

English

Undergraduate Study

As one of the core disciplines of the liberal arts, English promotes an understanding of the way language functions and provides all students with fundamental skills needed to succeed in college, at work, and as citizens. Courses in the department foster critical thinking, leadership ability, and democratic engagement and prepare students to communicate effectively in college, in the workplace, and in public forums. Students interested in majoring in English can choose a

- BA in English (with possible emphases in Literature, Creative Writing, Literary Editing, or Rhetoric)
- BA in English with an emphasis in Teacher Education (required courses for licensure are marked below)
- BS in Technical Communication.

Students interested in a BS degree in English will need to complete 12 extra credits beyond the general education requirements; these credits must be taken in linguistics, natural science, mathematics, social science, or selected courses in kinesiology.

Those interested in civic discourse and oral communication can also major or minor in Speech Communication (see the catalog listing Speech Communication). Students in secondary education can also earn an ESL endorsement through classes in the English Department (courses are marked below).

An undergraduate major in English can be a solid basis for the professional study of law, medicine, theology, and business or careers in education, arts management, and publishing. An undergraduate major in Technical Communication can prepare students for careers in nonprofit and government communication, web design and communication consulting, software documentation, and scientific and technical writing and editing.

The department also provides communication courses for students across the disciplines through the ISUComm initiative. The goal of ISUComm is to strengthen student communication and enhance students' critical thinking by creating opportunities for them to practice communication skills throughout their academic careers. These courses include ENGL 150 and 250 (ISUComm foundation courses) and ENGL 302, 309, and 314 (ISUComm advanced communication courses). These courses benefit all ISU undergraduates by addressing written, oral, visual, and electronic communication, or WOVE. WOVE prepares students for 21st-century communication activities.

As part of Iowa State's commitment to interdisciplinary study and cultural inclusiveness, English also has strong ties with African American Studies, American Indian Studies, Classical Studies, Latina/o Studies, Linguistics, Speech Communication, and Women's Studies. In addition to course offerings in literature, creative writing, linguistics, speech communication, rhetoric, and technical communication, the field of English Studies features strong connections with the technical, scientific, and environmental work that distinguishes Iowa State.

International students and other nonnative speakers of English can go to the Intensive English and Orientation Program (IEOP) in the department, which offers special courses in English for both undergraduate and graduate students who are native speakers of other languages. (See catalog entries under English Courses for Native Speakers of Other Languages and English Requirement for International Students.)

English Major Requirements

English majors are required to have, in addition to ISUComm foundation courses (ENGL 150 Critical Thinking and Communication and ENGL 250 Written, Oral, Visual, and Electronic Composition), at least 37 credits in English. English majors transferring from other institutions must take at least 18 of their credits in English while in residence at Iowa State.

To graduate with a major in the English Department, a student must earn at least a C (not a C-) in ENGL 150 Critical Thinking and Communication and ENGL 250 Written, Oral, Visual, and Electronic Composition as well as in each of the courses taken to fulfill the program of study. Earning at least a C in ISUComm foundation courses and in one advanced communication course also meets the departmental Communication Proficiency requirement.

* Indicates English courses or groups required for students seeking teacher licensure

Texts and Language: Choose 5	15
ENGL 207 Introduction to Creative Writing	

ENGL 220	Descriptive English Grammar	
ENGL 225	Survey of British Literature to 1800 *	
ENGL 226	Survey of British Literature since 1800 *	
ENGL 227	Survey of American Literature to 1865 *	
ENGL 228	Survey of American Literature since 1865 *	
ENGL 260	Introduction to Literary Study *	
Critical Reading and Textual Analysis: Choose 2		6
ENGL 275	Analysis of Popular Culture Texts	
ENGL 310	Rhetorical Analysis *	
ENGL 339	Literary Theory and Criticism	
ENGL 350	Rhetorical Traditions	
ENGL 396	Teaching the Reading of Young Adult Literature *	
Advanced Communication: Choose 1 *		3
ENGL 302	Business Communication	
ENGL 303	Free-Lance Writing for Popular Magazines	
ENGL 304	Creative Writing: Fiction	
ENGL 305	Creative Writing: Nonfiction	
ENGL 306	Creative Writing: Poetry	
ENGL 309	Report and Proposal Writing	
ENGL 313	Rhetorical Website Design	
ENGL 314	Technical Communication	
ENGL 315	Creative Writing: Screenplays	
ENGL 316	Creative Writing: Playwriting	
Choose 4: English Electives at the 200, 300, and 400 level (does not include ENGL 250) (Students seeking teacher licensure must take 219*, 220*, 354*, and 420*.)		12
Total Credits		36

Additional Courses: All English majors must complete the following requirements which may overlap with the core requirements:

Three credits in Women's or Multicultural Literature (340s, 352)*	3
Fifteen credits in English classes at the 300 level*	15
Nine credits in English classes at the 400 level. English Education majors need take only six credits in English classes at the 400 level.*	9
Nine credits in English classes with a historical perspective* (choose from the following or any 360s or 370s course)	9
ENGL 225 Survey of British Literature to 1800 *	
ENGL 228 Survey of American Literature since 1865 *	
ENGL 237 Survey of Film History	
ENGL 350 Rhetorical Traditions	
ENGL 353 World Literature: Western Foundations through Renaissance	
ENGL 354 World Literature: Seventeenth Century to the Present *	
ENGL 420 History of the English Language *	

See also the 4-year plan of study grid for the English BA and BS showing suggested courses by semester.

Teacher Licensure Courses

Students seeking teacher licensure in Teacher Education should consult their adviser for a complete list of courses that meet major requirements and specialized licensure requirements (see Teacher Education section in this catalog). Among those licensure requirements are the following additional courses in English:

ENGL 353	World Literature: Western Foundations through Renaissance *
ENGL 397	Practice and Theory of Teaching Writing in the Secondary Schools *
ENGL 494	Practice and Theory of Teaching Literature in the Secondary Schools *
ENGL 417	Student Teaching *

Additional course requirements outside of English for students seeking teacher licensure include the following:

C I 202	Learning Technologies in the 7-12 Classroom
C I 204	Social Foundations of Education in the United States
C I 280A	Pre-Student Teaching Experience I: Core Experience
C I 395	Content Area Reading and Literacy

C I 406	Multicultural Foundations of School and Society: Introduction
C I 426	Principles of Secondary Education
SP ED 401	Teaching Secondary Students with Exceptionalities in General Education
PSYCH 230	Developmental Psychology
PSYCH 333	Educational Psychology
HIST or POL S	American History or Government
SP CM 212	Fundamentals of Public Speaking
or THRE 358	Oral Interpretation

Some of these courses taken to meet licensure requirements may also meet General Education requirements for the college.

See also the 4-year plan of study grid for English Education showing courses by semester.

ESL Endorsement Requirements

At Iowa State University, ESL is an add-on endorsement, which means that students need to be certified in another area and to take all basic teacher preparation courses. The growing number of English learners in our public schools make the ESL endorsement a useful addition to a teaching license.

To add English as a Second Language, students must earn credits in the following courses. In some cases, relevant special topics courses or experimental courses may be substituted. Some courses have prerequisites.

ENGL 219	Introduction to Linguistics	3
OR		
ENGL 511	Introduction to Linguistic Analysis	3
ENGL 220	Descriptive English Grammar	3
OR	Test Out	
ENGL 425	Second Language Learning and Teaching	3
OR		
ENGL 512	Second Language Acquisition	3
ENGL 514	Sociolinguistics	3
OR		
C I 420	Bilingualism, Bilingual Education, and U.S. Mexican Youth	3
OR		
C I 520	Bilingualism, Bilingual Education, and U.S. Mexican Youth	3
ENGL 524	Literacy: Issues and Methods for Nonnative Speakers of English	3
AND		
ENGL 518	Teaching English as a Second Language Methods and Materials	3
OR		
ENGL 525	Methods in Teaching Listening and Speaking Skills to Nonnative Speakers of English	3
Appropriate curriculum and instruction substitutes for ENGL 524 (e.g., CI 378) will be considered).		
C I 280S	Pre-Student Teaching Experience I: English as a Second Language (ESL)	1
C I 480S	Pre-Student Teaching Experience III: English as a Second Language (ESL)	2

Departmental Awards and Scholarships

Each spring the English Department offers many scholarships and awards for both undergraduate and graduate students. Some undergraduate awards are for returning English and Technical Communication majors only; others are for returning students of any major who demonstrate excellence in some aspect of English or technical communication. Application forms and a list of current awards are available on the English Department website and in 206 Ross Hall early in the Spring Semester. Award winners are announced each year in April.

English Minor Requirements

The minor in English prepares students in any discipline for which communication activities are needed to succeed in their professions. Minors in English will complete 15 credits beyond ENGL 150 Critical Thinking and Communication and ENGL 250 Written, Oral, Visual, and Electronic Composition, all with a grade of C (not C-) or higher, 9 of which will be at the 300 or 400 levels. Twelve of these

hours must be taken at Iowa State. Up to 6 of the 15 credits taken for the minor may be used to meet other degree program requirements.

Graduate Study

The department offers graduate work in six majors and one graduate certificate program. We have three Master of Arts majors, one Master of Fine Arts major, two Doctor of Philosophy majors, and one TESL/TEFL Certificate. Information on application requirements and procedures for all of our graduate majors is available at <http://www.engl.iastate.edu/graduate-students/how-to-apply/>.

The Master of Arts (MA) degree programs offer various possibilities for the advanced study of writing, language, and literature. The degree requires a minimum of 30 hours of graduate credits, including a final thesis or creative component (3 credits). Both the MA in English and the MA in TESL/Applied Linguistics have language requirements that may be fulfilled in a number of ways. Students whose native language is other than English are considered to have met the language requirement after satisfying the Graduate College English requirement.

Students admitted to the MA in English choose between two areas of specialization. The Literature specialization is designed to prepare students for a variety of career paths. These include going on for a PhD; teaching at the secondary, two- and four-year college, and university levels; and working in fields such as publishing, research and administration, or non-profit organizations. The Literature and the Teaching of Reading specialization is designed for students with a teaching license who wish to take graduate literature courses and work toward a reading endorsement by taking three reading courses in Curriculum and Instruction.

The MA in Rhetoric, Composition, and Professional Communication (RCPC) prepares students for careers in business, technical, and professional communication in the private and public sectors and for teaching writing and communication at the postsecondary level.

The MA in TESL/Applied Linguistics (TESL/AL) prepares students for careers in teaching English to nonnative speakers of English, either in the U.S. or abroad. Students with MA degrees in TESL teach adults and younger learners in a wide variety of contexts, supervise language programs, work for testing organizations, and create language teaching materials. Students admitted to the degree program can choose among optional specializations: Computer-Assisted Language Learning (CALL); Language Assessment; English for Specific Purposes (ESP); Literacy; and Literature in ESL.

The Master of Fine Arts (MFA) program in Creative Writing and Environment (CWE) cultivates in its students an interdisciplinary approach to research and writing. The program's unique design allows writers to develop a heightened environmental imagination that finds expression in quality, publishable works of fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and drama. The program is designed to prepare students for careers as writers, teachers, editors, and environmental educators. The MFA degree requires 54 hours of graduate credit: a core of creative writing courses, a book-length thesis (6 credits), an experiential environmental fieldwork component (3 credits), and 12 credits in disciplines other than English (such as Landscape Architecture, Anthropology, Environmental Science, among many others) relevant to an individual student's research interests and thesis project.

The Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Applied Linguistics and Technology (ALT) focuses on English language description, teaching, learning, and assessment with particular emphasis on issues and practices related to technology use in these areas. It prepares students for a variety of academic appointments in departments of applied linguistics and English and for professional opportunities in research and development foundations, international publishing enterprises, and government agencies in the U.S. and around the world where English as a second language is taught and used for specific educational, vocational, and professional purposes. Candidates are required to complete 72 hours of graduate credit and a dissertation and to pass a portfolio assessment, a preliminary examination (consisting of a dissertation proposal and pilot study) and a written response to questions about the proposal or pilot study), and an oral defense of the dissertation.

The PhD in Rhetoric and Professional Communication (RPC) focuses on the rhetorical theory, history, pedagogy, and practice of written, oral, visual, and electronic communication (WOVE) in professional communities, such as business, industry, science, and government. The degree prepares graduates for academic positions in rhetoric, in multimodal composition, and in business, professional, and technical communication, as well as for work in the private and public sectors as professional communication specialists, editors, designers, and communications managers. Candidates are required to complete 72 hours of graduate credit and a dissertation and to pass a portfolio assessment, a preliminary examination consisting of a comprehensive examination and a special field examination, and an oral defense of the dissertation.

A Graduate Certificate in Teaching English as a Second Language/Teaching English as a Foreign Language (TESL/TEFL) prepares students to teach English to nonnative speakers of English either in the U.S. or abroad. It offers students grounding in the linguistic understanding of English and a flexible program of study with courses in teaching methodology, language assessment, and the use of technology to address students' language needs. This 12-credit program requires two prerequisites, one core requirement, and three graduate courses. All courses are cross-listed with courses in Linguistics.

The department offers graduate students an opportunity to gain professional experience through fieldwork and internships, departmental research activities, ISUComm, the Intensive English and Orientation Program (IEOP), and the Speech Communication Program. Teaching and research assistantships are available for qualified students. Teaching assistants are responsible for teaching, with faculty supervision, ISUComm Foundation Courses, courses in public speaking, English as a Second Language (ESL), and business and technical communication. Research assistants may be assigned to faculty members engaged in research projects. One or more Pearl Hogrefe Fellowships in Creative Writing covering stipend and tuition are awarded each year to outstanding graduate students. Grannis Scholarships may be awarded to new students in the Applied Linguistics and Technology doctoral program. Freda Huncke Endowment Graduate Teaching Fellowships are awarded to select first-year students.

With prior written approval from the School of Education, students may use selected courses to meet requirements for the ESL endorsement (K-12) for teachers.

The English Department at the MA level requires 9 credits of English at the 500 or 600 level in the respective major (English, RCPC, TESL/AL). A graduate minor in the English Department at the MFA level requires 12 credits of creative writing courses at the graduate level with 3 of those credits being ENGL 550 Creative Writing: Craft and Professional Practice. A graduate minor in the English Department at the PhD level requires 12 credits at the 500 or 600 level in the respective major (ALT or RPC).