Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of General Studies in English

Why study English language and literature?

Because reading and writing shape the world.

KU's English Department is at the core of the humanities, highlighting the "human" through our individual, one-on-one interactions with our students, our emphasis on community and global engagement, and our abiding interest in our shared humanity through the stories of others. We seek to challenge the mind and to engage the imagination of our students, to teach them to ask questions and to seek for answers. We encourage them to grapple with the complexity of a culturally and commercially interconnected world and the global networks and processes of cultural exchange. We believe that words and ideas will shape the world. We teach our students life-long skills, so that they learn to write clearly, creatively, and effectively—discovering themselves even as they lay a solid foundation for professional success.

A commitment to teaching and learning.

Our department is renowned for its tradition of excellence in teaching. The vast majority of our undergraduate classes have 20-35 students, and much of the class time is dedicated to active learning and engagement with texts and ideas. In the last ten years, faculty members in the department of English have won ten Kemper Fellowships for Excellence in Teaching, two Chancellors Club Teaching Professorships, a Career Achievement Teaching Award, and a wide variety of other university-level teaching and advising awards, and the department as a whole received the Center of Teaching Excellence (CTE) award for Department Excellence in Teaching at the University of Kansas.

A variety of career and life paths.

English majors graduate to a variety of careers, including law, teaching, scholarship, publishing, library science, and journalism—as well as medicine, politics, design, and any number of other fields that value clear communication, interpretive skill, and critical and creative thinking.

Engaged and innovative scholarship.

KU's English Department has several core strengths that cross tracks and periods, including Global and Cross-Cultural Approaches; Literature, Rhetoric, and Social Action; Diversity Studies; Language, Literature and Science; and Popular Expressive Forms.

At the KU English Department, students work closely with nationally-renowned writers and researchers. Our faculty have won national awards that recognize excellence in research, including grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the American Philosophical Society, and the Newberry Library, among others. English Department faculty members have also received major research funding from the University of Kansas, including the Hall Center for the Humanities Research fellowships and Keeler Intra-University Fellowships for interdisciplinary work. Undergraduate students can work one-on-one with faculty mentors in the Honors Program, McNair Scholars Program, and Dean's Scholars Program, as well as through independent Directed Studies.

Undergraduate Admission

Admission to KU

All students applying for admission must send high school and college transcripts to the Office of Admissions. Prospective first-year students should be aware that KU has qualified admission requirements that all new first-year students must meet to be admitted. Consult the Office of Admissions (http://admissions.ku.edu/) for application deadlines and specific admission requirements.

Visit the International Support Services (http://www.iss.ku.edu/) for information about international admissions.

Students considering transferring to KU may see how their college-level course work will transfer on the Office of Admissions (http://credittransfer.ku.edu/) website.

Undergraduate First- and Second-Year Preparation

Prospective English majors and minors are encouraged to complete their KU Core Goal 2.1 requirements and their BA degree-specific written communication requirements with English Department coursework (i.e., ENGL 101, ENGL 102 or ENGL 105, and 200-level ENGL courses). Students are strongly encouraged to take a 200-level English course before taking 300- and 400-level coursework in English. Prospective English majors are encouraged to consult with the Director or Associate Director of Undergraduate Studies in order to declare the major, review major and degree requirements, and become familiar with departmental opportunities.

Requirements for the B.A. or B.G.S. Major

The major in English requires 30 hours (33 for Honors English).

ENGL 300 Introduction to English Studies (3 hours – must be taken within first year of declaring the English major):

English Studies Coursework (21 hours, 300 or above)

This includes at least one course chosen from:

- Rhetoric, Language and Writing studies
- Literature, Language, or Rhetoric prior to 1850
- Diverse identities, communities, and texts

The remaining courses may be chosen from any 300-level or above English course offerings. For students who are interested in focusing on a specific area of study, they may follow the optional emphases path outlined below.

- One 200-level course may be counted toward English Studies coursework.

Capstone Requirements (6 hours, 500 or above)

- Students must complete ENGL 300 and 2 other 300-level courses before they proceed to the capstone requirements. All 500-level or above English courses count as capstone courses.
Students pursuing departmental honors may use ENGL 598 to fill one capstone requirement, and must also enroll in ENGL 599: Thesis hours.

### Breadth Requirements

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 359</td>
<td>English Grammar</td>
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<td>ENGL 360</td>
<td>Topics in Writing: _____</td>
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<td>ENGL 362</td>
<td>Foundations of Technical Writing</td>
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<td>ENGL 380</td>
<td>Introduction to Rhetoric and Composition</td>
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<td>ENGL 381</td>
<td>Topics in Rhetoric and Composition: _____</td>
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<td>ENGL 382</td>
<td>Composing Cultures</td>
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<td>ENGL 383</td>
<td>Cultural Rhetorics</td>
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<td>ENGL 385</td>
<td>The Development of Modern English</td>
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<td>ENGL 386</td>
<td>Language and Social Justice in the US</td>
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<td>ENGL 387</td>
<td>Introduction to the English Language</td>
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<td>ENGL 388</td>
<td>Topics in English Language Studies</td>
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<td>ENGL 389</td>
<td>Postcolonial and World Englishes</td>
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<td>ENGL 580</td>
<td>Rhetoric and Writing: _____</td>
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<td>ENGL 581</td>
<td>English Language Studies: _____</td>
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<td>ENGL 582</td>
<td>Multimedia/Multimodal Rhetorics</td>
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<td>ENGL 586</td>
<td>Language and Style</td>
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<td>ENGL 587</td>
<td>American English</td>
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<td>ENGL 601</td>
<td>Topics in British Literature to 1800: _____</td>
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<td>ENGL 610</td>
<td>The Literature of England to 1500</td>
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At least one course emphasizing diverse identities, communities, and texts

- ENGL 305 World Indigenous Literatures
- ENGL 306 Global Environmental Literature
- ENGL 326 Introduction to African Literature
- ENGL 336 Jewish American Literature and Culture
- ENGL 337 Introduction to U.S. Latino/a Literature
- ENGL 338 Introduction to African-American Literature
- ENGL 339 Introduction to Caribbean Literature
- ENGL 340 Topics in U.S. Ethnic Literature: _____
- ENGL 341 American Literature of Social Justice
- ENGL 342 Topics in Transcultural Literature, Language, or Rhetoric: _____
- ENGL 344 Black Feminist Theory
- ENGL 382 Composing Cultures
- ENGL 383 Cultural Rhetorics
- ENGL 386 Language and Social Justice in the US
- ENGL 389 Postcolonial and World Englishes
- ENGL 492 The London Review
- ENGL 530 Irish Literature and Culture: _____
- ENGL 572 Women and Literature: _____
- ENGL 574 African American Literature: _____
- ENGL 674 African Literature: _____

### Optional Emphases within the Major

- Students may pursue an emphasis in a particular field by taking at least 3 courses in it.
- These emphases include:
  - Literary Studies: one literary history course, one theory course, and one literary studies capstone
  - Creative Writing: 300-level workshops in two genres, and one creative writing capstone
  - Language, Culture, and Rhetoric: 380 or 387, another RCL course, and one RCL capstone
  - Students may also designate their own ‘custom’ emphasis, in consultation with a departmental advisor.

- 27 hours must be at the junior/senior level.
- No 100-level ENGL courses count toward major requirements.

### Notes:

- Up to 6 credits combined of ENGL 494 Research Internship or ENGL 495 Directed Study: _____ may be applied as major electives.
- Up to 3 credit hours of ENGL 496 Internship or ENGL 497 Service Learning Internship may be applied as a major elective.

### Major Hours & Major GPA

While completing all required courses, majors must also meet each of the following hour and grade-point average minimum standards:
Major Hours
Satisfied by 30 hours of major courses (33 for Honors English).

Major Hours in Residence
Satisfied by a minimum of 25 hours of KU resident credit in the major; exceptions by permission of Director of Undergraduate Studies only.

Major Junior/Senior Hours
Satisfied by a minimum of 27 hours from junior/senior courses (300+) in the major.

Major Junior/Senior Graduation GPA
Satisfied by a minimum of a 2.0 KU GPA in junior/senior courses (300+) in the major. GPA calculations include all junior/senior courses in the field of study including F's and repeated courses. See the Semester/Cumulative GPA Calculator (http://clas.ku.edu/undergrad/tools/gpa/).

Sample 4-year plans for the BA degree in English with the following concentrations can be found here: English General Track (http://catalog.ku.edu/liberal-arts-sciences/english/ba-bgs-english/ba-english/), Creative Writing (http://catalog.ku.edu/liberal-arts-sciences/english/ba-bgs-english/ba-english-creative-writing/), and Rhetoric, Language, and Writing (http://catalog.ku.edu/liberal-arts-sciences/english/ba-bgs-english/ba-english-rhetoric-language-writing/).

Sample 4-years plans for the BGS degree in English with the following concentrations can be found here: English General Track (http://catalog.ku.edu/liberal-arts-sciences/english/ba-bgs-english/BGS-in-English/), Creative Writing (http://catalog.ku.edu/liberal-arts-sciences/english/ba-bgs-english/BGS-in-English-with-concentration-in-Creative-Writing/), and Rhetoric, Language, and Writing (http://catalog.ku.edu/liberal-arts-sciences/english/ba-bgs-english/BGS-in-English-with-concentration-in-Rhetoric,-Language-and-Writing/), or by using the left-side navigation.

Departmental Honors
To be admitted to the English Honors major program, an undergraduate must have a 3.5 grade-point average in English courses.

Honors English majors must complete at least 1 section of ENGL 598 Honors Proseminar: _____ and ENGL 599 Honors Essay. This requirement, in effect, adds 3 hours of capstone-level coursework to the student's emphasis.