

English

Courses required for the first year: The FYI or Honors sequence or transfer equivalent.
Courses recommended for the first year: ENGL 215 and/or any 2xx ENGL course.
Contact: David Crowe (davidcrowe@augustana.edu)

The Major in English

There are certain requirements to keep in mind early on:

1. English majors and minors can earn Learning Perspectives while completing major and minor requirements. PL, PH, and PP courses are offered in the Department. Keep in mind only two Learning Perspective courses with the ENGL subject code can count toward fulfilling your Learning Perspectives requirement.
2. English 215: Writing About Literature is required for the English major and should be taken early on, as a first or second course ideally.
3. Any other 200-level literature course is appropriate for FY students.
4. The 300-level literature courses are best taken after two or three 100- or 200-level courses, but there is no prohibition against taking these courses at any time.
5. The English minor is essentially the major with fewer electives, so students have at least a year to decide whether to major or minor—while taking the same course.
6. The English Language Arts (ELA) major, or major in teaching English, is overseen by the Education Department. Professor Katie Hanson is the contact for English, and she should be consulted early, as she has handouts and a formal planner for students interested in the ELA degree.

Required Courses

MAJOR IN ENGLISH. 32 credits, including ENGL 215, 1 class in American literature (ENGL 265, 370, 375, 385), 1 class in British literature (ENGL 260, 262, 315, 335, 340), 1 class in literature written pre-1800s (ENGL 250, 262, 315, 325, 326), 1 class in Diverse literature (ENGL 255, 270, 275, 278, 285, 290, 295, 345, 350, 355, 390), 8 credits of electives (in either ENGL or ENCW), and Senior Inquiry (ENGL 400). Only one 1xx level class will count towards the major, and at least 4 classes must be at the 3xx level.

Note: courses may satisfy only one major requirement

MAJOR IN ENGLISH EDUCATION. 42 credits. 40 credits in English including 215, 260, 265, 210, 310; a Shakespeare class (250, 325, or 326); two American literature classes (one from 365, 370, 375, 380 or 395E, and one from 270, 275, 280, 290, 365, 370, 375, 380, 390, or others pre-approved by the ELA advisor); a world literature class (285, 295, 345, 350, WLIT219); one elective ENGL (300 or higher) OR ENCW (200 or higher); plus two credits in Communication Studies (COMM204 Listening). The English department allows the combination of EDUC422, EDUC450, and INTR-EDA90 to fulfill the English Senior Inquiry requirement. See the Director of Secondary Education for more information.

The Minor in English

Required Courses

MINOR IN ENGLISH. 20 credits, including ENGL 215, 1 class in American literature (ENGL 265, 365, 370, 375, 380, 385), 1 class in British literature (ENGL 260, 262, 315, 320, 330, 335, 340), and 2 electives (in either ENGL or ENCW). Only one 1xx level class will count towards the minor, and at least 2 classes must be at the 3xx level.

Additional Courses (or Required Supporting Courses)

None. In general, we recommend courses in history related to favorite periods of literature, classics, psychology, philosophy, and modern languages.

English Major Overview

- Most people who major in English do so because they find reading and writing to be central passions. It is not important to have read more than other people, just to enjoy reading and feel some interest in developing effective written expression.
- There is a common slander that says English majors do not get good jobs. In fact, every company, media outlet, non-profit, government entity, or faith-based organization needs people who can communicate clearly and help others to do so. Like the average business major, our majors sometimes struggle to find the first job—while some others start at more than \$50,000 a year in those high-paying computer and health care companies—but most find their niche in some area of communications, personnel, and leadership.
- Since Augustana's Education and English departments are both very strong and both very student-centered, teaching is an excellent career option. No recent ELA major has failed to get a good job offer, and those offers multiply with a willingness to move away from the Chicago suburbs.
- Most students find that the English major is demanding, with its heavy reading and writing commitments. But they also find that nightly studying is more fun than in most other majors, as they are reading works designed to be engaging, moving, and even entertaining.
- Since English research skills match perfectly with academic paper-writing, English does not offer many opportunities for research outside of courses. However, students certainly may propose panels and papers for undergraduate conferences, which we promote. We think of work with East Hall Press, the Observer campus newspaper, the Saga campus arts magazine, and other opportunities as research experiences.

Which courses to take first:

As listed above: ENGL 215 and/or any 2xx ENGL class