

Contact

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Admission Requirements

(In years as established by the college)

A high school diploma with the following specific courses:

- 4 English
 - 2 Algebra I & II
 - 1 Geometry
 - 2 Lab Science (*including biology*)
 - 2 History/Social Studies
 - 2 Foreign Language (*same language or two years of American Sign Language-ASL*)
- Academic electives (*to equal at least 17 total credits*)

To ensure current mathematical skills, students should take a mathematics course during their senior year of high school.

Major Requirements

- 36 credits English (beyond ENG 101)
 - 3 credits ENG 170 Foundations of Literary Analysis
 - 3 credits ENG 222 Reading Poems
 - 3 credits ENG 271 The Act of Interpretation
 - 9 credits in the chosen writing concentration
 - 15 credits Five literature courses at the 300 or 400 level including one British and one before 1800.
 - 3 credits One additional ENG course at the 200 level or higher
- CAPSTONE EXPERIENCE*

Students must choose a writing concentration within the English major. The three options are Creative Writing, Literary Critical Writing and Technical and Professional Writing. Each provides students with introductory and advanced instruction in the field, and prepares students for further education or for work in many professions. The writing concentration usually consists of a three course sequence beginning at the 200 or 300 level and culminating in directed writing or preprofessional experiences in the senior year.

Additional Field Requirement (one of the following)

1. Intermediate proficiency in a second language (to the 204 level in college courses or the equivalent)
2. A minor or equivalent, as approved by the advisor
3. A second major

120 Minimum total credit hours required for graduation

College of Liberal Arts & Sciences

Program Description

The Department of English offers its majors the creative and critical insights that come from access to the resources of the English language and comprehensive study of literatures written in English. Literature courses range from historical surveys to intense explorations of a single author; from classic texts to films and fiction in contemporary popular culture; from close reading and appreciation of a writer's craft to theoretic issues within broadly-based cultural studies. Students are encouraged to become active participants in the creation of new cultural realities.

English courses are also central to many interdisciplinary minors and concentrations, because the creative and analytical skills they develop are fundamental to many fields. Such interdisciplinary areas at the University of Maine include: New Media, Ethnic Studies, Women's Studies, Legal Studies, and Linguistics.

Career Opportunities

A Bachelor of Arts in English prepares students for a wide range of professions that require originality, creativity, critical and analytic power. It also prepares students for graduate work in law, business and the humanities.

General Education Requirements*

- ENG 101 College Composition
- 18 credits Human Values & Social Context area (*a single course may satisfy more than 1 sub-category, but a total of 18 credits must be completed*)
 - Western Cultural Tradition
 - Social Context & Institutions
 - Cultural Diversity & International Perspectives
 - Population & the Environment
 - Artistic & Creative Expression
- 2 courses Designated Writing Intensive (*1 must be within the major*)
- 2 courses Biological or Physical Sciences (*must include at least 1 laboratory course*)
- 1 course Ethics (*emphasis on discussion of ethical issues in 1 course or series of courses*)
- 6 credits Mathematics (*including statistics & some computer science, only 3 credits in computer science can count toward this requirement*)
- 1 capstone An approved experience in which the student integrates the components of his or her undergraduate training to perform at a professional level. The capstone experience is usually completed during the senior year in consultation with the student's academic advisor.

**All UMaine students must complete these general education requirements, which are counted in the total credit hours required for graduation and may be contained in the Major Requirements previously listed.*

Specialized Information

The English Department houses the National Poetry Foundation, an internationally recognized research center in modern and contemporary poetry, as well as the *Puckerbrush Review*, Maine's oldest literary magazine. Our New Writing Series brings 15-20 poets and fiction writers to campus every year; students have the opportunity to meet and work with a wide range of contemporary writers. Undergraduate majors edit and produce an annual literary magazine, *The Beggar*; graduate students are in charge of the *Stolen Island Review*. We also feature a nationally recognized peer tutoring program, which trains students to tutor in the Writing Center.

***Senior Capstone Requirement**

The senior capstone requirement applies to all majors in all concentrations. It may be satisfied in a number of ways appropriate to a student's interests and plans, and is normally a natural culmination to previous choices within the major. Most of the capstone options also satisfy other major requirements. Any one of the following courses or experiences may be used:

- ENG 395 - English Internship and at least one semester tutoring in the Writing Center. 3 credits.
- ENG 400 - level literature course in which the student writes a seminar-quality research paper. 3 credits.
- ENG 405: Topics in Creative Writing and approval of a manuscript. 3 credits.
- ENG 407: Advanced Fiction Writing and approval of a manuscript. 3 credits.
- ENG 408: Advanced Poetry Writing and approval of a manuscript. 3 credits.
- ENG 496 - Field Experience in Professional Writing. 3-6 credits.
- Approval of an Honors thesis with a topic in the areas of English studies. 6 credits.

Note: Students using ENG 395, ENG 405, ENG 407, ENG 408 or a 400 - level literature course as a capstone must register for ENG 499 (zero credit, zero tuition) during the semester they will complete tutoring (ENG 395) or complete the manuscript (ENG 405, ENG 407, or ENG 408) or write the research paper in the 400 - level literature class. ENG 499 is the accounting mechanism that signals Student Records to count these courses as a capstone.

Graduate Study

The Department of English offers a Master of Arts degree in English with optional concentrations in creative writing, poetry and poetics, gender studies, and in composition theory and pedagogy. Students may elect a non-thesis option (*10 courses*) or a thesis option (*8 courses and a critical or creative thesis*). Teaching and research assistantships are available to qualified students.

Academic Programs 2008-2009

Please refer to the web site (<http://factsheets.umaine.edu/>) for the most updated version of the fact sheets.

This fact sheet is intended for informational purposes only and is subject to change.