

ENGLISH - B.A.

College of Sciences and Humanities
Department of English
www.kent.edu/english

About This Program

The English B.A. program offers a comprehensive education of literature, writing and critical thinking. With personalized attention from faculty and opportunities for creative expression, you will cultivate your voice and become a versatile communicator. Read more...

Contact Information

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- Speak with an Advisor
 - Ashtabula Campus
 - East Liverpool Campus
 - Geauga Campus
 - Kent Campus
 - Salem Campus
 - Stark Campus
 - Trumbull Campus
 - Tuscarawas Campus
- Chat with an Admissions Counselor: Kent Campus | Regional Campuses

Program Delivery

- **Delivery:**
 - In person
- **Location:**
 - Ashtabula Campus
 - East Liverpool Campus
 - Geauga Campus
 - Kent Campus
 - Salem Campus
 - Stark Campus
 - Trumbull Campus
 - Tuscarawas Campus

Examples of Possible Careers and Salaries*

English language and literature teachers, postsecondary

- 0.0% little or no change
- 72,200 number of jobs
- \$78,270 potential earnings

Proofreaders and copy markers

- -0.6% little or no change
- 12,000 number of jobs
- \$49,210 potential earnings

Secondary school teachers, except special and career/technical education

- -1.6% decline
- 1,094,500 number of jobs
- \$64,580 potential earnings

Additional careers

- Content writers/developers
- Marketing and social media material developers
- Editors and copy writers
- Grant writing specialists
- Community engagement writers and coordinators
- Project managers – marketing division

* Source of occupation titles and labor data comes from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics' Occupational Outlook Handbook. Data comprises projected percent change in employment over the next 10 years; nation-wide employment numbers; and the yearly median wage at which half of the workers in the occupation earned more than that amount and half earned less.

Admission Requirements

The university affirmatively strives to provide educational opportunities and access to students with varied backgrounds, those with special talents and adult students.

First-Year Students on the Kent Campus: First-year admission policy on the Kent Campus is selective. Admission decisions are based upon cumulative grade point average, strength of high school college preparatory curriculum and grade trends. Students not admissible to the Kent Campus may be administratively referred to one of the seven regional campuses to begin their college coursework. For more information, visit the admissions website for first-year students.

First-Year Students on the Regional Campuses: First-year admission to Kent State's campuses at Ashtabula, East Liverpool, Geauga, Salem, Stark, Trumbull and Tuscarawas, as well as the Twinsburg Academic Center, is open to anyone with a high school diploma or its equivalent. For more information on admissions, contact the Regional Campuses admissions offices.

International Students: All international students must provide proof of proficiency of the English language (unless they meet specific exceptions) through the submission of an English language proficiency test score or by completing English language classes at Kent State's English as a Second Language Center before entering their program. For more information, visit the admissions website for international students.

Former Students: Former Kent State students who have not attended another institution since Kent State and were not academically dismissed will complete the re-enrollment process through the Financial, Billing and Enrollment Center. Former students who attended another college or university since leaving Kent State must apply for admissions as a transfer or post-undergraduate student.

Transfer Students: Students who attended an educational institution after graduating from high school or earning their GED must apply as transfer students. For more information, visit the admissions website for transfer students.

Admission policies for undergraduate students may be found in the University Catalog's Academic Policies.

Students may be required to meet certain criteria to progress in their program. Any progression requirements will be listed on the program's Coursework tab

Program Requirements

Major Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Major Requirements (courses count in major GPA)		
ENG 24001	INTRODUCTION TO LITERARY STUDY	3
ENG 25001	LITERATURE IN ENGLISH I	3
or ENG 25004	LITERATURE IN THE UNITED STATES I	
ENG 25002	LITERATURE IN ENGLISH II	3
or ENG 25005	LITERATURE IN THE UNITED STATES II	
ENG 38001	CRITICAL THEORY AND READING	3
or ENG 38002	RHETORIC AND WRITING STUDIES	
ENG 49091	SENIOR SEMINAR (ELR) (WIC) ¹	3
English (ENG) Electives (20000, 30000 or 40000 level) ²		6
Additional Requirements (courses do not count in the major GPA)		
UC 10001	FLASHES 101	1
Foreign Language (see Foreign Language College Requirement below)		10-16
American Civic Literacy Requirement ³		3
Kent Core Composition		6
Kent Core Mathematics and Critical Reasoning		3
Kent Core Humanities and Fine Arts (minimum one course from each) ³		6-9
Kent Core Social Sciences (must be from two disciplines) ³		3-6
Kent Core Basic Sciences (must include one laboratory)		6-7
Kent Core Additional		6
General Electives (total credit hours depends on earning 120 credit hours, including 39 upper-division credit hours)		34
Concentrations		
Choose from the following:		18
General		
Literature		
Professional Writing		
Minimum Total Credit Hours:		120

¹ A minimum C grade must be earned to fulfill the writing-intensive requirement.

² The following courses will **not** fulfill English (ENG) Electives: ENG 21011, ENG 41092, ENG 41192, ENG 41292, ENG 41392 and any ENG 10000-level course.

³ If students complete the American Civic Literacy requirement by taking HIST 12061, the course will apply to the Kent Core Humanities category. If they complete it with POL 10101, the course will apply to the Kent Core Social Sciences category.

General Concentration Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Concentration Requirements (courses count in major GPA)		
Writing, Rhetoric and Linguistics Electives, choose from the following:		6
ENG 20002	INTRODUCTION TO TECHNICAL WRITING	
ENG 20021	INTRODUCTION TO CREATIVE WRITING	
ENG 24002	INTRODUCTION TO COMPOSITION THEORY	
ENG 30050	WRITING AND RHETORIC IN A DIGITAL AGE	
ENG 30051	WRITING, RHETORIC AND NEW MEDIA	
ENG 30053	WRITING FOR VIDEO GAMES	
ENG 30062	PRINCIPLES OF TECHNICAL WRITING	
ENG 30063	PROFESSIONAL WRITING	
ENG 30064	ARGUMENTATIVE PROSE WRITING	
ENG 30065	EXPOSITORY PROSE WRITING	
ENG 30066	WRITING IN THE PUBLIC SPHERE (ELR)	
ENG 30067	FICTION WRITING I	
ENG 30068	FICTION WRITING II	
ENG 30069	POETRY WRITING I	
ENG 30070	POETRY WRITING II	
ENG 30071	CREATIVE NONFICTION	
ENG 30074	GRAMMAR FOR EDITING	
ENG 30075	STARTING A NOVEL	
ENG 31001	FUNDAMENTAL ENGLISH GRAMMAR	
ENG 31002	HISTORY OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE	
ENG 31003	LINGUISTICS	
ENG 31004	LEXICOLOGY/LEXICOGRAPHY	
ENG 31006	WORLD ENGLISHES (WIC)	
ENG 31012	GENDER AND LANGUAGE	
ENG 31095	SPECIAL TOPICS IN LINGUISTICS	
ENG 38895	SPECIAL TOPICS IN WRITING	
ENG 39895	SPECIAL TOPICS IN RHETORIC, COMPOSITION AND WRITING	
ENG 40072	HOW TO EDIT PROFESSIONALLY	
ENG 40073	HOW TO PUBLISH: BOOKS AND BEYOND	
ENG 41492	TUTORING OF WRITING (ELR)	
ENG 42092	WRITING INTERNSHIP (ELR)	
ENG 42192	SERVICE LEARNING IN ENGLISH STUDIES (ELR)	
ENG 43092	TEACHING POETRY IN THE SCHOOLS (ELR)	
Historical Literature-Early Period Elective, choose from the following:		3
ENG 33001	U.S. LITERATURE TO 1865	
ENG 33010	AFRICAN-AMERICAN LITERATURE TO 1900	
ENG 34001	MEDIEVAL LITERATURE	
ENG 34002	BRITISH LITERATURE, 1500-1660	
ENG 34055	SHAKESPEARE	
ENG 34065	CHAUCER	
ENG 34070	KNIGHTS AND OUTLAWS IN LITERATURE AND CULTURE	
ENG 34090	SHAKESPEARE IN PERFORMANCE (ELR)	
ENG 37001	CLASSICAL RHETORIC	
Historical Literature-Modern Period Elective, choose from the following:		3
ENG 33002	U.S. LITERATURE FROM 1865 TO 1945	
ENG 33003	U.S. LITERATURE FROM 1945 TO PRESENT	
ENG 33012	MODERN AFRICAN-AMERICAN LITERATURE	
ENG 34003	BRITISH LITERATURE, 1660-1800	

ENG 34004	BRITISH LITERATURE, 1800-1900	
ENG 34005	BRITISH AND IRISH LITERATURE, 1900-PRESENT	
ENG 34095	SPECIAL TOPICS:MAJOR AUTHOR STUDIES	
ENG 39095	SPECIAL TOPICS IN LITERARY HISTORY	
Genre Studies, Cultural Studies, Literary Theory Electives, choose from the following:		6
ENG 21001	INTRODUCTION TO ETHNIC LITERATURE OF THE UNITED STATES	
ENG 21002	INTRODUCTION TO WOMEN'S LITERATURE	
ENG 21003	INTRODUCTION TO LGBT LITERATURE	
ENG 32001	CHILDREN'S LITERATURE	
ENG 32002	LITERATURE FOR YOUNG ADULTS	
ENG 33005	NATIVE AMERICAN LITERATURE	
ENG 33013	AFRICANA WOMEN'S LITERATURE	
ENG 33014	AFRICAN-AMERICAN WOMEN'S LITERATURE	
ENG 33015	AFRICAN LITERATURES	
ENG 34011	WORLD LITERATURE IN ENGLISH	
ENG 34021	WOMEN'S LITERATURE	
ENG 34031	SHORT STORY	
ENG 34041	FAIRY TALES	
ENG 35105	LITERATURE, CULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT	
ENG 35201	THE BIBLE AS LITERATURE	
ENG 35301	LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL AND TRANSGENDER: CRITICAL PERSPECTIVES	
ENG 35401	SCIENCE FICTION	
ENG 36005	FILM AND NARRATIVE	
ENG 39495	SPECIAL TOPICS IN LITERATURE	
ENG 39995	SPECIAL TOPICS CULTURAL STUDIES	
ENG 40089	INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE: THEMES IN STUDY ABROAD (ELR)	
ENG 49095	SENIOR AND GRADUATE SPECIAL TOPICS	

Minimum Total Credit Hours: 18

Literature Concentration Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Concentration Requirements (courses count in major GPA)		
Historical Literature-Early Period Elective, choose from the following:		3
ENG 33001	U.S. LITERATURE TO 1865	
ENG 33010	AFRICAN-AMERICAN LITERATURE TO 1900	
ENG 34001	MEDIEVAL LITERATURE	
ENG 34002	BRITISH LITERATURE, 1500-1660	
ENG 34055	SHAKESPEARE	
ENG 34065	CHAUCER	
ENG 34070	KNIGHTS AND OUTLAWS IN LITERATURE AND CULTURE	
ENG 34090	SHAKESPEARE IN PERFORMANCE (ELR)	
ENG 37001	CLASSICAL RHETORIC	
Historical Literature-Modern Period Elective, choose from the following:		3
ENG 33002	U.S. LITERATURE FROM 1865 TO 1945	
ENG 33003	U.S. LITERATURE FROM 1945 TO PRESENT	
ENG 33012	MODERN AFRICAN-AMERICAN LITERATURE	
ENG 34003	BRITISH LITERATURE, 1660-1800	
ENG 34004	BRITISH LITERATURE, 1800-1900	
ENG 34005	BRITISH AND IRISH LITERATURE, 1900-PRESENT	

Historical Literature-Topics Elective, choose from the following:		3
ENG 34095	SPECIAL TOPICS:MAJOR AUTHOR STUDIES	
ENG 39095	SPECIAL TOPICS IN LITERARY HISTORY	
Course from Historical Literature-Early Period elective list		
Course from Historical Literature-Modern Period elective list		
Genre Studies, Cultural Studies, Literary Theory Electives, choose from the following:		9
ENG 21001	INTRODUCTION TO ETHNIC LITERATURE OF THE UNITED STATES	
ENG 21002	INTRODUCTION TO WOMEN'S LITERATURE	
ENG 21003	INTRODUCTION TO LGBT LITERATURE	
ENG 32001	CHILDREN'S LITERATURE	
ENG 32002	LITERATURE FOR YOUNG ADULTS	
ENG 33005	NATIVE AMERICAN LITERATURE	
ENG 33013	AFRICANA WOMEN'S LITERATURE	
ENG 33014	AFRICAN-AMERICAN WOMEN'S LITERATURE	
ENG 33015	AFRICAN LITERATURES	
ENG 34011	WORLD LITERATURE IN ENGLISH	
ENG 34021	WOMEN'S LITERATURE	
ENG 34031	SHORT STORY	
ENG 34041	FAIRY TALES	
ENG 35105	LITERATURE, CULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT	
ENG 35201	THE BIBLE AS LITERATURE	
ENG 35301	LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL AND TRANSGENDER: CRITICAL PERSPECTIVES	
ENG 35401	SCIENCE FICTION	
ENG 36005	FILM AND NARRATIVE	
ENG 39495	SPECIAL TOPICS IN LITERATURE	
ENG 39995	SPECIAL TOPICS CULTURAL STUDIES	
ENG 40089	INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE: THEMES IN STUDY ABROAD (ELR)	
ENG 49095	SENIOR AND GRADUATE SPECIAL TOPICS	

Minimum Total Credit Hours: 18

Professional Writing Concentration Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Concentration Requirements (courses count in major GPA)		
ENG 30074	GRAMMAR FOR EDITING	3
or ENG 40072	HOW TO EDIT PROFESSIONALLY	
Writing Electives, choose from the following:		9
ENG 20002	INTRODUCTION TO TECHNICAL WRITING	
ENG 30050	WRITING AND RHETORIC IN A DIGITAL AGE	
ENG 30051	WRITING, RHETORIC AND NEW MEDIA	
ENG 30053	WRITING FOR VIDEO GAMES	
ENG 30062	PRINCIPLES OF TECHNICAL WRITING	
ENG 30063	PROFESSIONAL WRITING	
ENG 30064	ARGUMENTATIVE PROSE WRITING	
ENG 30065	EXPOSITORY PROSE WRITING	
ENG 38895	SPECIAL TOPICS IN WRITING	
Professional Experience Elective, choose from the following:		3
ENG 30066	WRITING IN THE PUBLIC SPHERE (ELR)	
ENG 40073	HOW TO PUBLISH: BOOKS AND BEYOND	
ENG 41492	TUTORING OF WRITING (ELR)	
ENG 42092	WRITING INTERNSHIP (ELR)	
ENG 42192	SERVICE LEARNING IN ENGLISH STUDIES (ELR)	

Rhetoric and Linguistics Elective, choose from the following:	3
ENG 24002 INTRODUCTION TO COMPOSITION THEORY	
ENG 31001 FUNDAMENTAL ENGLISH GRAMMAR	
ENG 31003 LINGUISTICS	
ENG 31012 GENDER AND LANGUAGE	
ENG 31095 SPECIAL TOPICS IN LINGUISTICS	
ENG 37001 CLASSICAL RHETORIC	
ENG 39895 SPECIAL TOPICS IN RHETORIC, COMPOSITION AND WRITING	

Minimum Total Credit Hours: 18

Graduation Requirements

Minimum Major GPA	Minimum Overall GPA
2.000	2.000

Foreign Language College Requirement, B.A.

Students pursuing the Bachelor of Arts degree* in the College of Sciences and Humanities must complete the following:

1. Elementary I and II of any language (or equivalent) **and**
2. One of the following options:
 - a. Intermediate I and II of the same language
 - b. Elementary I and II of a second language
 - c. Any combination of two courses from the following list:
 - i. Intermediate I of the same language
 - ii. One to two college-level course(s) completed outside the United States
 - iii. Courses: ARAB 21401, ASL 19401, CHIN 25421, MCLS 10001, MCLS 20001, MCLS 20091, MCLS 21417, MCLS 21420, MCLS 22217, MCLS 28403, MCLS 28404

*The Bachelor of Arts degree in Communication Studies is exempt from the foreign language requirement until fall 2028 due to its previous longstanding academic placement in the College of Communication and Information, which does not have a foreign language requirement.

All students with prior foreign language experience should take the foreign language placement test to determine the appropriate level at which to start. Some students may start beyond the Elementary I level and will complete the requirement with fewer courses. This may be accomplished in one of three ways:

1. Passing a course beyond Elementary I through Intermediate II level
2. Receiving credit through one of the alternative credit programs offered by Kent State University
3. Demonstrating language proficiency comparable to Elementary II of a foreign language

Certain programs may require specific languages, limit the languages from which a student may choose or require coursework through Intermediate II. Students who plan to pursue graduate study may need a particular language proficiency.

Roadmap

This roadmap is a recommended semester-by-semester plan of study for this program. Students will work with their advisor to develop a sequence based on their academic goals and history. Courses designated as critical (!) must be completed in the semester listed to ensure a timely graduation.

Semester One		Credits
ENG 24001	INTRODUCTION TO LITERARY STUDY	3
UC 10001	FLASHES 101	1
Foreign Language		4
Kent Core Requirement		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
Credit Hours		14

Semester Two		Credits
ENG 25001	LITERATURE IN ENGLISH I or or LITERATURE IN THE UNITED STATES I ENG 25004	3
Foreign Language		4
Kent Core Requirement		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
Credit Hours		16

Semester Three		Credits
ENG 25002	LITERATURE IN ENGLISH II or or LITERATURE IN THE UNITED STATES II ENG 25005	3
Foreign Language and/or General Elective		3
American Civic Literacy Requirement		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
Credit Hours		15

Semester Four		Credits
Concentration Elective		3
Foreign Language and/or General Elective		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
Credit Hours		15

Semester Five		Credits
ENG 38001	CRITICAL THEORY AND READING or or RHETORIC AND WRITING STUDIES ENG 38002	3
Concentration Elective		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
General Electives		6
Credit Hours		15

Semester Six		Credits
Concentration Electives		6
General Electives		9
Credit Hours		15

Semester Seven		Credits
ENG 49091	SENIOR SEMINAR (ELR) (WIC)	3
English Electives		6
General Electives		6
Credit Hours		15

Semester Eight		Credits
Concentration Electives		6
General Electives		9
Credit Hours		15

Minimum Total Credit Hours: 120

University Requirements

All students in a bachelor's degree program at Kent State University must complete the following university requirements for graduation.

NOTE: University requirements may be fulfilled in this program by specific course requirements. Please see Program Requirements for details.

Flashes 101 (UC 10001)	1 credit hour
Course is not required for students with 30+ transfer credits (excluding College Credit Plus) or age 21+ at time of admission.	
American Civic Literacy	3 credit hours
Experiential Learning Requirement (ELR)	varies
Students must successfully complete one course or approved experience.	
Kent Core (see table below)	36-37 credit hours
Writing-Intensive Course (WIC)	1 course
Students must earn a minimum C grade in the course.	
Upper-Division Requirement	39 credit hours
Students must successfully complete 39 upper-division (numbered 30000 to 49999) credit hours to graduate.	
Total Credit Hour Requirement	120 credit hours

Kent Core Requirements

Kent Core Composition (KCOMP)	6
Kent Core Mathematics and Critical Reasoning (KMCR)	3
Kent Core Humanities and Fine Arts (KHUM/KFA) (min one course each)	9
Kent Core Social Sciences (KSS) (must be from two disciplines)	6
Kent Core Basic Sciences (KBS/KLAB) (must include one laboratory)	6-7
Kent Core Additional (KADL)	6
Total Credit Hours:	36-37

Program Learning Outcomes

Graduates of this program will be able to:

1. Exhibit specialized knowledge and skills in literary studies or professional writing.
2. Employ research tools and methods appropriate for the academic study of literature, rhetoric or writing.
3. Describe and apply a variety of critical theories to the study of literature, rhetoric or writing.
4. Produce academic, creative or professional writing with attention to appropriate genre conventions, format and citation guidelines, stylistic expectations and grammatical rules.
5. Complete a long written project with the application of appropriate critical, creative or professional approaches; mastery of research methods and resources; and awareness of audience, rhetorical context and discourse functions.

Program Policies Foreign Language Requirements

In general, students may elect any foreign language taught through the Department of Modern and Classical Language Studies. However, certain majors, concentrations and minors require specific languages or limit the languages from which students may choose. In addition, students who plan to pursue graduate study may need particular languages for that study. In such cases, students should seek the advice of the appropriate department before selecting a language.

Progress Toward Fulfillment

College of Sciences and Humanities students are encouraged to begin meeting the foreign language requirement as early as possible in their program to ensure timely degree completion.

Mandatory Outcomes Assessment

In addition to the other General Requirements of the college, candidates for an undergraduate degree in the College of Sciences and Humanities are required, as a condition of graduation, to participate in an outcomes assessment. These outcomes assessments are conducted by each undergraduate degree program in the College of Sciences and Humanities.

Full Description

The Bachelor of Arts degree in English prepares students to be insightful readers and innovative writers. Students are introduced to literary traditions and critical methods through core courses and encouraged to pursue personal interests in the selection of a concentration and elective courses. English classes challenge students to develop reading, research and writing skills that will equip them for a wide range of careers.

The English major comprises the following concentrations:

- The **General** concentration allows students to combine elective choices in creative writing, professional writing, rhetoric, historical literature, genre studies and literary theory based on personal interest.
- The **Literature** concentration emphasizes the interpretation of literary texts drawn from a variety of historical and cultural contexts. Students develop an understanding of genre conventions and different theoretical and critical methods of analysis.
- The **Professional Writing** concentration offers courses in professional writing, editing and rhetoric. The concentration requires a professional experience elective fulfilled by an internship, service-learning placement or an advanced course in editing.

Students have opportunities in extracurricular organizations, including the English Club, Sigma Tau Delta and the Writer's Workshops; as well as such student publications as the literary arts magazine *Luna Negra*. Students are encouraged to study abroad, engage in undergraduate research, commit to service learning and complete a writing internship.

English students may apply early to the M.A. degree in English and double count 9 credit hours of graduate courses toward both degree programs. See the Combined Bachelor's/Master's Degree Program Policy in the University Catalog for more information.