

ENGLISH LITERATURE AND CREATIVE WRITING

Departmental Notes

Subject Code for Creative Writing: **CWRI**

Subject Code for English Language and Literature: **ENGL**

Subject Code for Writing: **WRIT**

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Overview

The Department of English Literature and Creative Writing offers a comprehensive undergraduate program that exposes students to English literatures from a large range of communities, historical periods, and geographical regions. All three English Plans (Major, Joint Honours, Minor) balance the study of canonical writers, literary forms, and traditions with the study of previously marginalized or unknown writing. The program fosters cross-cultural and historical literacies by encouraging students to engage with literatures from diverse histories and traditions through a range of disciplinary and interdisciplinary approaches.

Departmental Policies

Academic Integrity

The Department of English Literature and Creative Writing promotes an ethos of academic integrity, based on the values of honesty, trust, fairness, respect, responsibility, and courage. Students are expected to familiarize themselves with the University, Faculty, and Department policies on academic integrity. The Department of English Literature and Creative Writing Statement on Academic Integrity is attached to all undergraduate syllabi and may be found online at <http://www.queensu.ca/english/integrity> (<http://www.queensu.ca/english/integrity/>). The Statement

includes definitions and advice for recognizing and avoiding plagiarism.

Effective Writing

The effective communication of ideas in writing is fundamental to the discipline of literary study. Training in analytical essay-writing is offered in introductory courses and consolidated at all levels of the program. In upper years, greater emphasis is placed on research methodologies, as well as the importance of fully and accurately citing sources. Further coaching and training are available through the Student Academic Success Services, and a suite of WRIT courses offered by Arts and Science Online.

English Courses as Electives

Any 100-level ENGL or CWRI course can lead to an English Plan, and most 200-level ENGL courses are open to all students in second year or above. Upper-year students with no prior ENGL courses but who require an elective course in English (e.g. for Medical School), may enrol in any 100- or 200-level ENGL course.

Advice to Students

Course Selection

Although a minimum grade of C- in any first-year ENGL course is sufficient for admission to any English Plan, students are encouraged to take six ENGL units in their first year, including at least one writing-intensive course (ENGL 111— ENGL 162, CWRI 100, or WRIT 125).

In their second year, Majors and Joint Honours are required, and Minors are strongly recommended, to take ENGL 200 "History of Literature in English" (Core Course 1.B. in all English Plans); students in a Major or Joint Honours Plan also take a required seminar (ENGL 290, Core course 1.C.), which develops students' writing abilities and introduces them to the basic research tools of literary studies. ENGL 200 and ENGL 290 are prerequisites for coursework at the 300-level and above, so Majors and Joint Honours should be sure to complete them in second year.

In their second year, in addition to ENGL 200 and ENGL 290, Majors normally take between 9.00 and 12.00 additional units at the 200 level that will count toward their Plan, and Joint Honours normally take between 3.00 and 6.00 additional units at the 200 level. All Creative Writing courses, and a select number of courses from other departments and programs, can also be counted toward an English Plan.

Students entering ENGL Plans should ensure that they understand the requirements they must meet, so that they



can plan to take the right number of courses at the right level. Students should consult the English Department's web site or the Major Map for more information, and are always welcome to contact the Undergraduate Chair and/or the Undergraduate Program Assistant for advice.

Having gained the historical and critical foundations provided, respectively, by ENGL 200 and ENGL 290, Majors and Joint Honours proceed in third year to 300-level small lecture courses. These in-depth, full-year historical survey courses are organized into three categories: (ENGL 305 — ENGL 339), which covers literature from before 1800; (ENGL 340 — ENGL 357), which covers the nineteenth century (roughly, 1780-1920); and ENGL 360 — ENGL 389), which covers literature after 1900. Majors must take 6.00 units in each of these groups (Core courses 1.D., 1.E., 1.F.), while Joint Honours must take 6.00 units from the first group and 6.0 units from either the second or third (Core courses 1.D., 1.E.). Majors should take at least two of these full-year courses in their third year, while Joint Honours should take at least one.

The fourth-year experience for Majors consists of advanced 400-level seminars. Majors take 15.00 units at the 400 level, of which, at least 3.00 units of these must be from ENGL 405 — ENGL 459 (core course 1.G.), and at least 3.00 units must be from ENGL 460 — ENGL 499 (core course 1.H.). Joint Honours take any 6.00 units at the 400-level. Students in the third year of their Major plan may choose to take between 3.00 and 6.00 units at the 400 level, depending on how many 300-level courses they are also enrolled in; Joint Honours will normally fulfill their upper-level seminar requirements in fourth year.

Special Studies Opportunities

Study Abroad

A number of our students take the opportunity of studying abroad for a term or an entire year, benefitting from bilateral exchanges to universities in a wide array of countries. For more on these study abroad opportunities, see the section on International Programs and Study Abroad Options in this *Calendar*.

Queen's students who study abroad frequently do so in their third year. English Majors and Joint Honours normally take a set of core courses in their third year (Core courses 1.D., 1.E., and 1.F. for Majors; 1.D. and 1.E. for Joint Honours), but there is no reason why going on exchange in third year should prevent English Majors and Joint Honours from completing their Plans on time; it merely requires careful planning and consultation. Students who will be away from Queen's for the entire third year should enrol in at least 12.00 units of courses at their exchange institution that can be counted toward the 300-level Core course requirements. Half-year courses in similar chronological periods can be combined

to satisfy a year-long 300-level requirement; this option is frequently used by students who are away only for one term during their third year. All students intending to study abroad in their third or fourth year are strongly advised to consult with the Undergraduate Chair and/or the Undergraduate Program Assistant of English before finalizing their course selections at other universities.