 20 th -Century Literature (OC)
326/526 Studies in Classical Mythology	377/577 Major Figures of American Literature (OC)
327/527 Detective Fiction	378/578 Modern American Novel (OC)
329/529 Creative Writing: Playwriting I	379/579 American Poetry (OC)
330/530 Creative Writing: Playwriting II	380/580 Modern Drama (OC)
331/531 Contemporary Literature (ES-OC)	381/581 Foundations of Literary Criticism
332/532 Early Women Writers (OC)	382/582 Contemporary Cultural Mythology (OC)
333/533 British Poetry (OC)	383/583 Introduction to English Linguistics
334/534 Wisconsin in Literature	384/584 Sociolinguistics
335/535 Personal Narratives (OC)	385/585 Professional and Digital Writing (OC)
336/536 The Bible as Literature	386/586 Rhetoric of Literature
340/540 Arthurian Legend and Romance	387/587 Special Topics in Rhetoric and Composition (OC) 388 Grant Writing Foundations
341/541 History of the English Language	390/590 Film and Literary Studies (OC)
342/542 Literature of the Romantic Era (OC)	391/591 Queer, Trans, and Non-Binary Literature (OC)
343/543 Nature Writing (OC)	392/592 Special Topics in Literature (OC)
344/544 Milton	393/593 Latina/o Literature (ES-HU-OC)
345/545 20 th -Century Women Writers (OC)	394/594 Multiethnic Literatures (OC)
346/546 Chaucer and His Age	395/595 Caribbean Literature (OC)
347/547 Shakespeare I	396/596 Literature and History (OC)
349 Honors: 20 th -Century Women Authors	397 Digital & Multimodal Writing
350/550 Literary Study Tour (OC)	399 Utopian/Dystopian Literature
351/551 Medieval Literature (OC)	402 Internship
353/553 Early Modern British Lit, 1485-1660 (OC)	403 Feminist Thought and Practice (WAGS)
354/554 Studies in Travel, Literature, and Culture (OC)	405/605 Creative Writing (OC)
356/556 Special Topics in British and/or Irish Literature (OC)	434 Advanced Narrative Scriptwriting (RTF)
357/557 Literature and Other Arts (OC)	446 Independent Study
358/558 Postcolonial Literature (OC)	448/648 Topics in Shakespeare (OC)
359 Science and Literature	449 Humanities Certificate Reflection
360 Literary Animal Studies	452/652 Applied Linguistics
361/561 Asian American Literature (ES-OC)	474 Honors Thesis
362/562 British Literature of Long 18 th Century (OC)	481 Seminar in English Studies (OC)
363/563 18 th -Century English Novel	482/682 Recent Literary Criticism (OC)

Graduate-Level Courses

701 Seminar in Literature (OC)	710 Seminar in Cultural Studies (OC)
702 Seminar in Linguistics (OC)	711 Seminar in American Ethnic Writers (OC)
703 Seminar in Theory and Criticism (OC)	712 Seminar in Women Writers (OC)
704 Methods of Research	714 Seminar in Rhetoric and Writing (OC)
708 Special Topics in English Studies (OC)	795 Graduate Capstone
709 Seminar in Creative Writing (OC)	796 Independent Study

OC Optional Content

Study Tours

Past tours have included the following topics:

- Literary Landscapes (Ireland)
- All the World's a Stage (England)
- Travel Writing in Nicaragua (Nicaragua)
- Experience Scotland (Scotland)
- Arthur to Zaphod: The English Heroes (England)
- Home & the Intrepid Heroine (England)
- Shakespeare (England)
- Heroes, Saints, and Sinners (England)
- An Elizabethan Progress (England)
- American Writers in Paris (France)
- Jane Austen (England)
- Gothic: In the Footsteps of Monsters (England)
- Vietnam and Hong Kong
- Semester in Cambridge, England
- 20th-Century Irish Literature (Ireland)

Contact the English Department Chair for information on current Literary Study Tours (hostetle@uwosh.edu).

Developing an Emphasis in the English Major

While the English major is designed to expose majors to many areas in contemporary English studies, it is also possible to develop areas of emphasis within the broader scope of the major. The Liberal Arts English Major in particular gives students the opportunity to work closely with their English advisors to design a pattern of course work that matches student interests and/or career goals. (Requirements for the Secondary Education English Major are a bit less flexible, given the curricular directives of the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction; even so, there is room in that major, as well, for students to design an emphasis.) Students can develop an emphasis in any area of our curriculum (e.g., Post-Colonial and Ethnic Literatures, Rhetoric and Linguistics, American or British Literature, or Creative Writing) by choosing courses carefully in required Areas A, B, C, and D and by making careful use of electives. Liberal Arts majors may want to supplement the English major with appropriate studies in virtually any academic discipline at UW Oshkosh, depending upon their interests.

Here are just two of many possible examples of how you can develop an emphasis in consultation with your English Department advisor:

Example One: You have an interest in American literature and culture and want to develop an emphasis in it. Our curriculum already requires one course in the American Literary Tradition (Area AII). In addition, you can choose a course focusing on American ethnic literature in Area AIV. You can also choose a course focusing on American literature in Area D: Specialized Literary or Cultural Studies. Finally, the two electives allow you to take any two 300- or 400-level courses you desire in our curriculum (except general education courses), so you can fulfill each of those electives with a course in American literature. And you might also choose to do your capstone project in English 481 on a subject of interest to you in your chosen area of emphasis.

Example Two: You are interested in creative writing, particularly in writing poetry and short stories. Our curriculum requires one course in Creative Writing (Area C). You can take two additional 300- or 400-level creative writing courses to fulfill your two open electives, and you can do a creative writing project in English 481. In addition, of course, you might choose course work in the other areas of our curriculum that focus on your interest in poetry and/or the short story. So you might take English 372: American Short Story as your required course in Area AII, and you might choose a course focusing on poetry in one of the other required areas.

Keep in mind, as well, that you can enhance your education as an English major by participating in extracurricular creative or intellectual activities. We encourage all English majors to consider working as readers and editors on the university's literary magazine, *The Wisconsin Review*, and attending regular readings sponsored by the *Review* and by the English Department. Other extracurricular clubs and activities sponsored by the English Department are discussed elsewhere in this *Handbook*.

Minor in Creative Writing

Liberal Arts English Minors



21 Credits required

CREATIVE WRITING

1. _____ **English 281: Introduction to English Studies (3 credits)**

2. _____ **FOUR courses from the following list (12 credits) English:**

- | | | |
|--|---|----------------------|
| 204 - Intro to Creative writing | 329 - Playwriting I | 330 - Playwriting II |
| 303 - Fiction I | 335 – Personal Narratives (OC) (with dept. consent) | |
| 304 - Advanced Fiction Writing | 385 - Professional and Digital Writing | |
| 305 - Poetry I | 405 - Creative Writing: Optional Content | |
| 306 - Advanced Poetry Writing | 434 - Advanced Narrative Scriptwriting | |
| 308 - Autobiography: Theory and Practice | | |

3. _____ **TWO courses from the following list (6 credits) English:**

- | | |
|---|---|
| 314 - 19 th -Century American Novel | 363 - 18 th -Century English Novel |
| 319 - African American Literature II | 364 - 19 th -Century English Novel |
| 324 – Gender in Literature | 365 - Modern British Fiction |
| 326 - Studies in Classical Mythology | 366 - Science Fiction |
| 327 – Detective Fiction | 367 - African Literature (NW) |
| 331 - Contemporary Literature (ES) | 369 - Literature of the Victorian Period |
| 332 - Early Women Writers | 370 - Native American Literature II (ES) 371 |
| 333 - British Poetry | - African American Women Writers (ES) 372 |
| 334 - Wisconsin in Literature | - American Short Story |
| 340 - Arthurian Legend and Romance | 373 - Colonial and Federalist Literature |
| 342 - Literature of the Romantic Era | 374 - American Romanticism |
| 343 – Nature Writing | 375 - American Realism and Naturalism |
| 344 - Milton | 376 – Literature of the 20 th & 21 st Centuries |
| 345 - Women Writers of the 20 th & 21 st C. | 377 - Major Figures of American Literature |
| 346 - Chaucer and His Age | 378 - Modern American Novel |
| 347 - Shakespeare I | 379 - American Poetry |
| 349 - Honors: Women Writers of the 20 th & 21 st C. | 380 - Modern Drama |
| 351 - Medieval Literature | 390 - Film and Literary Studies |
| 353 - Early Modern British Lit, 1485-1660 | 391 - Queer, Trans., and Non-Binary Literature |
| 354 - Studies in Travel, Literature, and Culture | 392 - Special Topics in Literature |
| 356 - Special Topics in British Drama | 393 - Latina/o Literature |
| 357 - Literature and Other Arts | 394 - Multiethnic Literatures |
| 358 - Postcolonial Literature | 395 - Caribbean Literature |
| 359 - Science and Literature | 396 - Literature and History |
| 360 - Literary Animal Studies | 399 - Utopian/Dystopian Literature |
| 361 - Asian American Literature | 448 – Special Topics in Shakespeare |
| 362 - British Literature of the Long 18 th Century | |

Minor in Literature

Liberal Arts English Minors

21 Credits

LITERATURE (Note: students pursuing the Liberal Arts English Major or the Secondary Education Major are ineligible for the literature emphasis of the Liberal Arts Minor.)

1. _____ **English 281: Introduction to English Studies (3 credits)**

2. _____ **FOUR literature courses, one in each of four areas (12 credits):**

ONE course in The English Literary Tradition before 1700 (3

credits):

332 - Early Women Writers (OC)	351 - Medieval Lit, 1485-1660 (OC)
340 - Arthurian Legend and Romance	353 - Early Modern British Lit, 1485-1660 (OC)
344 - Milton	362 - British Literature of the Long 18 th Century (OC)
346 - Chaucer and His Age	448 - Topics in Shakespeare (OC)
347 - Shakespeare I	

ONE course in The English Literary Tradition after 1700 (3 credits):

331 - Contemporary Literature (ES, OC)	363 - 18 th -Century English Novel
333 - British Poetry (OC)	364 - 19 th -Century English Novel (OC)
342 - Literature of the Romantic Era (OC)	365 - Modern British Fiction (OC)
356 - Special Topics in British and/or Irish Lit (OC)	369 - Literature of the Victorian Period (OC)

ONE course in The American Literary Tradition (3 credits)

314 - 19 th -Century American Novel	374 - American Romanticism
345 - Women Writers 20 th & 21 st Centuries	375 - American Realism and Naturalism
349 - Honors: Women Writers 20 th & 21 st C.	376 - Literature of the 20 th & 21 st Centuries (OC)
372 - American Short Story (OC)	377 - Major Figures of American Literature (OC)
373 - Colonial and Federalist Literature	378 - Modern American Novel (OC)
	379 - American Poetry (OC)
	380 - Modern Drama (OC)

ONE course in Literature by American Ethnic Writers and/or Post-Colonial Writers (3 credits):

319 - African American Literature II (OC)	371 - African American Women Writers (ES, OC)
358 - Postcolonial Literature (OC)	393 - Latina/o Literature (OC)
361 - Asian American Literature (OC)	394 - Multiethnic Literatures (OC)
367 - African Literature (NW)	395 - Caribbean Literature (OC)
370 - Native American Literature II (ES, OC)	

3. _____ **ONE required course in Specialized Literary or Cultural Studies (3 credits):**

324 - Gender in Literature (OC)	359 - Literature and Science
326 - Studies in Classical Mythology	360 - Literary Animal Studies
327 - Detective Fiction	366 - Science Fiction
333 - British Poetry (OC)	382 - Contemporary Cultural Mythology (OC)
334 - Wisconsin in Literature	390 - Film and Literary Studies (OC)
335 - Personal Narratives (OC)	391 - Queer, Trans, and Non-Binary Lit
336 - The Bible as Literature	392 - Special Topics in Literature
343 - Nature Writing (OC)	396 - Literature and History (OC)
350 - Literary Study Tour (OC)	399 - Utopian/Dystopian Literature (OC)
354 - Studies in Travel, Literature, and Culture (OC)	482 - Recent Literary Criticism (OC)
357 - Literature and Other Arts (OC)	

4. _____ **ONE additional literature course in English at or above the 300-level (3 credits).**

Minor in Linguistics



Liberal Arts English Minors 21 Credits

LINGUISTICS (the study of language as a human behavior)

1. _____ **English 383: Introduction to Linguistics (3 credits)**
2. _____ **TWO of the following courses in Rhetoric/Linguistics:**
 - 301 - Modern Grammars
 - 320 - Special Topics in Linguistics (OC)
 - 341 - History of the English Language
 - 384 - Sociolinguistics
 - 452 - Applied Linguistics
3. _____ **ONE two-hundred level course in French, Spanish, or German or a third-semester course in Russian or Japanese (3 credits)**
Excluding German 312 and 314, Spanish 300 and 307, French 303 and 312, and Japanese 315
4. _____ **THREE courses from the following (9 credits):**
 - Anthropology:
 - 102 - Introduction to Anthropology
 - 274 - Language in Culture
 - 366 - Evolution of Human Language
 - Communications:
 - 268 - Gender Communication and Relationships
 - 316 - Gender and Discourse
 - 318 - Intercultural Communication
 - Computer Science
 - 381 - Introduction to the Theory of Computing
 - English:
 - 281 - Introduction English Studies
 - 301 - Modern Grammars
 - 320 - Special Topics in Linguistics
 - 322 - Theories of Rhetoric and Writing
 - 341 - History of the English Language
 - 384 - Sociolinguistics
 - 385 - Professional & Digital Writing
 - 386 - Rhetoric of Literature
 - 387 - Special Topics in Rhetoric and Composition
 - 452 - Applied Linguistics
 - French:
 - 303 - Phonetics
 - 312 - Advanced French Grammar
 - German:
 - 312 - Advanced Grammar
 - 314 - German Phonetics
 - Philosophy:
 - 202 - Symbolic Logic
 - 422 - Philosophy of Language
 - 316 - Introduction to Cognitive Science
 - Political Science:
 - 253 - Introduction to Law
 - 304 - Race and Ethnicity in U.S. Politics
 - 330 - Discrimination and Legal Remedies
 - 373 - Gender, Law, and Policy
 - Psychology:
 - 271 - Cross-Cultural Psychology
 - 380 - Cognitive Psychology
 - 391 - Developmental Psychology
 - Spanish:
 - 307 - Spanish Phonetics
 - 312 - Advanced Spanish Grammar I
 - 372 - Spanish in the U.S.
 - Sociology:
 - 331 - Social Justification
 - 359 - Minority Groups
 - 321 - Social Psychology
 - 325 - Collective Behavior and Social Movements

NOTE: Individual courses may be counted only once for the minor.

Minor in English for Secondary Education

**Recommended for students who wish to teach English as an additional subject in grades 6-12.
Required credits: 27 minimum**

1. _____ **English 281:** Introduction to English Studies (3 credits)

2. _____ **FOUR** literature courses, one in each of four areas (12 credits):

ONE course in The English Literary Tradition:

- | | |
|---|--|
| 331 - Contemporary Literature (ES, OC) | 351 - Medieval Literature (OC) |
| 332 - Early Women Writers (OC) | 353 - Early Modern British Lit, 1485-1660 (OC) |
| 333 - British Poetry (OC) | 356 - Special Topics in British Drama (OC) |
| 340 - Arthurian Legend and Romance | 362 - British Literature of the Long 18 th Century (OC) |
| 344 - Milton | 363 - 18 th -Century English Novel (OC) |
| 346 - Chaucer and His Age | 364 - 19 th -Century English Novel (OC) |
| 342 - Literature of the Romantic Era (OC) | 365 - Modern British Fiction (OC) |
| | 369 - Literature of the Victorian Period (OC) |

ONE course in The American Literary Tradition:

- | | |
|--|--|
| 314 - 19 th -Century American Novel | 375 - American Realism and Naturalism |
| 345 - Women Writers 20 th & 21 st C. (OC) | 376 - Literature of the 20 th & 21 st C. |
| 349 - Honors: Women Writers 20 th & 21 st C. | 377 - Major Figures of American Literature (OC) |
| 372 - American Short Story (OC) | 378 - Modern American Novel (OC) |
| 373 - Colonial and Federalist Literature | 379 - American Poetry (OC) |
| 374 - American Romanticism | 380 - Modern Drama (OC) |

ONE course in Shakespeare:

- | | |
|---------------------|--|
| 347 - Shakespeare I | 448 - Special Topics in Shakespeare (OC) |
|---------------------|--|

ONE course in American Ethnic or Post-Colonial Literatures:

- | | |
|--|---|
| 319 - African American Literature II (OC) | 371 - African American Women Writers (ES, OC) |
| 331 - Contemporary Literature (ES, OC) | 376 - 20 th -Century Literature (OC) |
| 358 - Postcolonial Literature (OC) | 393 - Latina/o Literature (OC) |
| 361 - Asian American Literature (OC) | 394 - Multiethnic Literatures (OC) |
| 367 - African Literature (NW) | 395 - Caribbean Literature (OC) |
| 370 - Native American Literature II (ES, OC) | |

3. _____ **ONE** course in Linguistics (3 credits):

- | | |
|--|---|
| 301 - Modern Grammars | 341 - History of the English Language |
| 320 - Special Topics in Linguistics (OC) | 383 - Introduction to English Linguistics |
| | 384 - Sociolinguistics |
| | 452 - Applied Linguistics |

4. _____ **ONE** course in Creative Writing (3credits)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 204 - Introduction to Creative Writing | 305 - Creative Writing: Poetry I |
| 303 - Creative Writing: Fiction I | 306 - Advanced Poetry Writing |
| 304 - Advanced Fiction Writing | 308 - Autobiography: Theory and Practice |
| | 329 - Creative Writing: Playwriting I |
| | 330 - Creative Writing: Playwriting II |
| | 405 - Creative Writing (OC) |

5. _____ **ONE** course in Area D Specialized Literary and Cultural Studies (3 credits):

- | | |
|---|--|
| 324 - Gender in Literature (OC) | 382 - Contemporary Cultural Mythology (OC) |
| 326 - Studies in Classical Mythology | 390 - Film and Literary Studies (OC) |
| 327 - Detective Fiction | 391 - Queer, Trans., & Non-Binary Lit |
| 334 - Wisconsin in Literature | 392 - Special Topics in Literature (OC) |
| 335 - Personal Narratives (OC) | 396 - Literature and History (OC) |
| 336 - The Bible as Literature | 399 - Utopian/Dystopian Literature |
| 343 - Nature Writing (OC) | 482 - Recent Literary Criticism (OC) |
| 350 - Literary Study Tour (OC) | |
| 354 - Studies in Travel, Literature, and Culture (OC) | |
| 357 - Literature and Other Arts (OC) | |
| 359 - Science and Literature | |
| 360 - Literary Animal Studies | |
| 366 - Science Fiction | |

6. _____ **ONE** of the following (3 credits):

- ENG 223 - Young Adult Literature
- EDLEAD 303 - Literature for Young Adults

Minor in Rhetoric



Liberal Arts English Minors 21 Credits

RHETORIC (Credits taken in Sections 2 and 3 below must total 18.)

1. ____ English 281: Introduction to English Studies (3 credits)
2. ____ **FOUR** or **FIVE** of the following courses (12-15 credits) English:
 - 301 - Modern Grammars
 - 322 - Theories of Rhetoric and Writing
 - 354 - Studies in Travel, Literature, and Culture
 - 381 - Foundations of Literary Criticism
 - 382 - Contemporary Cultural Mythology
 - 383 - Introduction to English Linguistics
 - 386 - Rhetoric of Literature
 - 387 - Special Topics in Rhetoric and Composition
3. ____ **ONE** or **TWO** of the following courses (3-6 credits) English:
 - 303 - Fiction I
 - 308 - Autobiography: Theory and Practice
 - 317 - Technical Writing
 - 385 - Professional and Digital Writing

Minor in Professional Writing



Liberal Arts English Minor 21 Credits

PROFESSIONAL WRITING Recommended for students wishing to gain experience in workplace and community writing (i.e. writing with non-profits and community activist groups).

1. _____ English 207: Introduction to Professional Writing (3 credits)
2. _____ English 317: Technical Writing (3 credits)
3. _____ English 397: Digital and Multimodal Writing (3 credits)
4. _____ 9 Credits from the following: ENG 301, 322, 385, 387, 388
5. _____ English 402 Internship (3 credits)

What Can You Do with an English Major?

We realize it's frustrating to tell someone you're an English major, knowing the next question will be, "English? What can you do with that?" We've prepared an answer for you: "Plenty!" In fact, you may have more options open to you than many of your fellow students who are majoring in fields far outside the humanities. A number of these options are listed below.

- **Consider a career in business.** As an English major, you bring to the business world many valuable and marketable skills: the ability to read, understand, analyze, and evaluate texts in a wide variety of genres and styles; the ability to write clear, fluid, precise prose; the ability to think critically and creatively about complex problems; the ability to revise and edit the writing of others; and the ability to tell stories. As any personnel manager will tell you, such skills are in short supply. In addition, business in the twenty-first century has become increasingly global, so your exposure to the literatures and cultures of a variety of ethnic groups will give you the multicultural literacy required to succeed in this competitive world. Many CEOs of companies large and small were English majors in college.
- **Consider nonprofit administration:** Nonprofits range from very small to very large, and typically they are the kinds of organizations in which people with talent can quickly move up. The communication skills you develop as an English major prepare you well to contribute substantially to--and even lead--organizations that make our communities better places to live.
- **Consider a career in government service.** Former Wisconsin Senator Robert Kasten was an English major. Numerous state governors, state legislators, and members of both houses of Congress were also English majors. Careers in government, from elected office to agency appointments, require the complex language skills you are acquiring.
- **Consider journalism or publishing.** Coupled with a major or minor (or even selective coursework) in journalism, an English major will help to prepare you for a lifetime of work as a writer and/or editor.
- **Consider a career in professional writing (including screenwriting and theatre).** Management, law, and many other fields, including medicine, require expert language skills.
- **Consider teaching.** Teaching high school English offers you the opportunity to continue to do the things you enjoyed as an English major. You will be able to read and discuss the finest literature. You will be able to instill your love of reading and writing in future generations of young people. It is true that the job market for secondary education English majors is highly competitive, particularly for those graduates who narrow their job search to local or even state-wide school districts. However, there is always a place for excellent candidates. English majors with additional background in foreign languages and linguistics may consider teaching English abroad.
- **Consider graduate or professional school.** The English major offers exceptional preparation for law school, where skills in reading, writing, and critical thinking are requisite for success. It is also excellent preparation for an M.S. in Library Science, which would lead to a career as a reference librarian in a college or university. If you desire a career as a college English professor, then you should pursue a graduate degree in English. Recent UW Oshkosh English majors have gone on to graduate school at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, the University of Kentucky, The University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, Wichita State University, and many other institutions, including our own graduate English program. Earning an M.F.A. or a Ph.D. in English will take between five and seven years, and the job market awaiting you when you graduate will be extremely competitive. There are, of course, other careers available--such as those mentioned above--for people with advanced degrees in English.

The Writing Center

All UW Oshkosh students are eligible for free, one-to-one conferencing in the Writing Center. Writing coaches help writers of all ability levels as they work through assignments and gain additional writing skills. Coaches are trained to help writers understand an assignment, envision possibilities for a draft, and improve their writing process. They also can help writers learn to identify and correct their own proofreading errors. The Writing Center offers real-time and recorded feedback; please check their website for more information about real-time video conferencing and recorded feedback.

<http://www.uwosh.edu/writingcenter> • 920-424-1152 • writingcenter@uwosh.edu

Located in Suite 102 of the Student Success Center (750 Elmwood Ave.), the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh Writing Center aims to help all students become better writers. Here is how the Center's tutors describe their work:

- As trained consultants, we assist both experienced and inexperienced writers through free one-to-one, collaborative sessions with trained consultants, and we assist at any stage of the writing process for any assignment or project and in any discipline.
- We aim to provide a safe place to explore and develop ideas and to become better writers and critical thinkers through collaborative learning, while recognizing that writers must take full authority over their own writing.
- Our core philosophy is that no one is ever finished with the task of becoming a better writer.
- We offer a peer-centered, collaborative approach to writing assistance that places content before form or format while responding to individual writer's needs, a model supported by decades of international research in writing center theory and best practices.
- We strive to offer a friendly, supportive atmosphere for writers from diverse backgrounds and life experiences who have a wide range of writing needs.

During a session, the consultant will

- ask questions designed to help writers think critically about their own writing;
- provide honest, productive comments related to various elements of the paper (style, organization, grammar, etc.); and
- actively listen to the concerns and ideas writers have about their papers.

As active participants in the session, writers should

- be ready to communicate the conditions of the writing assignment, such as the assignment guidelines, due dates, previous instructor feedback, etc.;
- be willing to participate in the writing and rewriting process by sharing their writing problems and accepting constructive criticism and helpful suggestions; and
- allow enough time between the session and the assignment's due date to make suggested revisions.

The Writing Center works with writers on an appointment or walk-in basis; however, we strongly encourage writers to make appointments to ensure they can work with a consultant at their preferred time. Writers often find it helpful to schedule more than one session for an assignment at different stages in developing their work. All sessions are scheduled for 50 minutes, and we ask that writers make no more than three appointments per week. Writers should bring a copy of the assignment directions, their essay draft (if you have one), and their questions and ideas.

The Writing Center has many writing resources for writers to consult during our open hours such as grammar handbooks, dictionaries, ESL guides, and citation style manuals (including the MLA, APA, Chicago, ASA, and AMA).

Student Organizations

Sigma Tau Delta

Lambda Mu is the name of our chapter of Sigma Tau Delta, the prestigious international English Honor Society. Membership signifies a commitment to excellence in the study of English and serves as an adornment for your vitae or professional credential. Added opportunities exist to serve in various offices, including President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer, with elections for positions held yearly. Members have the privilege of attending Sigma Tau Delta's annual conference. The benefits of Sigma Tau Delta extend beyond campus, allowing members to compete for scholarships and publish original writing in the organization's journal. Majors and minors in English are invited to join if they have a 3.5 GPA in English and 3.25 overall GPA, and they must have completed at least three full semesters of college work (45 credits). For information contact Dr. Pascale Manning (manningp@uwosh.edu).

The English Club

The English Club provides support for students who are in English courses at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh. Part of the organization's purpose is to connect English majors and minors more closely to the English Department and its instructors. What the group does depends upon student interest. Activities can include lectures, community service, book discussions, and social events, including attending plays and films. Contact Dr. Pascale Manning (manningp@uwosh.edu) for more information.

The Wisconsin Review

The Wisconsin Review of the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh is student-funded and a member of the Oshkosh Student Association. Its chief goal is to produce *The Wisconsin Review*, the literary magazine of the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh. Through this publication and other activities, *The Wisconsin Review* introduces students and subscribers to fine contemporary poetry, fiction, and art. Writers and artists from all over the country submit material to the editorial staff for publication consideration.

The Wisconsin Review is staffed entirely by students and has a faculty advisor. Students manage, operate, and direct the workings of a small press by acting as editors, copy editors, business staff, promotional staff, and manuscript readers. There are no officers--only editors--at *The Wisconsin Review*. Meetings are held several times each month and all staff members are encouraged to attend. All editors are required to attend meetings because reports are given and manuscripts are reviewed.

The Wisconsin Review often sponsors readings by lecturers and writers of literary interest. *The Wisconsin Review* also encourages the students at UW Oshkosh in their own creative writing and publication endeavors. Students may submit manuscripts and seek criticism.

Membership is open to any interested students at UW Oshkosh. Contact the Senior Editor at *The Wisconsin Review* office (424-2267), the advisors (Stewart Cole, coles@uwosh.edu; Stephen McCabe, mccabes@uwosh.edu), or any other staff member. See the website for more information: www.english.uwosh.edu/review.html.

Scholarship Awards

The Nevin James Scholarship

The Nevin S. James Scholarship Fund was established in 1970 by family, colleagues, friends, and former students to honor Professor James, who served this institution for forty-four years until his retirement in 1967. During this long service, Professor James was for twenty-three years Chairman of the Department of English.

Scholarship applications will be accepted from English majors who hold junior standing and intend to continue as English majors until graduation. Applicants must have earned 60 credits (including 12 or more in the major) and have a minimum GPA of 3.0.

Please see the Academic Works site (<http://uwosh.academicworks.com>).

The Charlotte A. Nooe Poetry Scholarship

This scholarship honors Charlotte Nooe, a 2011 UW Oshkosh graduate who was a talented poet, musician, and song writer, and much loved daughter and friend. It is awarded through the Charleyville Foundation, whose mission is to inspire young artists “to make the world a better, brighter place through words and song.”

English majors who have completed at least one English Creative Writing class at UW Oshkosh are eligible to apply for this \$1,000 scholarship. Full guidelines are available at:

<http://www.uwosh.edu/english/scholarships/charlotte-a.-nooe-memorial-poetry-scholarship>

For more details see Dr. Stephen McCabe (mccabes@uwosh.edu).

The Roberts Prose Writing Competition

This fund was established by Francis Roberts in 1984. Francis graduated from then-named Oshkosh State Teachers College in 1936. Per Francis’s wishes, the fund shall be used to hold an annual (if funding permits) writing contest to encourage and foster the writing abilities of students. Francis was inspired by his participation in an annual writing contest as a student. He won or was co-winner of that contest three times.

Students must be enrolled full or part-time at UWO when they apply and when the money is awarded. Any genre of prose writing is accepted: a short story, script, essay, critique, or similar piece of writing will be accepted. Poetry entries are ineligible. Any necessary attributions should be integrated into the text; footnotes, bibliographies, and appendices are prohibited.

Please see the Academic Works site for deadlines (<http://uwosh.academicworks.com>).

Assessment of the English Major: Guidelines for Students

Introduction

Each major program at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh is required to conduct an assessment of its courses in order to clarify its goals, set standards, and evaluate its performance. Because reading, writing, and research are at the core of the English Department's goals, we annually collect and review examples of our students' formal written work and invite graduating seniors to complete an evaluative survey. From these documents the department is in a position to assess the degree to which we are meeting the outcomes for Writing, Reading, Argumentation and Research, and Cultural Literacy stated in the published Outcomes of the Major in English at UW Oshkosh (see page 3).

Beyond its value to the continuing development of the department, the portfolio assembly process also has a purpose and a value for students. The portfolio provides students with the means to reflect on their own work during their career in the English Department. Teachers in the English Department deliver content but also believe in fostering the growth of literate, educated citizens. Because reading and writing are frequently self-directed activities, students are encouraged to critically examine the ways that they have grown as individuals in the tenure of their study. Students are aware that they can be challenged by teachers' expectations and course content, but they are infrequently asked how they challenge themselves. Assembling the best examples of written work into a portfolio can serve also as the basis for a professional career. In fact, some graduates report that they have used the portfolio concept in preparing for job interviews.

Individual students and instructors are not evaluated during the process of assessing the English major. Participating in the major assessment does not carry a letter grade, influence scholarship decisions, or affect graduation. Rather, preparing a portfolio of significant writing assignments and taking the online Exit Survey (described below) allow students to track and guide their own progress through the English major. These activities also allow students to guide the decision-making process of the English Department faculty by providing important insights about courses, programs (such as Study Abroad), and activities (such as Convocation).

Consult the Assessment Home Page for updates: www.english.uwosh.edu/assess.

Portfolio Assessment

Beginning with English 281, the first course in the major, and concluding with English 481, students compile a portfolio that contains samples of the written work they have completed in courses in the English major. Each portfolio begins with a self-reflective introduction to the portfolio, followed by the self-reflective entry essay that was required in English 281: Introduction to English Studies. The bulk of the portfolio is made up of 3-4 substantial pieces of writing (researched essays, creative nonfiction essays, short stories, or poems); for creative writers, 4-5 poems serve as the equivalent of one essay. The portfolio concludes with the summative final project from English 481: Seminar in English Studies.

- **The self-reflective introduction to the portfolio contents:**
During English 481: Seminar in English Studies, you will be assigned a self-reflective essay that introduces the portfolio to readers and makes connections between the essays and your progress as an English major. A clean copy of this essay, free of instructor comments, grades, and proofreading marks, will be placed in your portfolio as the introduction to the portfolio.
- **The self-reflective entry essay from Introduction to English Studies:**
During the first half of the semester in English 281: Introduction to English Studies, you will be assigned a self-reflective entry essay. A clean copy of this essay, free of instructor comments, grades, and proofreading marks, will be placed in your portfolio. Please consult your English 281 instructor about the length, format, and subject for this essay.

- **The summative project from the Seminar in English Studies:**
All English majors are required to complete a summative project in English 481: Seminar in English Studies. This project varies, depending on the needs of the student and the theme of the seminar. Students may produce a research-based, critically-informed project, a collection of poetry, an extended work of creative nonfiction, or a short story. This project should sum up questions and interests from previous study in the English major, while also addressing the thematic framework raised by the course.
- **The rest of the portfolio-selected writings from your undergraduate career:**
In addition to the two self-reflective essays and the English 481 seminar project, portfolios must include one essay from English 381 and one creative piece completed for a course in the major. Additionally, students may include another piece (essay or creative work) demonstrating growth or experience during the major. Other guidelines regarding what to select for the portfolio are available on the English Department website under “Final Assessment.”

The Exit Survey

The Department has developed an online survey for you to complete during your senior year regarding your experiences as an English Major. It covers a range of topics, allowing you the opportunity to evaluate all dimensions of the department and the program and activities it sponsors. You will be asked to complete the survey online-- http://oshkosh.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_qlsuoNH4IEOSP09 –after you have completed your English coursework.