B.A. IN ENGLISH

The Bachelor of Arts in English degree program provides students with an education in the history, aesthetics and analysis of English and American literature.

The Department of English also offers a substantial program in writing, including creative writing (poetry and fiction), as well as professional writing and intermediate and advanced expository writing. The department regularly offers courses in the full range of English and American literary studies (including Chaucer and Shakespeare, the different periods and genres, linguistics, and special topics seminars).

The study of language and writing is central to the English program. The departmental objectives are to help students write clearly and forcefully and to appreciate the artistic and cultural values of literature.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

Completion of a Bachelor of Arts degree in English requires 120 credit hours, with at least 11 courses above the 100 level, of which at least five must be at the 300-400 level. Students must also fulfill the general requirements of the College of Arts and Sciences. The major has two options: the literature track and the writing track.

COURSEWORK

Consult the online Indiana University Northwest Bulletin for specific department requirements

• English literature before 1700
• English literature since 1700
• Major Plays of Shakespeare
• American Literature
• Grammar and Linguistics (ENG-G 205, ENG-G 207, ENG-G 305))
• Professional Writing, Writing Poetry, Writing Fiction, Advanced Expository Writing
• Senior Seminar (ENG L-440)
• Students must also submit a Senior Portfolio

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Composition courses make extensive use of university computer labs, and certain sections of “Professional Writing Skills” are presented in an online version.

The English Department maintains a Writing Center to help students in any class or program address their deficiencies in writing. The Writing Center employs capable and trained students as tutors.

Each year, the Allen C. Austin Award is presented to one English student who displays superior achievement.

WHAT CAN I DO WITH A B.A. IN ENGLISH?

An English degree is a useful, well-received, and marketable major. It offers the option of graduate school in English or a professional school, such as law school, and provides for qualified entry into any business, state or national civil service, or educational administration.

HANDS-ON LEARNING

In the fall or spring semester, undergraduate students are offered the opportunity to participate in an Internship Program in Writing, which combines their study of writing with practical expertise in working with professionals in journalism, business communication or technical writing. Students are required to submit research reports. An evaluation, made by both the supervisor and instructor, is encouraged and may be repeated for a maximum of six credits.

CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

The Department of English offers students an opportunity to work with the department’s faculty on a literary and arts magazine, Spirits, to which they are encouraged to submit poetry, short stories, artwork, and photography.

RELATED DEGREE OPTIONS

• Minor in Literature
• Minor in Writing
• Minor in Creative Writing

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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