Overview

The mission of the English Department is to develop students’ ability to read literary texts in historical and critical context, and to express their conclusions in lucid writing. To that end, the goals of the Department are as follows:

1. to read in and understand the relationships among the historical periods of literary texts in British and American literature.

2. to understand the role of social privilege and marginalization in its various modes of textual expression in regards to gender, race, and/or class divisions.

3. to develop critical approaches to texts, informed by close readings, by literary history, by theoretical concerns, and by the discipline of literary study generally.

4. to develop familiarity with the tools of writing in the discipline, including writing essays as well as finding, digesting, and accurately representing secondary as well as primary sources.

The English Department introduces students to the excitement of reading and analyzing literature, from the Anglo-Saxon origins of English to the present. As a result of their analyses, students practice critical thinking skills and come to an appreciation of the art of literary expression. Students express their analyses and appreciation in their own writing, which the Department helps develop throughout the students' tenure at the College.

The Department teaches a wide variety of literature and composition courses in support of the College's General Studies programs, and its staff provides courses for Albright's American Civilization Major, Women's and Gender Studies Major, Medieval and Early Modern Studies Minor, and, in conjunction with the Art Department, Film & Video Studies Minor.
The Department offers two introductory composition courses, ENG 101, Composition; and ENG 102, Writing With Texts.

For General Studies Foundations credit, the English Department offers a variety of courses, listed as English 135, including the following topics: Ghost Stories, Literature of Fantasy, Dada and Surrealism, The Vampyre, Tragedy, Hitchcock: Film and Text, American Short Fiction, Comedy, Adolescent Protagonists, Modern American Poetry, Folklore and Fairy Tales. ENG 380, Modern American Women Poets, may also be taken for Foundations credit. Other topics and courses may be added to the list.

For General Studies Connections credit, the English Department offers a variety of courses, listed as English 235, including the following topics: Utopian Literature, Novel Englishwomen, Black Women Writers, Latin American Poetry, African Autobiography, Irish Literature, Afro-Caribbean Literature, Shakespeare and Company, Literature of War, Hip-hop, Mean Girls. Selected courses listed for majors are also available for Connections credit, including the following courses: ENG 204, Survey of American Literature; ENG 210, African-American Literature; ENG 356, Milton and the Seventeenth Century. Other topics and courses may be added to the list.

For General Studies Global Connections credit, the English Department offers ENG 234, Adolescent Literature.

Classroom instruction in creative writing is supplemented by opportunities to edit and write for AGON, Albright College's literary magazine. The English honor society, Sigma Tau Delta, organizes literary and social events throughout the academic year.

The department's core offerings in literature include surveys of all periods of English and American literature, selected readings in world and non-western literature and more intensive study of major writers, periods, genres, and critical theories.

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**Major in English Language and Literature**

**Requirements:**

- **Group 1:** ENG 201 British Literature to 1789; 202 British Literature from 1789; and 204 American Literature
- **Group 2:** two from ENG 350 Beowulf's World; 352 Chaucer; 354 Shakespeare; 355 Renaissance; 356 Milton/17th Century; 357 Restoration/18th Century
- **Group 3:** two from ENG 380 Modern American Women Poets; 384 American Writers to 1865; 385 American Writers from 1865; 386 Modern American Fiction or THR 388 Postmodern American Drama
- **Group 4:** two from ENG 366 Romanticism; 368 Victorian; 372 British Fiction to 1890; 373 Modern British and Irish Fiction; 374 European Fiction or THR 389 Postmodern British Drama
• Group 5: two more courses from groups 2, 3 or 4, or from the following (only one 200-level course can be included in this group):
ENG 210 African American; 225 Creative Writing; 226 Intermediate Grammar; 235 Topics in Literature; 270 Classical Heritage; 301 History and Structure of the English Language; COM222 Writing for the Mass Media
• Group 6: ENG 399 Junior Seminar in Theory and 491 Senior Seminar in Literature

Occasionally the department offers a section of topics in British and American Literature (ENG 390), based on a special area of faculty or student interest. The nature of the topic determines whether ENG 390 satisfies a course requirement in group 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6.

Combined Major in English Language and Literature

Requirements:
• ENG 201 and 202 and 204
• One of the following: ENG 399 or 491
• One course each from groups 2, 3, 4, and 5, with the exception of ENG 235, listed in the full major requirements

English and Secondary Education. English Majors preparing for a career in secondary education take English courses and a series of Education and other courses specified by the Education Department. Candidates for teacher certification in English should consult the chair of the Education Department for specific course requirements early in their college experience. The English courses fall into three groups:

• ENG 201, 202, 204, 226, 301, 354, 399 and 491
• Two of the following: ENG 380, 384, 385, 386 or THR 388
• Two of the following: ENG 350, 352, 355, 356, 357, 366, 368, 372, 373, 374, 390 or THR 389. In selecting these courses, students wishing to teach in Pennsylvania should be aware of the state requirement that teachers be prepared in world literature as well as in British and American literature.

Although the English Department does not, the Pennsylvania Department of Education does require that English-Secondary Education students take ENG 234 Adolescent Literature, in order to be certified to teach. This course can be taken for the General Studies Global Connections requirement.
English and Early Childhood Education. Early Childhood Education may be combined with the combined major program in English described above.

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