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ENGLISH B.A. PROGRAM HANDBOOK

Intended for the English B.A. major, this handbook contains important information about advising, fulfilling requirements for graduation, declaring Tracks, and planning for a career. It's a good idea to keep it with all of your official papers, and you should bring it with you each time you meet with your advisor. Some of the information here is also available via various links on the English Department's webpage (www.iup.edu/english), and the handbook itself will also be available under "Forms and Documents."

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CONTENTS

	<u>page</u>
Mission Statement	2
Advising	3
Curriculum	4-12
<i>Liberal Studies Requirements</i>	4
<i>B.A. in English Studies</i>	
<i>Requirements</i>	4-6
<i>B.A. Checklist</i>	7-8
<i>Declaring Multiple Tracks</i>	9
<i>Frequently Asked Questions about the Curriculum</i>	9-11
<i>Sample Student 4-Year Schedule</i>	11-12
Internships	13
Organizations and Activities	13-15
What to do if.	15-16
What to Do with an English Major	16-21
<i>Career Development Center</i>	17
<i>"Resources for English Majors" by Dr. Laurel Black</i>	18-21

Mission Statement of the English B.A. Major at IUP

The following was approved by the department when the B.A. Program was revised in 2009.

The BA Program in English prepares students to become

- Skillful interpreters of language and literature who can read, write, and think critically; listen attentively; and express themselves effectively in diverse contexts;
- Responsible citizens with a critical foundation to appreciate, analyze, and create various kinds of texts in ways that can contribute to life-long growth in a variety of personal, intellectual, and professional pursuits.

The program offers a course of study for achieving these goals that embodies four kinds of knowledge—historical, civic, personal, and professional—to help students

- Learn methods for examining the historical, ethical, and aesthetic dimensions of texts;
- Develop an understanding of how language and literature have shaped past and present cultures;
- Practice diverse forms of literacy (reading, writing, speaking, performing) that engage with and respond to various local, regional, national, and international cultural contexts;
- Acquire the proficiency in oral and written communication needed to enter the wide variety of professions in which literacy and language play crucial roles.

To meet these objectives, the program combines structure and flexibility in its combination of required and elective course work. Flexibility is also key to course work in its emphasis on literary, filmic, oral, performance, and electronic texts, and both creative and discursive writing experiences. Through various curricular and extra-curricular activities and a combination of professional advising and peer mentoring guidance, the program seeks to accommodate student interests and involve students in a community of scholars and creative individuals.

The B.A. in English Studies reflects the diversity of subject matter, methods, and purposes of this vital, constantly evolving field. BA majors will have the opportunity to pursue the traditional concern of literary study—the careful analysis of canonized works—as well as encounter and analyze texts by members of traditionally marginalized groups and texts that are nontraditional or innovative in form and content. We encourage students to design their course of study so that they can be active and capable members of the global community and effective contributors to the multicultural workplace. To these ends, the department is committed to promoting and supporting an intellectual environment in which minority writers, nontraditional texts, and a variety of critical perspectives are an integral part of the curriculum.

ADVISING

University policy requires that every student have an advisor. It is your responsibility to find out the name of your advisor; you can do so by contacting the English Department office or checking your URSA account. You may email or telephone to contact your advisor for an appointment or leave a note in his/her mailbox in 110 Leonard. If you cannot make contact with your advisor after several attempts, tell the English Department secretary and/or the English B.A. Director.

It's impossible to overstate the importance of contacting and meeting with your advisor at least once a semester. In fact, you will not be able to register for classes without your PIN, which only your advisor can give you. You should set up the appointment with your advisor as early in the registration process as possible, which is mid-October for spring scheduling and mid-March for fall. If you wait too long to meet with your advisor, you're bound to run into one of the following problems: 1) your advisor will be too busy to meet with you when you want; 2) all the courses you want or need will already be filled.

You should regularly check your IUP email account because important announcements about upcoming courses are often made via email from the English B.A. Director.

Remember that it is ultimately your responsibility to know and to meet the requirements and procedures for graduating with a Bachelor of Arts degree in English.

CURRICULUM

Liberal Studies Requirements

Required of all English majors, these courses serve as a foundation for a Liberal Arts education. IUP's Liberal Studies curriculum is currently in the process of revision. While the following lists the requirements as of Fall 2012, make sure that you always check requirements in the latest Undergraduate Catalog (which can be found online via URSA) and that you're using the most recently revised English B.A. Checklist (available via the English Undergraduate Programs webpage).

LIBERAL STUDIES (49-50 cr)

Humanities [18cr]

ENGL 101 College Writing
 ENGL 122 Intro to Engl Studies
 ENGL 202 Research Writing

HIST 195 Hum. History
 Hum: Phil/RelSt
 Fine Arts:Th/Music/Art

Math/Natural Science [10-11 cr]

Math

Science: either 2 lab science courses
 or 1 lab and 1 non-lab courses

Social Sciences [9 cr]

Health [3 cr]: HPED/FDNT 143

Liberal Studies Electives [9-11 cr]: 2 foreign language courses can count, with the "intermediate" fulfilling the college language requirement. While CRLG courses can fulfill this language requirement, they do not count as Liberal Studies Electives.

Important note about ENGL 122 Introduction to English Studies: Since ENGL 122 fulfills a Liberal Studies requirement, it does not also count toward the English major. It is, however, a prerequisite for most major courses and is a requirement for graduating with a degree in English. You should take ENGL 122 as soon as possible since it is indeed designed to be an introduction to English Studies.

B.A. in English Studies Requirements

The 36 credits of the major are distributed as follows: 15 hours in Core courses, 15 hours in Track courses, and 6 hours in English Elective courses.

15 credits in Core courses (required of all English B.A. majors)

2 of the following lit survey courses	1 of the following writing courses	1 of the following language courses	Plus the Capstone course
British Literature: ENGL 210 ENGL 211	Advanced Composition: ENGL 220	Intro to Language Studies: ENGI 203	Topics in English Studies: ENGL 484
American Literature: ENGL 212	Technical Writing: ENGL 221	Rhetorical Trends and Traditions: ENGL 313	
Contemporary British/American Literature: ENGL 213	Creative Writing: ENGL 222	Intro to Linguistics: ENGL 328	
Global Literature: ENGL 226			

15 credits in Track courses: You'll need to declare one of the following tracks by obtaining a form from the English office.

English—Film Studies Track

The Film Studies Track enables students to design a course of study in the history, meaning, function, and aesthetics of films of all genres and countries of origin. A student who completes the Film Studies Track will be able to recognize major developments in the

history of film; apply the analytical skills and methods best suited to comprehend the significance and aesthetics of films; analyze the ways visual imagery interacts with audience, culture, medium, and ideology; and recognize and analyze the ways in which films communicate ideas about race, gender, sexual orientation, and identity. The Film Studies Track prepares students for any profession that requires strong analytic, cultural, and aesthetic skills and for academic study in film and cultural studies.

Required Course: ENGL 208 Introduction to Film Studies
4 courses chosen from menu (see B.A. Checklist)

English—Language Studies Track

The Language Studies Track enables students to design a course of study in language development, structure, and use. A student who completes the Language Studies Track will be able to identify and analyze the social and political applications of language used by and about speakers, writers and subjects from both dominant and underrepresented linguistic communities; apply an increased language sensibility to personal, academic, social, and professional communication; and analyze specific discourse types and contexts. The Language Studies Track prepares students for any profession that requires strong analytic skills and for academic study in rhetoric and linguistics.

Required Course: ENGL 203 Intro. to Language Studies
4 courses chosen from menu (see B.A. Checklist)

English—Literary, Textual, and Cultural Studies Track

The Literary, Textual, and Cultural Studies Track enables students to design a course of study in the history, meaning, function, and aesthetics of texts of all kinds, especially literary texts. A student who completes the Literary, Textual and Cultural Studies Track will be able to identify the unique material, symbolic, formal, and aesthetic qualities of texts of all kinds, especially literary texts; apply the analytical skills and methods best suited to comprehend the significance of texts; analyze the ways that texts of all kinds interact with audience, culture, medium and ideology; evaluate the role of theory—its methods, history, politics, and functions—in literary, textual, and cultural studies analysis; and examine the ways in which questions of race, gender, sexual orientation, and identity affect our interactions with both traditional and nontraditional literature and theory. The Literary, Textual, and Cultural Studies Track prepares students for any profession that requires strong analytic, communication, cultural, and aesthetic skills and for academic study in literary and cultural studies.

Required Course: ENGL 308 Critical Theory
4 courses chosen from menu (see B.A. Checklist)

English—Writing Studies Track

The Writing Studies Track enables students to design a course of study in the theory and practice of writing in a variety of genres. A student who completes the Writing Studies Track will be able to demonstrate skills in the analysis, construction, and presentation of texts; identify and apply productive, effective, and creative approaches to writing tasks for diverse audiences; and create a portfolio of writing for use in applying to graduate programs or for professional positions. The Writing Studies Track prepares students for any career that requires professional writing skills.

2 Craft and Genre courses, chosen from menu (see B.A. Checklist)
1 Forms and Theories course, chosen from menu (see B.A. Checklist)
2 Studio/Portfolio Courses, chosen from menu (see B.A. Checklist)

English Pre-law Studies Track

The English Studies/Pre-Law Track enables students to design a course of study in the history and practice of persuasive communication, interpretation, and the cultural power of literary representation. A student who completes the Pre-Law Track will be able to identify,

evaluate, and apply varied forms of analysis and argumentation; read, write, speak, and think in thoughtful, informed, persuasive fashion; understand and distinguish the culturally and historically specific relationships among language, cultural power, and interpretation, both in terms of persuasive writing and speech and the literary representations of minorities. The Track should also enable students to do well on law school admissions essays and examinations in law school.

Required Course: ENGL 265 Law and Literature

2 courses in persuasion, chosen from menu (see B.A. Checklist)

1 writing course, chosen from menu (see B.A. Checklist)

1 course focusing on connections among language, cultural power, and interpretation, chosen from menu (see B.A. Checklist)

6 credits in English Electives: To complete your 36 hours for the major, you can choose any two courses with an ENGL prefix, except for those that count toward Liberal Studies credits (ENGL 101, 122, 121, and 202). Keep in mind, though, that you can use these 6 credits toward a second Track if you choose (see page 8).

With 36 credits required in English coursework and 49-50 in Liberal Studies, you will still have plenty of credits left to complete the 120 required to graduate and thus plenty of time to develop other interests, including a minor or even a second major. In addition to creating these sorts of academic connections, you should explore links between your scholarship and professional goals by seeking an internship in the summer of your junior or senior year (see page 12). You should explore those options carefully with your advisor.

ENGLISH B.A. CHECKLIST (revised spring 2012)
[always use current Catalog with this checklist]

Name: _____
 Advisor: _____

Banner ID: _____
 Current semester: _____

I. LIBERAL STUDIES (49-50cr)

Humanities [18cr]

ENGL 101 College Writing 3____
 ENGL 122 Intro to Engl Studies 3____
 ENGL 202 Research Writing 3____
 HIST 195 Hum: History 3____
 Hum: Phil/RelSt _____ 3____
 Fine Arts:Th/Music/Art _____ 3____

Math/Natural Science [10-11cr]

Math _____ 3____

Either 2 lab sciences in sequence:

Lab Science 1 _____ 4____
 Lab Science 2 _____ 4____

[example: BIO 103/104 and 105/106]

or 1 lab and 1 non-lab sciences:

Lab Science _____ 4____
 Non-lab Sci _____ 3____

Social Sciences [9cr] *[Must have different prefixes]*

_____ 3____
 _____ 3____
 _____ 3____

*Pre-law majors: see below

Health: HPED/FDNT 143 3____

Liberal Studies Electives [9-11 cr]

*2 lang. courses, with 2nd one "intermediate";
 combination depends on lang. NOTE: while
 CRLG courses count toward Lang. req., they do
 not count toward LBST req. [see Catalog pps 40-2]*

Language II or III _____ 3/4____
 Language III or IV OR Elective _____ 3/4____
 Elective _____ 3____

[See catalog for LBST Elective choices]

*Pre-law majors: see below

Non-Western Culture ** 1 course

Writing Intensive ** 2 courses

***not extra classes; fulfill through LBST reqs; WI can both be in major.*

*** Pre-law Track (24cr): select 7 courses from the following list; at least one in each of the 6 areas; see back from English Pre-law Track**

Business: ACCT 201, ACCT 202, BLAW 235 _____
Criminology: CRIM 210, 215, 255 _____
Economics: ECN 121, 122, 332 _____
History: HIST 320, 321, 346 _____
Philosophy: PHIL 101, 110, 222, 450 _____
Political Science: PLSC 358, 359, 361 _____

II. MAJOR COURSES (36cr)

Core Courses (15 cr)

2 of the following lit survey courses:

ENGL 210 Brit Lit to 1660 3____
 ENGL 211 Brit Lit 1660-1900 3____
 ENGL 212 Am Lit to 1900 3____
 ENGL 213 Brit/Am Lit since 1900 3____
 ENGL 226 Global Lit Survey 3____

1 of the following writing courses:

ENGL 220 Adv Comp 3____
 ENGL 221 Cr Writing 3____
 ENGL 222 Tech Writing 3____

1 of the following language courses:

ENGL 203 Intro to Language St 3____
 ENGL 313 Rhet Trends/Traditions 3____
 ENGL 328 Intro to Linguistics 3____

Capstone course: ENGL 484 Topics in Engl St 3____

Electives (6cr)

Any 2 courses with ENGL prefix except 100, 101, 121, 122, and 202

_____ 3____
 _____ 3____

Track Courses (15cr) (see back; bolded titles indicate courses that fulfill multiple tracks)

SEE YOUR ADVISOR FOR HELP DECLARING ONE OR MORE TRACKS.

III. FREE ELECTIVES (28-30cr; can be used for double major, minor[s], double Tracks, etc.)

<p>Film Studies Track (15cr) declaring _____</p> <p><u>Required Course:</u> ENGL 208 Introduction to Film Studies 3__</p> <p><u>4 courses chosen from:</u> ENGL 332 Film Genres 3__ ENGL 350 Gender/Sexual Orientation in Lit, Theory, Film 3__ ENGL 440 Major Figures in Film 3__ ENGL 450 Film Theory 3__ ENGL 460 Topics in Film 3__ ENGL 463 Topics in Global Lit/Film 3__</p>	<p>Language Studies Track (15cr) declaring _____</p> <p><u>Required Course:</u> ENGL 203 Intro. to Language Studies 3__</p> <p><u>4 courses chosen from:</u> ENGL 313 Rhetorical Trends/Traditions 3__ ENGL 321 Persuasive Sp/Writing 3__ ENGL 328 Introduction to Linguistics 3__ ENGL 330 Structure of English 3__ ENGL 333 Psycholinguistics 3__ ENGL 336 Language, Gender, & Society 3__ ENGL 426 ESL Methods and Materials 3__</p>
<p>Writing Studies Track (15cr) declaring _____</p> <p><u>2 Craft and Genre courses, chosen from:</u> ENGL 220 Advanced Composition 3__ ENGL 221 Creative Writing 3__ ENGL 222 Technical Writing 3__ ENGL 321 Persuasive Speech and Writing 3__ ENGL 325 Writing Poetry 3__ ENGL 326 Writing Fiction 3__ ENGL 327 Writing Creative Nonfiction 3__ ENGL/THTR 347 Playwriting 3__ ENGL 421 Digital Writing 3__</p> <p><u>1 Forms and Theories course, chosen from:</u> ENGL 308 Critical Theory 3__ ENGL 335 Literary Nonfiction 3__ ENGL 340 The Novel 3__ ENGL 341 Poetry 3__ ENGL 342 Short Fiction 3__ ENGL 343 Drama 3__ ENGL 450 Film Theory 3__</p> <p><u>2 Studio/Portfolio Courses, chosen from:</u> ENGL 360 Editing and Publishing 3__ ENGL 420 WritersøStudio 3__ ENGL 483 Honors Thesis 3__ ENGL 493 Internship* 3__</p> <p>*must be approved by BA Director as writing-related</p>	<p>Literary, Textual, and Cultural Studies Track (15cr) declaring _____</p> <p><u>Required Course:</u> ENGL 308 Critical Theory 3__</p> <p><u>4 courses chosen from:</u> ENGL 210 British Literature -1660 3__ ENGL 211 British Literature 1660-1900 3__ ENGL 212 American Literature -1900 3__ ENGL 213 Brit/Am Lit 1900-present 3__ ENGL 225 Intro to Lit by Women 3__ ENGL 226 Survey of Global Literature 3__ ENGL 265 Law and Literature 3__ ENGL 301 British Medieval Literature 3__ ENGL 302 Renaissance Literature 3__ ENGL 303 British Enlightenment Lit 3__ ENGL 304 British Romantic Literature 3__ ENGL 305 British Victorian Literature 3__ ENGL 306 Modern British Literature 3__ ENGL 307 Contemporary British Lit 3__ ENGL 315 American Literature -1820 3__ ENGL 316 American Literature 1820-80 3__ ENGL 317 American Lit 1880-1940 3__ ENGL 319 American Lit ópresent 3__ ENGL 335 Literary Nonfiction 3__ ENGL 337 Myth 3__ ENGL 338 Oral Literature 3__ ENGL 340 The Novel 3__ ENGL 341 Poetry 3__ ENGL 342 Short Fiction 3__ ENGL 343 Drama 3__ ENGL 344 Ethnic-American Literature 3__ ENGL 348 African-American Literature 3__ ENGL 349 Bible as Literature 3__ ENGL 350 Gender/Sexual Orientation in Lit, Th, Film 3__ ENGL 354 Classical Lit in Translation 3__ ENGL 361 Environmental Lit 3__ ENGL 385 Adv Studies in Women's Lit 3__ ENGL 386 Regional Lit in English 3__ ENGL 387 Irish Literature 3__ ENGL 396 Lit of Emerging Nations 3__ ENGL 398 Global Genres 3__ ENGL 430 Major British Authors 3__ ENGL 432 Chaucer 3__ ENGL 434 Shakespeare 3__ ENGL 436 Major American Authors 3__ ENGL 437 Major Global Authors 3__ ENGL 450 Film Theory 3__ ENGL 461 Topics in British Literature 3__ ENGL 462 Topics in American Literature 3__ ENGL 463 Topics in Global Lit and Film 3__ ENGL 466 Topics in Theory 3__</p>
<p>Pre-Law Studies Track (15cr) declaring _____</p> <p><u>Required Course:</u> ENGL 265 Law and Literature 3__</p> <p><u>2 courses in persuasion, chosen from:</u> ENGL 313 Rhetorical Trends and Traditions 3__ ENGL 321 Persuasive Speech/Writing 3__ ENGL 310 Public Speaking 3__</p> <p><u>1 writing course, chosen from:</u> ENGL 220 Advanced Composition 3__ ENGL 221 Creative Writing 3__ ENGL 222 Technical Writing 3__ ENGL 325 Writing Poetry 3__ ENGL 326 Writing Fiction 3__ ENGL 327 Writing Creative Nonfiction 3__ ENGL 421 Digital Writing 3__</p> <p><u>1 course focusing on connections among language, cultural power, and interpretation, chosen from:</u> ENGL 225 Intro to Literature by Women 3__ ENGL 308 Critical Theory 3__ ENGL 336 Language, Gender, and Society 3__ ENGL 344 Ethnic-American Literature 3__ ENGL 348 African-American Literature 3__ ENGL 350 Gender/Sexual Orientation in Lit, Th, Film 3__ ENGL 385 Advanced Studies in Women's Literature 3__ ENGL 396 Literature of Emerging Nations 3__ ENGL 466 Topics in Theory 3__</p>	

Declaring Multiple Tracks

It is possible to complete more than one Track since only 15 credits total in Track courses are required. In fact, "multi-tracking" is not only possible, but often desirable since it demonstrates your academic breadth and your transcripts will reflect the accomplishment. If you plan wisely, you should be able to fulfill a second Track without taking any more than one extra course. Courses that can fulfill requirements in more than one Track are in bold on the B.A. Checklist (see page 7). Talk to your adviser about the possibilities for multi-Tracking.

Here are two examples.

- *Example 1:* Declaring both Film Studies (FS) and Literary, Textual, and Cultural Studies (LTCS)
FS Intro to Film Studies
FS Film Genres
LTC Critical Theory
LTC Contemporary British Lit
FS and LTC Gender and Sexual Orientation in Lit, Theory, and Film
FS and LTC Topics in Global Lit and Film
FS and LTC Film Theory

These seven courses not only fulfill the 15 credits required of each declared Track, but also total 21 credits. Those 21 credits plus the 15 Core course credits equal 36 credits, the total required for the major. In other words, that total of 36 credits also means that no additional courses are necessary as English Electives.

- *Example 2:* Language Studies (LS) and Pre-law Studies
LS Intro to Language Studies
LS Structure of English
Pre-law Law and Literature
Pre-law Adv Composition
LS and Pre-law Gender, Language, and Society
LS and Pre-law Rhetorical Trends and Traditions
LS and Pre-law Persuasive Speaking and Writing

These seven courses not only fulfill the 15 credits required of each declared Track, but also total 21 credits. Those 21 credits plus the 15 Core course credits equal 36 credits, the total required for the major. In other words, that total of 36 credits also means that no additional courses are necessary as English Electives.

Frequently Asked Questions about the Curriculum

I took ENGL 121 before declaring English as my major (or at the college I previously attended). Why do I still have to take ENGL 122?

ENGL 122 fulfills the Liberal Studies literature requirements for majors; thus, it counts toward the hours required of Liberal Studies, not the English major. More important, ENGL 122 is considerably different than 121 because it is designed specifically for majors. It is also considerably different than courses offered by other universities since a major component of the course is to introduce students to the various fields of English Studies.

Can I use the same course to fulfill both Core and Track requirements?

No. For example, if you count ENGL 221 Creative Writing as fulfilling your Core writing course, you cannot also use it toward your Writing Studies Track. A simple “rule” to remember is that you must have at least 36 credit hours in the major: 15 in Core courses, 15 in Track courses, and 6 in English Electives. So when you’re filling out your form for declaring a Track, make sure there’s no “double-dipping” being done with Core and Track courses.

This “no double-dipping” rule, however, does not apply to courses counting in more than one Track. See page 8 for how to “multi-Track.”

I transferred from another university; how are my credits transferred?

Only the IUP Registrar’s Office and the dean’s office have the authority to decide which of your transfer credits might count toward fulfilling Liberal Studies and graduation requirements. However, the English Department can help with what might count toward requirements in the major. The Chair and Assistant Chair can authorize substitutions for specific requirements; you can also talk to the English B.A. Director about how a course might transfer into your English curriculum.

I can’t decide which track to choose; what should I do?

ENGL 122 Intro to English Studies includes a unit on the different areas of English Studies—Film Studies, Language Studies, Writing Studies, and Pre-law Studies—while maintaining a focus on analysis that is an essential part of Literary, Textual, and Cultural Studies. Thus, if you’re a new major, you’ll be getting an introduction to all the tracks right from the beginning.

In addition, the Core requirements have been designed to give every student a taste of most of the Tracks. So, for example, if you’re not sure what the Language Studies Track involves, your Core language course should give you that taste. And since two English electives are required (any course with the ENGL prefix except for ENGL 102, 121/122, and 202), you can use those credits to check out Intro to Film Studies or Law and Literature, for example.

Do I have to officially declare a Track?

Yes! You must fill out and submit a form—available from your advisor or in the English office—to be considered officially in the Track of your choice.

I’m really interested in the Literary, Textual, and Cultural Studies Track, but there are so many courses in the track that I don’t know how to decide what to take. How should I be making my choices?

While you can take whatever courses you want in that track (beyond the required ENGL 308), we recommend that you consider “concentrating” in a particular area. Here are some examples.

- Example 1: If you’re interested in global literature, you can choose four of the following: Survey of Global Lit, Lit of Emerging Nations, Global Genres, Global Authors, Topics in Global Lit and Film.
- Example 2: If you’re interested in traditionally marginalized groups, you can choose four of the following: Intro to Lit by Women; Ethnic-American Lit; African-American

Lit; Gender and Sexual Orientation in Literature, Theory, and Film; Environmental Lit; Advanced Studies in Women’s Lit; and Lit of Emerging Nations.

These are only examples since there are so many possibilities; you should follow your own interests and design your own area with the help of your advisor.

I’m really interested in the Writing Studies Track (WST), but not necessarily creative writing; will this track work for me?

Yes! The B.A. Program in general can prepare you for writing on the job in practically any career, and several writing courses in particular can give you the credentials for many professional writing careers. Here’s what such a Track might look like:

- o Two Craft and Genre courses: Tech Writing and Digital Writing
- o One Forms and Theories course: Critical Theory
- o Two Studio/Portfolio/Career Prep courses: Professional Writing, Editing, and Publishing; and three credits of an internship requiring writing and/or editing work

Is it possible to declare more than one Track?

Yes! In fact, if you can complete two Tracks without extending your graduation date, this is a great route to go. While you must complete five Core courses, there are many courses that can do “double duty” in multiple Tracks. See page 8 for more details.

I’ve heard that I need to complete a portfolio for the revised major; what does that entail?

English majors who have taken ENGL 122 Intro to English Studies have heard about the need to save their work from English major courses since this will comprise the material for the required portfolio. The actual creation of your portfolio will be a part of your experience in the required Core Capstone course ENGL 484.

Sample Student 4-Year Schedule

Below is an example of a 4-year schedule for an English major initially declaring the Writing Studies Track. To see how the courses are counted, use the B.A. Checklist (pages 6-7).

First two years of coursework (63 credits total)

1st semester	2nd semester	3rd semester	4th semester
LBST reqs: ENGL 101 ART 101 MATH 101 PSYC 101 HPED 143	LBST reqs: ENGL 122 (req. of major) HIST 195 PHIL 101 BIO 101 (lab, 4 cr) SOC 151	LBST reqs: ENGL 202 BIOL 114 ANTH 110 SPAN 102 (4 cr) ENGL Core: ENGL 211	LBST reqs: SPAN 201 (4 cr) WMST 200 ENGL Core: ENGL 212 ENGL 220 ENGL 203
15 credits	16 credits	16 credits	16 credits

With all Liberal Studies and most of the English core requirements completed during the first two years, this student can now concentrate on putting together the best combination of English courses during her/his last two years. The student’s use of WMST 200 to complete the Liberal Studies Electives requirements also works as the beginning of a 15-credit minor in Women’s Studies.

Third year of coursework (30 credits)

5th semester	6th semester: finishing WMST minor
WMST minor: ANTHO 350 ENGL 225* ENGL WS Track: ENGL 222 ENGL 308* ENGL Elective: ENGL 208	WMST minor: ENGL 350* WMST 400 ENGL WS Track: ENGL 360 ENGL Elective: ENGL 332
15 credits	12 credits (15 after the summer) ENGL WS Track: summer ENGL 493 internship

Choosing courses wisely makes declaring a second track—in Literary/Textual/Cultural Studies—possible. Notice that ENGL 225 and 350 work for both Women’s Studies and English credits, and ENGL 308 works for both the Writing and the LTC Studies Tracks. Opting for a summer internship will make completing the Writing Studies Track much easier as well as provide invaluable experience. What is more, pursuing another interest has led this student to take two film courses (ENGL 208 and 332) as English Electives; since ENGL 350 is another film course (in addition to counting toward the Women’s Studies minor), this student can easily complete a third Track, in Film Studies, as well.

Fourth year of coursework (27 credits)

7th semester: finishing WS and LTCS Tracks	8th semester: opting to declare 3rd Track in Film Studies and finishing it; completing Core reqs.
ENGL WS Track: ENGL 360 ENGL LTCS Track: ENGL 385* ENGL 450* ENGL 463*	ENGL Core: ENGL 484 ENGL FS Track: ENGL 460 Free Electives: ** XXX XXX XXX
12 credits	15 credits

*These are all courses that do “double duty”: fulfilling both Women’s Studies and English credits, fulfilling Writing Studies and LTC Studies Track credits, and fulfilling Film Studies and LTC Studies Track credits.

*** Since all required credits for the three Tracks and the minor are fulfilled by the last semester, this student has many options for fulfilling the necessary 9 credits to reach the 120 necessary to graduate. In fact, since he/she already has 6 credits in Anthropology classes, a minor of 15 credits might be possible.

While this model of a 4-year schedule is only offered as an example, a few principles it illustrates apply to all B.A. majors:

- Try to complete most if not all of your Liberal Studies requirements in the first two years. Not only will that strategy allow you to concentrate on your major during your last two years, but it may also help you discover other interests that can lead to a second major or at least a minor. In any case, make sure you’re not putting off particular courses because you don’t like the subject or fear that you won’t do well.
- Try to take your English Core courses as soon as possible so that they truly work as a foundation for later specialization in your chosen Track.
- Consider pursuing a minor, which is bound to make your transcripts look stronger.
- Consider declaring more than one Track (see page 8).

INTERNSHIPS

An internship is an educational plan that integrates classroom experience in industrial, business, government, or community-service work situations. It allows students to translate academic principles into action, to test career interests, and to develop skills and abilities through carefully planned and supervised programs related to the degree they are seeking.

Recent internships completed by English majors include the following:

- Media and entertainment organizations such as Comcast Sportsnet and Network, WQED, and the Pittsburgh Penguins
- IUP departments and offices such as Communication and Media, Office of Housing and Residence Life, and APSCUF
- Publications such as *Our Town: The Ebensburg Magazine* and *The Johnstown Tribute Democrat Newspaper*
- Libraries and institutes such as American Philatelic Research Library, IUP Library, Keppler Speakers, and The Washington Institute
- Publishers such as Marvel Comics, Sterling House Publishing Company, and 6 Gallery Press
- Law organizations such as Laurel Legal Service and the District Attorney of Armstrong County

Any internship taken to fulfill credits for the Writing Studies Track must involve creative/professional writing, editing, and/or publishing in some significant way and be approved by the curriculum committee. A form for requesting that an internship count toward that track is available in the office, as is the college form for requesting any internship.

Internships work best (and the dean is most likely to approve of them) during the summer, which means that you should start working on finding one as soon as possible, ideally in the fall for the next summer.

If you're interested in pursuing an internship, contact the English internship coordinator, Dr. Judith Villa (jvilla@iup.edu). Additional information about internships is available at [IUP Internships](#).

ORGANIZATIONS AND ACTIVITIES

An important part of your experience as an English major includes involvement in student activities and organizations. Becoming involved is not only a way to have fun; it is also your link to program information, strong letters of recommendation, ideas that help to round-out your training as a college graduate, leadership roles, and maybe even a career or graduate school admission. Check with the English Department secretary for the names of faculty advisors and/or student presidents of these organizations. While most have their own web pages and/or Facebook pages, flyers for upcoming events are always posted around Leonard.

- Sigma Tau Delta: The mission of this international English Honor Society is to promote interest and excellence in the university's English major and minor students. Membership in this organization is open to all English majors and minors who possess at least a 3.0 QPA, are enrolled as IUP students,

and have taken at least three semesters of classes and two English courses. Membership provides cultural stimulation and promotes interest in literature, language, and literacy. The organization also provides scholarship and publishing opportunities.

- New Growth Arts Review: The purpose of The New Growth Arts Review organization is to publish an annual literary magazine. Any student or faculty member of Indiana University of Pennsylvania may submit prose, poetry, photography, or artwork to the magazine. The editorial staff is comprised primarily of English majors.
- English Club: The mission of the English Club is to foster a strong sense of community within the English community, bringing together students to participate in their love of language and literature. Membership in this organization is open to all IUP students. Affiliated with the English Club is the Book Club, which votes on a book to read in common each semester (copies of the selected book can be checked out from the English office). Members then meet to discuss the book over pizza.
- English Undergraduate Conference: Every spring English majors present papers, hold discussions, and conduct creative performances at a one-day conference on campus. This is an excellent opportunity for students to showcase their work and gain experience talking about their scholarship in a professional environment.
- IUP Undergraduate Scholars Forum: This conference provides all undergraduate students with an opportunity for scholarly development by presenting their original research, scholarly activities and creative endeavors. Forum participation is designed to foster scholarship and collegiality among undergraduate students and faculty members and to provide a forum for undergraduate students to discuss their academic work with a community of scholars.
- Other state and regional associations that encourage undergraduate conference participation: EAPSU (English Association of Pennsylvania State Universities) and PCEA (Pennsylvania College English Association) hold annual conferences that encourage undergraduate submissions and participation.
- Oxford Summer Study Abroad: Travel to England in the summer and earn undergraduate or graduate college credits for art, English, nursing, philosophy, political science, theater, or cross-disciplinary study! IUP, in cooperation with other universities in Pennsylvania and Maryland, offers popular three-week Summer Study Abroad Program in Oxford, England. Classes and accommodations are provided at St. Edmund Hall, one of Oxford's oldest colleges. Check out the website for more information.

- Publishing opportunities for undergraduates:
<http://frank.mtsu.edu/~hcevents/journals.html>
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WHAT TO DO IF. . .

- **You aren't yet but want to be an English major?** You will need to declare the major by obtaining a Change of Major form in the English department office. After you have completed and submitted this form, your information will be entered into URSA; this process does take awhile, however. In the meantime, you should plan to meet with the English B.A. Director for advising until you have been assigned an advisor. Keep in mind that if URSA does not yet recognize you as an English major, you will not be allowed to register for some classes because they are reserved for majors. It's important, then, when you submit your Change of Major form, to tell the secretary which classes you want to register for in the upcoming semester.
- **You can't decide between a B.A. English degree or a B.S. English degree?** The B.S. degree is for students who desire a career in teaching English at the middle school, junior high, or high school level. English Education majors receive professional training for teaching, including methods courses and student teaching. They also receive thorough preparation in the subject matter areas of literature, language, and composition. English Education majors take many of the same courses as B.A. majors; the primary difference is that B.S. of Education majors take 19 credits in the English department related to teaching and 26 credits in the College of Education, while B.A. majors take 36 credits in English courses. A sincere commitment to teaching is necessary in the English Education program. Students who wish to major in English but are unsure about their career goals should probably opt for the B.A. program initially.
- **You are unable to register for an English class?** If you are a declared major, but URSA won't let you register for a particular ENGL course, the problem may be prerequisites that you haven't yet fulfilled. If that is the case, talk to your advisor; the two of you may want to contact either the department assistant chair or the English B.A. director. If you have fulfilled the prerequisites, the course may be closed because it is full. In that case, check with the English department secretary to see whether any seats are being held for English majors or if there is a waiting list to which you can add your name. You will also want to register for alternative classes; keep in mind that some courses are in strong demand, so always have a "plan B."
- **You haven't been receiving any email announcements from the B.A. English Director?** All kinds of important announcements are made throughout the semester via your IUP email account; if you've been checking but haven't been receiving any, you should contact the English department

secretary to get your address on the listserve.

- **You want some help with your writing?** Visit the IUP Writing Center (free to all students), located in 218 Eicher Hall.

WHAT TO DO WITH AN ENGLISH MAJOR

A wide variety of careers demand the kinds of skills that English majors develop:

- Teamwork
- Persuasion
- Constructive Criticism
- Understanding Human Nature
- Clarifying Ideas
- Comparing Interpretations
- Thinking Independently
- Creative Expression
- Presenting Alternative Viewpoints
- Interdisciplinary Exploration
- Public Speaking
- Fast and Comprehensive Reading Skills
- Developing Hypotheses
- Summarizing Ideas
- Editing
- Oral and Written Communication
- Knowledge of Culture
- Symbolic Thinking

We in the English department strongly believe that the value of a humanities degree is learning how to think—a value that can lead to a career. Here are links to two articles supporting that claim:

- Daniel Luzer's blog for *Washington Monthly*, "Humanities Majors Will Be Fine": http://www.washingtonmonthly.com/college_guide/blog/humanities_majors_will_be_fine.php
- And the article that Luzer references in that blog, Elizabeth Murphy's "IT Jobs for Non-Techies" in *Inside Higher Education*: <http://www.insidehighered.com/news/2011/12/16/conagra-recruits-nontraditional-students-it-internship>

A successful job search begins with good grades, professional growth and involvement, and strong letters of recommendation. Networking with other students about where the jobs are, what questions are asked at interviews, and how to create resumes are also important.

For samples of resumes and cover letters, you can visit the Writing Center, or visit its website at <http://www.iup.edu/writingcenter>.

IUP Career Development Center

Your single best source of information about careers and graduate studies is IUP's Career Development Center (302 Pratt): career-development@iup.edu

EktronJS,EktronD

The Career Development Center has put together a series of guides to aid you in your search, starting with finding jobs. The following are all links you can check out on the Center's website.

[Getting Started](#): Information about how to begin your job search.

[Electronic Job Search](#): Information on how to perform an electronic job search.

[Alumni Networking](#): IUP offers many networking opportunities for alumni.

[Resume and Cover Letter Writing](#): Information regarding resume and cover letter writing

[Job Search Tips Podcasts](#): The Career Development Center offers podcasts that discuss various career skills that include cover letter writing, resume development, professional attire tips, job fair tips, and information on how to use vault.com.

[Student Registration for On-Campus Interviews](#): On-campus interviews are available to current IUP students and recent alumni of all degrees and majors offered at IUP.

[Top Twenty Job Search Tips](#)

The Career Development Center can also help you decide whether or not graduate school is for you, what you'll need to do to prepare for graduate school, and how to apply. In general, if you're thinking about graduate school, you should know the following:

The typical applicant has

- at least a 3.0 average overall, higher within the major.
- 1000 minimum GRE score, 500 verbal.
- at least two enthusiastic, detailed recommendation letters from professors in English, and at least three letters total.
- A piece of scholarly writing (ten to fifteen pages) that can impress admission committees.
- A broad range of literary experiences.*
- A solid sense of what he/she has done as an undergraduate and why he/she is interested in an advanced degree.*
- The ability to communicate clearly, stylishly, and professionally.*

*These qualities should be demonstrated in the portfolio you will be creating in ENGL 484.

Other tips:

- Applying is expensive: you should apply to at least five graduate programs of varied prestige and kind, and each application will cost about \$100 (fee, test reporting, transcript, postage, etc.).
- Know your schools: As one person has put it, "Research like your life depends on it"—because it does!
- Once you have a plausible offer, make phone calls, visit campus, talk to students and faculty members, dig into the campus newspaper (strikes, tenure decisions, etc.), grad student culture, seminar experience, job placement.
- Do not pay for graduate school: you should be a strong enough candidate to receive offers of fellowships and assistantships.
- Getting an advanced degree does not guarantee a teaching job: The profession is highly, highly competitive, particularly for jobs with lighter teaching loads and augmented research responsibilities.
- Diversify now: A second major, a concentration, foreign language.

“Resources for English Majors”

Created by Dr. Laurel Black, Fall 2011

- Check out this blog. It has lots of links to excellent articles debating the value of a degree (including a Ph.D.) in English, how you can leverage your communication skills into jobs, and what kinds of tech knowledge and skills you need to succeed.

<http://jobsforenglishmajors.com/>

- The article found at the College English Association looks at studies by various institutions which explore where English majors end up and what they do after graduation. What surprises some is that about 1/3 of the graduates wind up in business and service industries, but, over time, even more wind up attending law school.

<http://www2.widener.edu/~cea/382brown.htm>

- Winthrop University in Rock Hill, South Carolina, has a great page on what you can do with an English major, with excellent links. They focus on how you can translate your course content into skills, and though they note that graduate school and teaching in the field seem like obvious choices, graduates go into a wide range of fields.

<http://www2.winthrop.edu/english/undergraduate/careers.htm>

The obvious choices are teaching, graduate school, or becoming a writer, but graduates also excel in many other areas. Because English majors have learned how to write, analyze material, and communicate effectively, and are good problem solvers, they work in many different fields, including sales, management, advertising, and many others. English majors are found in program management, marketing, editing, reporting, creative and technical writing, public relations, medicine, social work, government work, non-profit organizations, and financial services. The kinds of text analysis, writing, and thinking English majors specialize in enhance their creativity, their understanding of human motivation, and their ability to present clear and logical arguments, both in writing and orally. And your foreign language education gives them a competitive advantage in today's multicultural employment market.

- The University of Texas has a 20-page booklet in PDF form that you can download that focuses on careers you may not have thought about moving into. While some of the booklet describes the university's own program, the rest lists jobs that can easily use your skill set. Reading through these, though, I would say that your MINOR and your INTERNSHIP will make a huge difference in what direction you travel next. Check it out here:

http://www.lifelearning.utexas.edu/handouts/booklets/SLCC_English%20Rhetoric%20and%20Writing.pdf.

A quick list of some of the careers they see grads moving into follows.

Alumni Relations & Development Specialist	Admissions	Student Services
Book Publicist/Packager		Business Writer/Copy Editor
Corporate Communications Manager		Grant Writer
Labor and Industrial Relations Specialist		Patient Advocate
Public Relations/Advertising/Marketing		Real Estate

Banking
 Management Consultant/Corporate Trainer
 Institutional Researcher

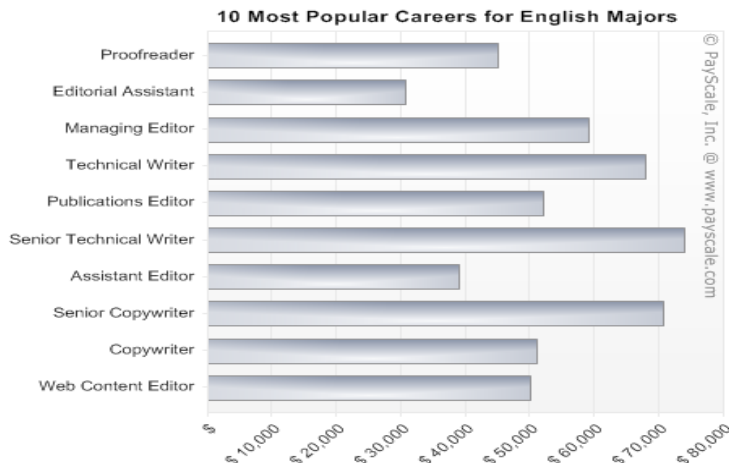
Meeting/Convention Planner
 Legislative Analysis/Assistant
 Market Research Analyst

- You can regularly check back to http://money.cnn.com/2000/09/01/career/q_degreeenglish/ in the Personal Finance page to check on jobs in your field. The following chart looks at where you can find a job with ONLY a bachelor's degree in English:

Top 10 Occupations that Employ Persons with only a Bachelor's Degree in English	
Percent of employed	
1.) Artists, broadcasters, writers, editors, entertainers, public relations specialists	10.7
2.) Top- and mid-level managers, executives, administrators	10.6
3.) Teachers, secondary school	10.6
4.) Insurance, securities, real estate, business services	5.9
5.) Secretaries, receptionists, typists	5.1
6.) Sales occupations, including retail	4.9
7.) Other management-related occupations	4.8
8.) Other administrative (record clerks, telephone operators)	4.8
9.) Teachers, elementary school	3.5
10.) Other service occupations, except health	3.2

→ Sourced: The College Majors Handbook

- The following site (<http://www.payscale.com/best-colleges/careers-for-english-majors.asp>) has updated info on careers in English along with the salaries each pays. For example



- IUP's Career Services Office has a one-page PDF on careers for English majors. It lists many of the jobs you can find on the Texas list. The site also lets you look at jobs in

other major fields, so you can see what overlaps. Check it out at <http://www.iup.edu/page.aspx?id=9913>

- The following site, part of the US Bureau of Labor Statistics, has a great 10-page PDF by Diana Gehlhaus about liberal arts majors and job skills. <http://www.bls.gov/opub/ooq/2007/winter/art01.pdf>
- Try reading: McNabb, Richard. "Making the Gesture: Graduate Student Submissions and the Expectation of Journal Referees." *Composition Studies* (29.1): 9-26. Helpful not just for grads but undergrads.

The bottom line is that while some majors easily funnel or channel graduates directly into a field, an English B.A. prepares you broadly for many careers and specifically for graduate programs. You need to look at your interests, your passions, your hobbies, other courses you've taken and enjoyed. Look carefully at your English classes: maybe you didn't like a course overall, but there was an assignment you really enjoyed. What did that involve? Where would you do something like that in a job?

MINORS at IUP: Have you selected a minor or even two minors? Can you double major? Did you know that there is a business minor for those in the Fine Arts? If you're thinking of running your own business, acting as a writing consultant for example, do you have the business skills you need?

Minors typically require students to take one or two classes; the rest of the 15-18 credit hours are electives. Some, like the minor mentioned above, offer less choice and are more structured. Your catalog has information on minors - you need to look carefully, because it is usually just a small paragraph. If a program does not offer a minor but you are interested in that field, you might create your own, "unofficial" minor. Often, after you have explained your interest to the department Chair or Assistant Chair, you can take courses limited to majors; you can get an over-ride.

Your minor can help you get an internship, can help you land a job, can put you in contact with those who are majoring in a different field, and can connect you to professors and professionals you might not otherwise meet.

INTERNSHIPS: All programs at IUP offer a 493 course: an internship. While some departments regularly support internships, others limit them. Usually, majors or minors in a department can register for an internship, and each department has an internship coordinator. In English, that's Dr. Judith Villa (jvilla@iup.edu).

Even if you find that you cannot take, for some reason, ENGL 493, you can do an internship without receiving credit. And if you can do an internship for free, at no cost to a company, most are happy to take you on. You may need to get letters of support to convince a company that, even without pay, you are worth the effort that goes into training someone. But those internships lead to connections with professionals in fields that interest you. They offer valuable skills, and they help you enter graduate school or look for employment with an advantage over students

who do not have such experiences to discuss or apply.

If you were interested in going to law school or working in politics, you could be an English major, political science minor, and do an internship using PLSC 493. Interested in being a science writer? Check out a minor in biology or chemistry.

WHAT ELSE CAN YOU DO?

- Are you a member of national organizations connected to English?
- Have you worked at the Writing Center?
- Have you helped with the New Growth Arts Review?
- Have you privately tutored other students?
- Have you submitted writing for publication at journals that focus on undergraduate scholarship and creative writing?
- Have you independently produced publications of some kind?
- Tried working at the bookstore?
- Worked for Admissions, Student Services, the Public Relations Office? Human Resources?
- If you have ten extra hours a week, can you volunteer your time to one of the campus offices where your communication skills can be useful?
- Volunteered your time during the summer at a business or organization?

It would be great if we could just sort of "fall into a job." But the more you prepare yourself, the more quickly you'll recognize an opportunity and the confidence you will have to apply.