English Language & Literature Major

The Language and Literature program has recently revised our major to add a practicum requirement to help prepare students for their professional careers. If you declared the major **before Fall 2024**, you may continue with the previous major requirements. Students declaring in **Fall 2024 and after** will follow the new requirements listed below.

The English Language and Literature Major will broaden your knowledge of literary history and traditions, develop your understanding of different cultures, and introduce you to the world's most brilliant writers. Our inclusive curriculum offers a diverse selection of courses that cross national borders, literary genres, and minoritized cultures. This degree will prepare you with essential skills in persuasive communication, analytical reasoning, creative thinking, and emotional intelligence that are most in demand by employers in a variety of professional fields, including teaching, training, writing, publishing law, research, business, and government.

Our faculty is comprised of excellent teacher-scholars who genuinely care about you, the student. We actively publish and present scholarship at conferences on topics ranging from maritime monsters in Shakespeare to current portraits of the US borderlands, as well as editing for publications like the *Journal of Intercultural Studies* and the I*nternational Journal of Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities*. We have unique strengths in transpacific and transatlantic literatures, gender and sexuality studies, and ethnic studies that help us connect our courses to real-world issues. Further, we closely mentor students in research, writing, career professionalization, and preparation for graduate study.

Upon successful completion of this program, students will be able to:

- Understand and be able to articulate orally and in writing how literature is contextualized historically.
- Demonstrate knowledge of the range of literary perspectives, conventions, and forms.
- Understand and be able to articulate orally and in writing how literature is contextualized culturally.
- Demonstrate their writing competence by successfully meeting the rhetorical needs of situations requiring the application of a variety of genres and styles.
- Demonstrate knowledge of literary critical theories.
- Demonstrate proficiency in research methodologies
- Demonstrate a functional knowledge of grammar and linguistics

Plan to take ENG 302 and ENG 303 your first quarter because they are pre-requisites for most upper-division literature courses. Take ENG 320 (English Grammar) early in your program because it will help you with written assignments.

Applying for the major:

Declare the major via MyCWU!

Questions about advising? Please schedule an appointment with your advisor via MyCWU.

Are you a transfer student? Check out our Language & Literature Transfer MAP and visit the Registrar's Transfer MAPs website to learn more.

View the English Language & Literature Major detailed course description in the CWU Course Catalog to assist in course selection and planning.

Course of Study

Required Courses – Credits: 27

- ENG 302 – Poetry and Poetics (5) *Prerequisite: Academic Writing I and Academic Writing II*
- ENG 303 – Principles of English Studies (5) *Prerequisite: Academic Writing I and Academic Writing II*
- ENG 320 – English Grammar (5)
- ENG 418 – Literary and Critical Theory (5) *Prerequisite: ENG 302 and ENG 303*
- ENG 420 – English Linguistics (5) *Prerequisite: ENG 320*
- ENG 489 – Senior Colloquium (2) *Prerequisite: 48 credits of English courses*

Select one literary forms course – Credits: 5

- ENG 380 – Studies in Drama (5) *Prerequisite: ENG 302 and ENG 303*
- ENG 453 – Studies in Fiction (5) *Prerequisite: ENG 302 and ENG 303, or instructor permission*
- ENG 454 – Studies in Nonfiction (5) *Prerequisite: ENG 302 and ENG 303, or instructor permission*
- ENG 455 – Studies in Poetry (5) *Prerequisite: ENG 302 and ENG 303*

Select two literature and history courses – Credits: 10

- ENG 363 – Shakespeare (5) *Prerequisite: ENG 302 and ENG 303*
- ENG 371 – Literature and History I (5) *Prerequisite: ENG 302 and ENG 303*
- ENG 372 – Literature and History II (5) *Prerequisite: ENG 302 and ENG 303*
- ENG 373 – Literature and History III (5) *Prerequisite: ENG 302 and ENG 303*
- ENG 374 – Literature and History IV (5) *Prerequisite: ENG 302 and ENG 303*

Select one critical studies course (American, World, & British) – Credits: 5

- ENG 415 – Critical Studies in American Literature (5) *Prerequisite: ENG 302 and ENG 303*
- ENG 417 – Critical Studies in World Literature (5) *Prerequisite: ENG 302 and ENG 303*
- ENG 419 – Critical Studies in British Literature (5) *Prerequisite: ENG 302 and ENG 303*

Select three literature and culture courses – Credits: 15

- ENG 329 – Cultural Studies in Literature (5) *Prerequisite: Sophomore standing or above and Academic Writing II (with grade of C- or higher)*
- ENG 330 – African American Literature (5) *Prerequisite: Sophomore standing or above and Academic Writing II (with grade of C- or higher)*
- ENG 331 – Latina/o Literature (5) *Prerequisite: Sophomore standing or above and Academic Writing II (with grade of C- or higher)*
- ENG 332 – American Indian Literature (5) *Prerequisite: Sophomore standing or above and Academic Writing II (with grade of C- or higher)*
- ENG 333 – Asian American Literature (5) *Prerequisite: Sophomore standing or above and Academic Writing II (with grade of C- or higher)*
- ENG 335 – Women's Literature (5) *Prerequisite: Sophomore standing or above and Academic Writing II (with grade of C- or higher)*
- ENG 336 – Race and Literature (5) *Prerequisite: Sophomore standing or above and Academic Writing II (with grade of C- or higher)*
- ENG 337 – LGBTQ+ Literature (5) *Prerequisite: Sophomore standing or above and Academic Writing II (with grade of C- or higher)*
- ENG 347 – Global Perspectives in Literature (5) *Prerequisite: Sophomore standing or above and Academic Writing II (with grade of C- or higher)*

Department-Approved Electives – Credits: 10

Select 10 credits of English literature, language, writing, or film studies. Elective credits may be taken from any English literature, language, writing, or film studies course at the 300 level or above. At least 2 credits of practicum must be taken from the course list below. No more than 5 credits of film studies may be counted as elective credits in the English language and literature major. One 200-level course (up to 5 credits) may be counted as an elective.

Practicum Courses:

- COM 444 - The Observer (3-6)
- COM 446 - PULSE magazine (3-6)
- ENG 473 - Grant Writing: Theory and Practice (5) *Prerequisite: ENG 301 or ENG 310*

- ENG 484 - Manastash: Literary Editing (3) *Prerequisite: ENG 301 and ENG 303*
- ENG 485 - Manastash: Literary Design and Production (2) *Prerequisite: ENG 301 and ENG 303*
- ENG 490 - Cooperative Education (1-12) *Prerequisite: prior approval*
- ENG 493 - Online Practicum (3-5) *Prerequisite: 45 credits of English courses*

Total Credits: 74

Two-Year Course Schedule

The English Language and Literature Major can be completed in two years. See below for planned course offerings.
The courses and course rotations are subject to change. For courses offered by other departments, check with the originating department for scheduled offerings.

Sections in bold are offered online

Required Courses (27 credits)	**2026-27**			**2027-28**		
ENG 302 Poetry and Poetics (5)	F/**F**	**W/W**	S	F/**F**	**W/W**	S
ENG 303 Principles of Eng. Studies (5)	F/**F**	**W/W**	S	F/**F**	**W/W**	S
ENG 320 English Grammar (5)	F	W/**W**	**S**	F	W/**W**	**S**
ENG 418 Literary and Critical Theory (5)			S/**S**			S/**S**
ENG 420 English Linguistics (5)	**F**	**W**		**F**	**W**	
ENG 489 Senior Colloquium (2)	**F**	**W**	**S**	**F**	**W**	**S**

Literary Forms Courses (5 credits)	**2026-27**			**2027-28**		
ENG/TH 380 Studies in Drama (5*)			S			S
ENG 453 Studies in Fiction (5*)			**S**			**S**
ENG 454 Studies in Nonfiction (5*)		**W**			**W**	
ENG 455 Studies in Poetry (5*)	**F**			**F**		
**May be repeated for credit under different subtitle*						

Literature & History Courses (10 credits)	**2026-27**			**2027-28**		
ENG 363 Shakespeare (5*)	F		**S**	F		**S**
ENG 371 Literature & History I (5*)		**W**			**W**	
ENG 372 Literature & History II (5*)			S			S

Literature & History Courses (10 credits)	**2026-27**			**2027-28**		
ENG 373 Literature & History III (5*)		W			W	
ENG 374 Literature & History IV (5*)	**F**			**F**		
**May be repeated for credit under different subtitle*						

Critical Studies Courses (5 credits)	**2026-27**			**2027-28**		
ENG 415 Critical Studies in American Literature (5*)			**S**			S
ENG 417 Critical Studies in World Literature (5*)		**W**			W/**W**	
ENG 419 Critical Studies in British Literature (5*)	F/**F**			**F**		
**May be repeated for credit under different subtitle*						

Literature & Culture Courses (15 credits)	**2026-27**			**2027-28**		
ENG 329 Cultural Studies in Literature (5)		W			W	
ENG 330 African American Literature (5)		**W**			**W**	
ENG 331 Latina/o Literature (5)						**S**
ENG 332 American Indian Literature (5)			**S**			
ENG 333 Asian American Literature (5) -- **Summer Only**						
ENG 335 Women's Literature (5)	F			F		
ENG 336 Race & Literature (5)	**F**			**F**		
ENG 337 LGBTQ+ Literature (5)			S			S
ENG 347 Global Perspectives in Literature (5)		**W**			**W**	

Practicum Courses (min. 2 credits)	**2026-27**			**2027-28**		
At least 2 credits of practicum must be taken from the course list below.						
COM 444 - The Observer (3-6)	F	W	S	F	W	S
COM 446 - PULSE magazine (3-6)	F	W	S	F	W	S
ENG 473 - Grant Writing: Theory and Practice (5) -- **Summer Only**						

Practicum Courses (min. 2 credits)	**2026-27**			**2027-28**		
ENG 484 - Manastash: Literary Editing (3)		**W**			**W**	
ENG 485 - Manastash: Literary Design and Production (2)			**S**			**S**
ENG 490 - Cooperative Education (1-12)	F	W	S	F	W	S
ENG 493 - Online Practicum (3-5)			**S**			**S**
Elective Courses (10 credits)	**2026-27**			**2027-28**		
Electives can include additional courses from any of the strands, or you may select courses from the list below.						
ENG 263 Intro to Creative Writing (5)	F	W		F	W	
ENG 264 Creative Writing & the Environment (5)		**W**	S		**W**	S
ENG 265 Creative Writing for Well-being (5)	**F**		**S**	**F**		**S**
ENG 301 Rhetoric for Professional Writers (5)	F	**W**	**S**	F	**W**	**S**
ENG 364 Fiction Writing (5)	**F**	W		**F**	W	
ENG 365 Poetry Writing (5)	F	**W**		F	**W**	
ENG 366 Creative Nonfiction Writing (5)		W/**W**			W/**W**	
ENG 368 Multi-Genre Writing Workshop (5)			**S**			**S**
ENG 413 Composition Theory (5)		W/**W**			W/**W**	
ENG 456 Studies in Rhetoric (5)	F/**F**			F/**F**		
ENG 464 Advanced Fiction Writing (5)		W/**W**	S		W/**W**	S
ENG 465 Advanced Poetry Writing (5)	**F**	**W**		**F**	**W**	
ENG 466 Advanced Creative Nonfiction (5)	F/**F**		**S**	F/**F**		**S**
ENG 490 Cooperative Education (Internship) (Var)	F	W	S	F	W	S
HUM 301 Intro to Digital Humanities (5)						