Seton Hall University

Literature Major in English

The introductory requirements for the English major are designed to provide students with a thorough grounding in the major periods and writers of the English and American traditions. Students are then able to build on that background through a wide variety of advanced electives.

To declare an English major, students must have at least a 2.5 GPA in Core English I and II (ENGL 1201 and 1202), or gain permission of the Chair of the Department of English. Core English I and II are prerequisites for all other English courses.

**Introductory – 21 credits**
ENGL 2204 Introduction to Literary Studies
ENGL 2101-2102 Great Books of the Western World I and II (also fulfills the six-credit sequence for the A&S Humanities requirement)
ENGL 2111-2112 British Literature I and II
ENGL 2103-2104 American Literature I and II

**Advanced Electives – 12 credits**
Choose 12 credits from 4 out of 5 categories. Students pursuing a Writing Minor may not choose Writing as one of the categories. English/Education majors must see the required courses below.

British (pre-1800)
British (post-1800)
American
Thematic/Comparative
Writing

Taking an English department version of the university core requirement, Engaging the World, will count as a literature elective as well as toward the University Core. A list of these courses can be found in the English Majors Blackboard course.

**Senior Seminar: ENGL 5011 – 3 credits**

Total: 36 credits

**NOTES**

**Education Majors**
All Education/English majors must take the following courses as part of their 12 credits of advanced electives:
For British pre-1800: Shakespeare (runs every fall)

For Thematic/Comparative: Literature of Adolescence (runs every two years in the fall)

For Writing: History of the English Language (runs every two years in the spring)

**English Major Portfolio Assessment**

English majors should begin keeping an Assessment Portfolio as soon as they declare their major, to be handed in at the end of their Senior year to the Chair of the Department of English. Portfolios are reviewed by a rotating committee of Department of English faculty. The grading system is Pass/Fail and appears on the student's transcript. While majors cannot graduate without submitting the Assessment Portfolio, failure on it will not affect student's GPA or graduation. Pass with Honors is reserved for English Departmental Honors students (see below). The Assessment Portfolio should be handed in in paper form, in a folder, as well as in electronic form on a disc or a site to be designated. The Assessment Portfolio will include:

- Three graded papers reflecting the student's best work in the English major from 3 of the required 4 advanced elective categories. If the student wishes to include revised papers, the original graded versions must be included as well.
- A written self-assessment (criteria to be handed out in ENGL 5011)

**English Departmental Honors**

English majors may qualify for Departmental Honors by fulfilling the following criteria. Majors may declare their candidacy at any time up to and including first-semester senior term:

Maintain a 3.5 GPA in the major

Take an additional 6 credits in advanced electives, for a total of 48 credits

Senior thesis (from ENGL 5011) must be included in the Assessment Portfolio (in addition to three papers)

Receive a Pass with Honors on the Senior English Major Assessment Portfolio

Contact the Chairperson of the English Department, Dr. Mary Balkun, for additional information <mary.balkun@shu.edu>

*Updated 8/2013*