

# Department of English

**Thomas Strawman, Chair**  
**Peck Hall 302**

Albakry, Ashok, Badley, Baines, Barnett, Blackwell, Boldt, Bradley, Brantley, Bray, Brewer, Burleson, Cain, Casal, Casson, Cavender, Chapman, Clayton, Comas, Cox, Dayton, E. Donovan, K. Donovan, Dubek, Flanigan, Gaitely, Gardner, D. Gentry, W. Gentry, Hague, Helford, Hibbard, Hixon, Hollings, Holtzclaw, Hoop, Hopkirk, J. Jackson, M. Jackson, Johnson, J. Kates, R. Kates, Kerrick, King, Kirkman, Knox, Kostkowska, Lavery, Lawrence, Lee, Levine, Lutz, Lynn, Mackin, Marchant, McClure-Wade, McCluskey, McDaniel, Miller, Minichillo, Mitchell, Myatt, Neth, Ostrowski, Otto, Petersen, Phillips, Porth, Reed, Renfroe, Rhodes, Saksena, Scannell, Sherman, Smith, Sublette, Therrien, Tormey, Tyner, Walker, Williams, Wilson, Wilt

Courses in the Department of English meet the General Education needs of all students through the development of verbal and written communication skills and the appreciation of literature. The department offers two undergraduate English major programs (the Bachelor of Arts degree and the Bachelor of Arts with a concentration in Secondary English Teacher Licensure) and an English minor. Several interdisciplinary minors are also housed in the English Department.

The nonteaching Bachelor of Arts program is designed to give students a well-rounded background in the study of the English language and its literature. Students in our program have gone on to careers in editing, public relations, management, public service, and many other areas that value clarity of expression and logical thinking. Others have gone on to graduate programs, law school, or other professional education. Students in the Bachelor of Arts with teacher licensure program are offered preparation to teach English in grades 7–12 in the state of Tennessee.

All students in the English Department are assigned an advisor upon declaration of an English major. Students should meet with their advisors for guidance in planning their schedules and fulfilling all requirements. Those intending to get a professional license to teach English must consult with their advisors early in their university careers in order to ensure completion of the degree in a timely fashion. The University does not recommend anyone for licensure in English who has not satisfied requirements set by the College of Education and Behavioral Science for postbaccalaureate endorsement.

The English Department participates in interdisciplinary majors and minors in African American Studies; American Culture; Classical Studies; Early Modern European Studies; Environment and Human Society; Film Studies;

Global Studies; Great Books; Linguistic Studies; Media, History, and Culture; Medieval Studies; Middle Eastern Studies; Native American Studies; Russian Studies; Southern Studies; Twentieth-Century European Studies; Women's and Gender Studies; and Writing. See page 80 for a listing of interdisciplinary minors with their coordinating departments.

Before beginning the junior year, students should fill out an upper-division form with an advisor and file it with the Records Office. **For 3000- and 4000-level courses, there is normally a prerequisite of 9 semester hours of English with a grade of C- or better.**

## General Requirements

A minimum of 9 semester hours in General Education composition and literature is required of all students for graduation. Students complete this requirement by taking ENGL 1010 and 1020 in sequence and ENGL 2020, ENGL 2030, or HUM 2610.

**Students must pass ENGL 1010 and 1020 in sequence before taking ENGL 2020 or 2030 or HUM 2610. A minimum grade of C- in ENGL 1010 and 1020 is required to receive credit.**

All first-time freshmen must take the ACT or SAT and have their scores reported to MTSU as part of the application procedure. On the basis of the ACT or SAT scores, MTSU will exempt students with credit from ENGL 1010 and 1020, place students in ENGL 1010, or require further testing as a basis for placement decisions. Placement is based on the following scores:

**Enhanced ACT English score of 15–18:** Placement in ENGL 1009 or further testing (See Academic Enrichment, page 98.)

**Enhanced ACT English score of 19–31:** Placement in ENGL 1010

**Enhanced ACT English score of 32 or greater:** Exemption from ENGL 1010 and 1020 with credit

**Enhanced ACT English Score below 15:** (See Academic Enrichment, page 98.)

**SAT Verbal Score of 390–450:** Placement in ENGL 1009 or further testing (See Academic Enrichment, page 98.)

**SAT Verbal Score of 460–710:** Placement in ENGL 1010

**SAT Verbal Score of 720 or greater:** Exemption from ENGL 1010 and 1020 with credit

**SAT Verbal Score below 390:** (See Academic Enrichment, page 98.)

**Students also may be exempt from ENGL 1010 with credit by scoring 3 or better on the CEEB (see page 33). Students may earn credit for ENGL 2030 by scoring satisfactorily on CLEP exams (see page 32).**

Students without ACT or SAT scores, students whose native language is not English, and students who challenge their placement in ENGL 1009 will need to take a placement test.

Based on placement test results, students whose native language is not English may need to enroll in ENGL 1008 or 1009 for ESL students before being allowed to enroll in ENGL 1010.

Successful completion of ENGL 1009, 1010, and 1020 requires a grade of C- or better. The grade of N may be awarded in ENGL 1009, 1010, and 1020. An N may be awarded only to students who are completing the course for the first time and who have met all course requirements (including completing all writing assignments and meeting attendance requirements) yet who have not demonstrated satisfactory writing skills to pass the course with a C- or better. The grade of N can be assigned only for a student's first completed attempt of ENGL 1009, 1010, and/or 1020; in subsequent attempts the student will be assigned a grade of F if minimum writing standards are not met. The grade of N is not punitive; it will calculate into Hours Attempted but not into Quality Hours, and thus it will not have an impact upon a student's GPA. However, since the grade is calculated into Attempted Hours, students receiving financial aid are strongly encouraged to contact the Financial Aid Office to see what, if any, impact an N grade may have on their status.

**All students will complete the required 9 semester hours of English General Education by passing the following courses in the sequence in which they are listed.**

1. ENGL 1010
2. ENGL 1020
3. ENGL 2020 or 2030

**Curricular listings include General Education requirements in Communication, History, Humanities and/or Fine Arts, Mathematics, Natural Sciences, and Social/Behavioral Sciences categories as outlined on pages 64–67.**

**The English major is considered a “resident” major. Students may not apply more than twelve (12) hours of upper-division distance learning (Web-based, correspondence, or videoconference) to the major, and no more than three of these hours may be taken outside of MTSU. English minors may not apply more than three hours of upper-division distance learning towards the minor.**

## Teacher Licensure

Students seeking a license to teach in secondary schools (grades 7-12) must complete (1) a major in the subject they intend to teach; (2) a minor approved for the B.A. degree (see p. 60) or any interdisciplinary minor (see p. 80); and (3) the Secondary Education minor.

**NOTE:** Please see *Department of Educational Leadership* on page 166 for Secondary Education minor requirements.

## Major in English

A major in English consists of a minimum of 33 upper-division semester hours.

1. Students should take the required ENGL 3000 as soon as possible after declaring an English major or completing freshman and sophomore General Education requirements for English.
2. ENGL 3010, 3020, and 3030 are required of all English majors.

3. One course must be included from each of the following seven groups:

- I. **British Literature I:** Courses numbered 3100 or 4100 (or a 3900/4900 special topics course focusing on British literature before the Restoration)
  - II. **British Literature II:** Courses numbered 3200 or 4200 (or a 3900/4900 special topics course focusing on British literature after the Restoration)
  - III. **American Literature:** Courses numbered 3300 or 4300 (or a 3900/4900 special topics course focusing on American literature)
  - IV. **World Literature and Backgrounds of English Studies:** Courses numbered 3400 or 4400 (or a 3900/4900 special topics course focusing on world literature, or such courses outside the department as HUM 3950 and WMST 4209)
  - V. **Writing, Language, and Pedagogy:** Courses numbered 3500 or 3600 or 4500 or 4600
  - VI. **Gender Studies or Cultural Studies:** Courses numbered 3700 or 4700 (or a 3900/4900 special topics course focusing on gender or cultural studies, or such courses outside the department as FREN 3130)
  - VII. **Film or Popular Literature:** Courses numbered 3800 or 4800 (or a 3900/4900 special topics course focusing on popular literature or with a substantial film component)
4. With the approval of an advisor, the requirements above may be slightly modified to reflect a student's special interests, especially in cases where a student wishes to take additional courses in a concentrated area of study.
  5. Students who wish to pursue a license to teach English in grades 7–12 should carefully follow the major requirements outlined in **Concentration: Secondary English Teacher Licensure** below.
  6. Courses from the Special Topics 3900/4900 number sequence will apply to the category(ies) appropriate to the topic. Each special topics course will be substituted into the appropriate category by the student's advisor.
  7. When taught by an English faculty member, certain interdisciplinary Honors seminars (UH 3500 and 4600) may be substituted, with approval, in one of the above groups.
  8. ENGL 1010, 1020, 2020, 2030, or other lower-division English courses may not be counted as part of the hours required for an English major.

Majors are expected to consult a member of the English faculty each semester regarding the selection and arrangement of electives. Recommended minors for English majors include Foreign Language, History, Linguistics, Philosophy, Political Science, Speech and Theatre, Film Studies, Writing, and Women's and Gender Studies, but students may choose a minor either from those listed under the B.A. requirements (page 60) or from the interdisciplinary minors (page 80).

All students pursuing a major in English must complete the General Education requirements. Following is a suggested pattern of study for the first two years; however, consultation with an assigned advisor is necessary before each registration.

### Recommended Curriculum for Non-teaching Majors

| FRESHMAN                      |   | SOPHOMORE                     |   |
|-------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|---|
| ENGL 1010, 1020 (Comm)        | 6 | ENGL 2020 or 2030 (Hum/FA)    | 3 |
| Natural Sciences (2 prefixes) | 8 | ENGL 3000                     | 3 |
| Foreign Language 1010, 1020   | 6 | Mathematics                   | 3 |
| HIST 2010, 2020, or 2030      | 6 | Foreign Language 2010, 2020   | 6 |
| COMM 2200 (Comm)              | 3 | Social/Behavioral Sciences    |   |
| Humanities and/or Fine Arts   | 3 | (2 prefixes)                  | 6 |
| <b>32</b>                     |   | HUM 2610 or other             |   |
|                               |   | Humanities and/or Fine Arts   | 3 |
|                               |   | Minor or electives as advised | 6 |

### Concentration: Secondary English Teacher Licensure

A major in English that also satisfies the academic requirements for teacher licensure consists of a minimum of 32 upper-division semester hours.

1. Students should take the required ENGL 3000 in the second semester of the sophomore year or as soon as possible after declaring the English major.
2. ENGL 3010, 3020, and 3030 are required of all English majors.
3. ENGL 3745, 4500, and 4510 are required of all majors seeking teacher licensure in English.
4. One course must be completed from each of the following three groups:
  - a. One Shakespeare course
  - b. ENGL 3735, 3300, 3340, or 3360
  - c. ENGL 3400, 3420, or 3430
5. Two hours of upper-division English electives are required and are usually satisfied with a 3-hour course. Recommended electives include Advanced Composition, History of the English Language, Teaching ESL Writing and Grammar, Introduction to Linguistics, Modern Poetry, or any 4000-level special topics course.

Teaching majors are expected to consult with an English faculty advisor each semester to select coursework and choose a B.A. minor (in addition to the minor in Secondary Education). Recommended B.A. minors include Anthropology, Biology, Business Administration, Classical Studies, Early Modern European Studies, Economics, Foreign Language (French, German, or Spanish), Geography, Geology, History, Latin American Studies, Linguistics, Mathematics, Medieval Studies, Philosophy, Political Science, Psychology, Speech and Theatre, Sociology, Twentieth-Century European Studies, and Women's and Gender Studies.

In order to complete the English licensure program in four years, students are encouraged to work closely with a faculty advisor and to follow during their first two years the pattern of study suggested below.

#### Recommended Curriculum for Teaching Majors

| FRESHMAN                      |    | SOPHOMORE                                     |    |
|-------------------------------|----|---|----|
| ENGL 1010, 1020 (Comm)        | 6  | ENGL 2020 or 2030 (Hum/FA)                    | 3  |
| Natural Sciences (2 prefixes) | 8  | ENGL 3000                                     | 3  |
| Foreign Language 1010, 1020   | 6  | Mathematics                                   | 3  |
| HIST 2010, 2020, or 2030      | 6  | Foreign Language 2010, 2020                   | 6  |
| COMM 2200 (Comm)              | 3  | Social/Behavioral Sciences (2 prefixes)       | 6  |
| Humanities and/or Fine Arts   | 3  | FOED 1110 and 2110S                           | 6  |
|                               | 32 | HUM 2610 or other Humanities and/or Fine Arts | 3  |
|                               |    |   | 30 |

**NOTE:** Please see Department of Educational Leadership on page 166 for Secondary Education minor requirements.

### Minor in English

A minor in English requires a minimum of 15 upper-division hours including ENGL 3000. ENGL 1010 and 1020 cannot be counted as part of the hours required for the minor, nor can the 3 hours of sophomore literature. Minors may not enroll in ENGL 3010, 3020, or 4500, which are open only to English majors.

### Interdisciplinary Minors

Interdisciplinary minors are open to all students at the University. The Department of English coordinates the interdisciplinary minors in Film Studies, Great Books, and Writing. See Interdisciplinary Minors beginning on page 80.

### Courses in English [ENGL]

See back of catalog for course descriptions.

### Special Topics and Selected Topics Courses

The English Department curriculum includes courses that focus on special topics of interest to students and faculty. Courses such as ENGL 3450, 4230, 4330, 4570, 4750, 4860, and the entire 4900 course sequence make it possible to offer a greater variety of courses to satisfy degree requirements. The following is only a partial list of the special topics offered by the department. New special topics are approved every year.

A World of Studies: Narratives from Around the World (ENGL 3450)  
 African Diaspora (ENGL 4900)  
 American Drama (ENGL 4920)  
 American Independent Films (ENGL 4860)  
 American Naturalism and Realism (ENGL 4900)  
 American Popular Literature in the Nineteenth Century (ENGL 4900)  
 Autobiography (ENGL 4940)  
 British Children's Literature (ENGL 4750)  
 Browning and Tennyson (ENGL 4230)  
 Children and Film (ENGL 4750)  
 Children's Fantasy Fiction (ENGL 4750)  
 Children's Language (ENGL 4570)  
 Contemporary Novel of the Americas (ENGL 4950)  
 Contemporary World Cinema (ENGL 4860)  
 Development of the Novel in the Nineteenth Century (ENGL 4930)  
 Horror Film (ENGL 4860)  
 Jane Austen and Popular Culture (ENGL 4230)  
 Language and Politics (ENGL 4570)  
 Literature of the Vietnam War (ENGL 4730)  
 Lyric Poetry (ENGL 4910)  
 Masters of Mystery (ENGL 4980)  
 Modern Arabic Literature in Translation (ENGL 4900)  
 Selected Topics in Language and Literature (ENGL 4910)  
 Multicultural Literature for Children and Adolescents (ENGL 4750)  
 Standard English in Society (ENGL 4570)  
 The Appeal of Harry Potter (ENGL 4980)  
 The Captivity Narrative in Early American Literature (ENGL 4940)  
 The Inklings (ENGL 4900)  
 The Modern Novel (ENGL 4930)  
 United States Slave Narratives (ENGL 4940)  
 Women Writers of the Restoration and Eighteenth Century (ENGL 4900)  
 Women's Popular Fiction (ENGL 4930)

### Honors College

The Department of English offers the following courses in Honors:

ENGL 1010 (Fall Semester)  
 ENGL 1020 (Spring Semester)  
 ENGL 2020 (Fall and Spring Semester)  
 ENGL 2030 (Fall Semester)

### Upper-Division Honors

ENGL 3230, 3340, 3410, 3840, 3850, 4130, 4140, 4310, 4410, and 4780

### Graduate Study

The Master of Arts and Ph.D. degrees are offered in English. Requirements for these degrees and a list of the courses offered for graduate credit are published in the Graduate Catalog.