

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN ENGLISH

CREATIVE WRITING EMPHASIS



TAKE YOUR WRITING TO THE NEXT LEVEL

The English Major with an emphasis in Creative Writing allows students to develop their craft within four genres: fiction, poetry, creative nonfiction, and dramatic writing (including screenwriting). The program is designed to serve students who are committed to developing as writers whether they plan to pursue graduate study in creative writing or to apply their creative and writing skills in other fields. This 44-credit hour major allows students the time to explore other concentrations in English, pair their major program with a second major or a minor, or pursue internship opportunities.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

After taking an introductory class that covers all four genres, students choose specialized coursework in two of the four genres with our creative writing faculty, who are all published creative writers themselves. Intermediate and advanced courses increasingly emphasize the workshop format where students' writing takes center stage, giving each class member highly individualized growth experience. In our Literary Editing and Publishing class, students also have the opportunity to get involved in *The Vehicle*, our undergraduate-run literary magazine. Each year, Lions in

Winter, our annual literary festival, brings new and upcoming writers to EIU to give readings and work closely with students.

WHAT CAREERS CAN I PURSUE?

Creative writers, like others in creative careers, typically need a "day job" while they work on getting their big break. Students will learn how to navigate the complexities of the job market in our senior level Career Development course, where they will explore career options and hone materials for their next step—whether that is the job market, a graduate program, or another post-graduation goal. Our alumni have pursued diverse career paths, including community college teaching, public relations, editing, and content writers for businesses and non-profit organizations.

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

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IT'S ALL ABOUT YOU. APPLY TODAY AT [MY.EIU.EDU](https://my.eiu.edu).

eiu.edu/english

CREATIVE WRITING EMPHASIS

The curriculum for the ENGLISH MAJOR WITH AN EMPHASIS IN CREATIVE WRITING includes a core curriculum with two courses that target professional development and career readiness, 21-credit hours of creative writing classes, and 12 hours of English electives, which allow students to explore other areas of English studies.

ENGLISH MAJOR: 44 HRS

ENGLISH MAJOR CORE REQUIREMENTS: 11 HRS

- ENG 1105** English Major Forum (1 hr)
- ENG 2205** Introduction to Literary Studies
- ENG 2901** Structure of English
 - OR ENG 3901** Language and Linguistics
 - OR ENG 4901** History of the English Language
- ENG 4300/90** English Studies Capstone*
- ENG 4060** English Studies Career Development (1 hr)

* ENG 4300/90 also satisfies the senior seminar requirement in the General Education program.

+EMPHASIS IN CREATIVE WRITING: 21 HRS

- ENG 2000** Introduction to Creative Writing
(This course is a prerequisite to all upper-level courses in the Creative Writing Emphasis)

CHOOSE TWO GENRES: 12 HRS

NONFICTION WRITING

- ENG 3061** Intermediate Nonfiction Writing
- ENG 4761** Advanced Nonfiction Writing

POETRY WRITING

- ENG 3062** Intermediate Poetry Writing
- ENG 4762** Advanced Poetry Writing

FICTION WRITING

- ENG 3063** Intermediate Fiction Writing
- ENG 4763** Advanced Fiction Writing

DRAMATIC WRITING

- ENG 3064** Intermediate Dramatic Writing
- ENG 4764** Advanced Dramatic Writing

STUDIES IN LITERARY GENRE : 6 HRS

- ENG 4742** Studies in Genre
- ENG 3XXX/4XXX** Literary & Cultural Studies course

+ELECTIVES: 12 HRS

Students work closely with an academic advisor each semester to choose electives that help them achieve their academic and professional goals. At least one elective must be chosen from one of our other areas of English Studies - Professional Writing or Literary and Cultural Studies.

Recommended Schedule of Classes

| | FALL SEMESTER | | SPRING SEMESTER | |
|--------|---|-------|---|-------|
| | COURSE | HRS | COURSE | HRS |
| YEAR 1 | ENG 1001G/91G | 3 | ENG 1002G/92G | 3 |
| | ENG 1105 English Major Forum | 1 | ENG 1009G or 2706G or Gen Ed Humanities | 3 |
| | CMN 1310G | 3 | Gen Ed Science | 3 |
| | Gen Ed Soc/Behavioral Science | 3 | Gen Ed Math | 3 |
| | Gen Ed Foreign Lang or Elective | 3-4 | Gen Ed Foreign Lang or Elective | 3-4 |
| | Total | 13-14 | Total | 15-16 |
| YEAR 2 | ENG 2205 Intro to Literary Studies | 3 | ENG 2000 Intro to Creative Writing | 3 |
| | ENG 2504G or 2705G or Gen Ed Humanities | 3 | ENG 2901 Structure of English | 3 |
| | Gen Ed Soc/Behavioral Science | 3 | English elective | 3 |
| | Gen Ed Fine Art | 3 | Gen Ed Soc/Behavioral Science | 4 |
| | Elective* | 3 | Gen Ed Science with Lab | 3 |
| | Total | 15 | Total | 16 |
| YEAR 3 | Intermediate Creative Writing Class | 3 | Intermediate Creative Writing Class | 3 |
| | Upper Division Literary Studies Course | 3 | Advanced Creative Writing Class | 3 |
| | Upper Division English Elective | 3 | English Elective | 3 |
| | Elective | 3 | Elective | 3 |
| | Elective | 3 | Elective | 3 |
| | Elective | 15 | Total | 15 |
| YEAR 4 | Advanced Creative Writing Class | 3 | ENG 4300/90 Eng Studies Capstone | 3 |
| | ENG 4742 Studies in Genre | 3 | Upper Division English Elective | 3 |
| | Elective | 3 | Elective | 3 |
| | Elective | 3 | Elective | 3 |
| | Elective | 3 | Elective | 3 |
| | ENG 4060 English Studies Career Development | 1 | | |
| | Total | 15 | Total | 15 |

*It is highly recommended that students choose either a second emphasis in English or a minor outside the department as a way to focus their elective coursework.