

# WCU English Majors' Handbook



2019-2020 Academic Year

### Department of English

Fifth Floor Main Hall
Department Offices: Main 532 & 540
West Chester University
West Chester, PA 19383
610-436-2822

http://www.wcupa.edu/arts-humanities/English/ English Majors' Forum on Desire 2 Learn (D2L) Revised Summer 2019

#### **ENGLISH MAJORS' HANDBOOK TABLE OF CONTENTS**

#### 

General Information	3
English Department Mission Statement	3
Welcome from the English Department Chair	4
Purpose of this Manual	5
Departmental Advising	6
Undergraduate Degree Programs in English	8
English Department Program Assessments	10
B.A. English	
B.A. English Program Requirements	12
B.A. in English: Literatures Advising Sheet Pre-Fall 2019	
B.A. in English: Writings Advising Sheet Pre-Fall 2019	15
B.A. in English: Literatures Advising Sheet Fall 2019	16
B.A. in English: Writings Advising Sheet Fall 2019	17
B.A. English Majors Portfolio	
Take Your B.A. English Advising Quiz!	19
B.S.Ed. English - Teacher Education	
English B.S.ED. & Post-Bac Program Requirements Teacher Education Policies	
English B.S.ED. Program Progression	
English B.S.ED. & Post-Bac Program Requirement Checklist	
Test Of Writing Competency & Portfolio Requirements & Procedures	
Dispositional Expectations For B.S.ED. and Post-Bac Teacher Certification Students	
B.S.Ed. English: Literatures Advising Sheet Pre-Fall 2019	
B.S.Ed. English: Writings Advising Sheet Pre-Fall 2019	
Teacher Candidacy Application (TCA) Part II	
Take Your B.S.ED. English Advising Quiz!	37
Additional Information for English Majors	
English Department Minor Programs	
Internships for English Majors	
Get Involved! Activites of Special Interest to English Majors	
Undergraduate Research Opportunities	
Student Awards and Scholarships	
English Department Affiliations	
Career Opportunities for English Majors	
Preparing for Graduation	
Letters of Recommendation	53
Course Listings	
Literatures Track Course List	
Writings Track Course List	
Literature Categories (American, British, World) for B.S.ED./Post-Bac Students Only	
Approved General Education Distributive Courses	59
Answers To: Take Your Advising Quiz!	60

#### **ENGLISH DEPARTMENT MISSION STATEMENT**

The English Department offers a variety of interrelated areas of study in a broad range of liberal arts and professional programs at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. The mission of the Department is to help students as readers, writers, and thinkers at all levels of study to appreciate the nuances of and connections among texts (literary, rhetorical, visual, etc.), and to use written and oral language to participate effectively in a wide range of academic, aesthetic, and professional contexts. The Department's programs prepare students for productive lives as critical thinkers, informed citizens, and ethical leaders.

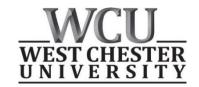
The English Department pursues the ideal of a socially conscious education. It aims to scrutinize preconceptions about race, gender, ethnicity, class, age, and sexual orientation. It values critical literacy and communication as resources for democracy, resources that invest citizens with the cognitive skills needed to analyze and critique those forms of language which work for and against the ideals of community, cooperation, justice, and equality.

We strive to achieve these goals via high quality teaching that reflects innovations of thought and scholarship, that uses current technologies to facilitate learning, and that responds to the cultural diversity of the student body. By maintaining state, regional, and national accreditation, we ensure that our majors are prepared to enter their chosen professions or pursue further study in their chosen fields.

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#### WELCOME FROM THE ENGLISH DEPARTMENT CHAIR

Fall 2019



Dear English Major:

Welcome to West Chester University's Department of English. Our faculty and staff look forward to making your undergraduate years as enjoyable, self-fulfilling, and productive as possible. As the University's largest Department, we offer a variety of programs to enrich your academic experience here and to prepare you for your careers after graduation.

This manual is designed to give you information about major requirements, as well as information on all of the special experiences the English Department makes available to you. Our majors are supplemented by minors in African/African American Literature, Business and Technical Writing, Creative Writing, Film Criticism, Journalism, Linguistics, and Literature and Diverse Cultures. We encourage all of our majors in the Bachelor of Arts program to do an internship, which provides valuable experience in fields such as publishing, journalism, business, public relations, and other professions.

If you have further questions about our programs, please contact your Departmental advisor, who can probably answer most of your questions—or who will know where the answers can be found. In your first semester with us, you will be assigned an advisor who will provide you with academic guidance throughout your undergraduate program. You must meet with your advisor at least once per semester in order to schedule courses for the following semester. Meeting with your advisor will also insure that you are following all Department and University requirements. But advisors are not only repositories of "official" information; they are resources for information about University life in general. Advising is ultimately a shared responsibility between advisor and advisee, so it is important that you be proactive about understanding and meeting your degree requirements.

Please also make sure you consult our online **English Majors' Forum**, a Desire 2 Learn (D2L) site. (We enroll all of our majors in this Forum, and if, for any reason, you are not enrolled, please contact our department secretary at 610-436-2822.) Use the Forum to learn about campus events, to refresh your knowledge of Department policies and opportunities, to take part in discussions about program and other issues, and to keep in touch with other English majors. If you need a reminder on University policies, please consult your Ram's Eye View or WCU undergraduate catalog (either online or in hard copy). Lastly, should you need more assistance, don't hesitate to email us at <a href="ENGLISH-DEPT@wcupa.edu">ENGLISH-DEPT@wcupa.edu</a> or call the office.

Welcome! I look forward to working with you and our faculty to help you succeed in your academic career as an English major.

Sincerely,

Dr. Rodney Mader Chair, Department of English

#### **PURPOSE OF THIS MANUAL**

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This manual is intended to help students in the English Department understand their programs, to know about the available options in courses and activities, to be able to plan their progression through their degree programs, and to help them think about possible careers. It is *not* intended to be a substitute for advising.

You need to know that requirements do change, as a result of state actions and those of accrediting bodies, and we are not able to reprint this manual every time a change is made. From time to time, there may be changes to degree requirements that are clarified for us after the printing of a particular year's Handbook. We will always keep you informed of such changes via our department's English major's mailing list and the *English Majors' Forum* on D2L. The authoritative degree requirements will be those in the University catalog. You can always consult the most current version of the catalog online from WCU's homepage. Your advisor is also a great source for updated information. Find information and ask questions; it is your responsibility to stay informed. The online undergraduate catalog has two relevant sections on requirements:

- Academic Policies: http://www.wcupa.edu/ information/official.documents/undergrad.catalog/acpolpro.htm
- Degree Requirements:
   <a href="http://catalog.wcupa.edu/general-information/index-course-prefix-guide/program-index/">http://catalog.wcupa.edu/general-information/index-course-prefix-guide/program-index/</a>

All new students must choose their distributive general education classes from an approved list. You will find lists by category, with course descriptions, in the current WCU undergraduate catalog: http://catalog.wcupa.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/

The Department of English offers two degree programs: the B.A. in English and the B.S.Ed. in English. All WCU degrees require completion of a minimum of 120 credits. The B.S.Ed. in English requires 124 credits for completion, and is also located in the Department of Secondary Education.

All of our coursework benefits students interested in exploring literature and language and in pursuing careers in teaching; in law; in journalism; in public relations and advertising; in creative, technical, and business writing; and in other professions, including management and marketing, which rely on communication skills.

#### Degree Progress Report (DPR) on MyWCU and University email:

While the DPR does a good job tracking your completion of general education requirements, it cannot track everything in your major degree program. Thus, **the information about your major in this manual overrides the DPR**. Double-check what the DPR is showing against your advising sheets. If a question arises about a conflict between the DPR and your program as mapped onto our advising sheets, the advising sheets will be considered correct. Please make your advisor aware of any discrepancies.

The English Department and the University communicate with students via WCU student email accounts. Please check yours regularly!

The DPR is **NOT** a substitute for your advising sheets!

#### **DEPARTMENTAL ADVISING**

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Academic advising is a dynamic developmental process, not simply a way of making it through WCU's various program procedures. You should think of your advisor as someone who is knowledgeable about our programs, who can direct you to campus resources, and who has experience with the world outside the university; your advisor can help you make important decisions here that will affect your future.

#### The WCU advising website,

https://www.wcupa.edu/\_academics/advising/default.aspx provides you with general information on what is expected in an advising relationship, tools for better communication with your advisor, FAQs about our general education program and academic policies, and resources for help and special opportunities.

All students at WCU are assigned an academic advisor to help guide them through their undergraduate careers. As an English major, you'll meet with your advisor at least once a semester to evaluate your

#### KNOW YOUR DEGREE.

Ultimately, it is

your responsibility to
know, understand, and
fulfill all degree
requirements.

academic status, plan your schedule for the following term, have your enrollment hold lifted, and discuss any other issues relevant to your academic career. Working closely with your academic advisor will help ensure that you are making progress towards your degree and that your course selections are in line with your educational and professional goals.

However, while your advisor will offer direction, make recommendations, and answer any questions you may have about the program, **ultimately you are responsible** for:

- understanding and keeping abreast of the program requirements you must complete;
- keeping an updated Advising sheet, and bringing it to all advising appointments. This will ensure
  that you are meeting the mandated requirements, including the completion of 120 credits, for
  graduation;
- checking *MyWCU* to find your enrollment appointment (that is, your registration date) for scheduling your next semester's courses;
- signing up to meet with your advisor in advance of your enrollment appointment so that you will be able to register for classes when your date and time to schedule occurs;
- conferring with your advisor regularly, especially when any question arises.

Please consult *MyWCU* to identify your English Department advisor. Our Program Coordinator, Mary Clark, will be your advisor your first year in the English Department (Main 506, 610.436.1007). You will be assigned a Faculty Advisor after your first year.

#### Why meet with your advisor?

- To ensure timely progress towards your degree.
- To become better acquainted with the program and with a faculty member.
- To lift the electronic advising block so that you can schedule your classes.
- To discuss which courses you should take and the order in which you should take them.
- To answer your questions about specific program requirements.
- To learn about the rich array of careers available to majors, graduate school, and other opportunities after graduation.
- To discuss your progress and performance, including any difficulties you may be having in your academic program.
- To learn about resources on campus that can help you with academic or personal problems.

- To obtain information about minors or other academic and extracurricular opportunities.
- To learn about completing assessment instruments for your program.
- To discuss readiness for graduation.

Advisors are typically **not available** on weekends, holidays, or over summer break. Please plan accordingly.

In addition to pre-scheduling sessions, your advisor will be available to

meet with you throughout the semester to discuss any number of issues, including adding, dropping, or withdrawing from a course; career objectives; preparation for graduate study; and internships and employment opportunities. We encourage students early in their degree progress to become familiar with the counselors and resources available at the Twardowski Career Development Center, at Lawrence 225: https://www.wcupa.edu/ services/stu.car/.

Students who believe they need additional career advisement can also consult advisors of department disciplines—specialists in education, literature, journalism, business communications, technical writing, and creative writing—to discuss graduate school options and professional opportunities. Throughout the academic year the department offers workshops on career possibilities, preparation, and graduate school.

#### **Secondary Education advising**

The Secondary Education Department advisor is the primary advisor for English B.S.Ed. students. This advisor will help you with the sequence and content of education courses, test requirements, and field experience information. You can find your advisor's name in MyWCU. Mary Clark will be Advisor #2, and is also available to answer questions your first academic year.

#### Procedure for scheduling

- 1. Pay any University bills. You cannot schedule if you have unpaid bills, parking tickets, health center charges, late library books, etc.
- 2. Sign up for an office meeting with your assigned advisor via the advisor's preferred method (appointment schedule on office door, online scheduling, or email). You should arrange to meet with your advisor at least 10 days before your registration date, called "enrollment appointment" on MyWCU. Dates are assigned based, in part, on the number of credits you have earned; your advisor name and enrollment date can be found by logging into MyWCU.
- 3. You should come to your advising appointment with a tentative schedule you set up in myWCU of courses that you would like to take. Also bring any questions you may have about offerings, your progress in the program, or career directions.
- 4. Your assigned advisor must clear you electronically before you can schedule on MyWCU. Please do not phone or e-mail requesting that your advising flag be lifted when you have not completed the required advising session. Your advisor will not lift your advising flag to allow you to schedule without a meeting to discuss your plans.
- 5. To avoid having your schedule purged by the Registrar, pay your bill promptly. If your schedule is purged, you may possibly not be able to reconstruct it. In most cases, the Department will not be able to add you back into classes you have lost that have been subsequently filled by another student.

#### UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE PROGRAMS IN ENGLISH

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The undergraduate program in English at WCU is designed to help students become sophisticated readers, writers, thinkers, and speakers capable of interpreting and creating texts in all of their complex forms. Our majors learn to engage in nuanced critical thinking; conduct meaningful research; craft persuasive arguments; and express their ideas with style, clarity, and confidence. We invite you to use the links on the English Department website to learn more about undergraduate studies in English.

The English Department offers two undergraduate degrees:

#### The Bachelor of Arts in English (B.A.)

This degree focuses on the study of language; reading, analysis, and critical interpretation; intensive instruction in writing; English, American, and World literatures; and literary, rhetorical, and critical theory. The B.A. also requires students to study a foreign language through the 202 level.

#### The Bachelor of Science in English Education (B.S.Ed.)

This degree, accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE), prepares students to become certified middle- and high-school English teachers. Students must complete content-related and pedagogical courses and satisfy degree requirements from the English Department and the Department of Professional and Secondary Education, as well as certification requirements from the Pennsylvania Department of Education. This major is now located in the Department of Secondary Education, in the College of Education and Social Work.

#### **Tracks**

Within each of the above two degree programs, students choose one of the following two tracks, depending on their interests:

#### **Literatures Track**

This track provides focused, in-depth study of literary and cultural texts across a diverse range of genres, historical periods, and cultural traditions; it also offers intensive instruction in critical writing. This track of the English major focuses on the study of literature in its many complex genres (poetry, fiction, drama, film, graphic novels, digital literature, and more), historical periods (from the ancient world to the twenty-first century), and cultural traditions (U.S., British, Multi-Ethnic, World, and Comparative). Our students read and interpret literature for the urgent questions it raises about identity, ethics, justice, race, gender, nationality, sexuality, and humanity, even as they develop concrete career skills in writing, research, critical analysis, information literacy, and oral communication.

#### **Writings Track**

The Writings Track emphasizes both the theory and practice of writing, and provides in-depth knowledge in all kinds of writing: nonfiction argument, technical writing, and the writing of poetry and fiction. Students will discover how our language conditions everything in our culture, from advertising and politics to electronic communication and creative writing. Students will also become better writers; better teachers of writing; more informed readers of the discourses that surround us; and more creative users of the written language, whatever genre or field they approach.

#### A Common Core for All Majors

While each track has its own specific courses and requirements, the English major as a whole ensures cohesion by requiring all students to complete a common Core sequence, take at least two "crossover" courses in their non-primary track, and choose from a shared pool of ENG 400 research seminars. Both tracks prepare students for a number of careers.

In addition to the 48-50 General Education credits, students must fulfill the major requirements of the English Department. A map of a typical program sequence can be found in the Undergraduate Catalog, see <a href="http://catalog.wcupa.edu/undergraduate/arts-humanities/english/#programstext">http://catalog.wcupa.edu/undergraduate/arts-humanities/english/#programstext</a> and click on your degree program for your Sample Course Plan.

Requirements for the B.S.Ed. degree are especially constrained, so students in this program need to pay special attention to their program sequence. The B.A degree requires a minimum of 120 credits; the B.S.Ed. degree requires 124 credits. You cannot graduate without this number of credits.

WCU degrees require a
minimum of 120
credits; the B.S.Ed.
degree requires
124 credits.
You cannot graduate
with less than
120 credits.

#### **ENGLISH DEPARTMENT PROGRAM ASSESSMENTS**

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The English department collects data to see how well our programs are delivering what we want them to teach. <u>All English majors MUST participate</u> in the multiple-choice disciplinary literacy instrument and the Majors' Exit Survey, but B.A. and B.S.Ed. students have <u>different</u> portfolio assignments.

#### What You Need to Know

As part of its ongoing commitment to a high quality undergraduate English major, the WCU English Department has developed three means of obtaining feedback about the program and how it helps students: 1) a multiple-choice disciplinary literacy instrument, 2) an exit survey and 3) a portfolio of student writing.

#### 1) The Disciplinary Literacy Instrument:

All graduating English majors will complete the Disciplinary Literacy Instrument. This instrument is used to assess the department's performance in achieving its undergraduate program goals. It is available on the *English Majors' Forum* site on D2L, under the *Assessment for Graduating Seniors* tab. You should complete the assessment instrument at the end of your final semester at WCU; please allow 10 to 15 minutes to complete.

#### 2) The English Majors' Exit Survey:

All graduating English majors are requested to fill out an exit survey at the end of their program. The survey asks you about the quality of your education and your satisfaction with the program. The survey is an opportunity for you to contribute to the quality of the program and shape the program for other students. The Exit Survey is also available on the *English Majors' Forum* site on D2L under the *Assessment for Graduating Seniors* tab, in the 9<sup>th</sup> week of the Fall and Spring semesters. **All** graduating students must complete this survey!

#### 3) The B.A. in English Portfolio:

Undergraduate English majors pursuing the B.A. in English, both tracks, are required to submit a portfolio of writing done for English classes at WCU (Transfer students should submit only work undertaken for WCU English courses). You submit your portfolio via the *Portfolio* dropbox found under the *Assessment for Graduating Seniors* tab on the *English Majors' Forum* site on D2L.

Your portfolio will contain two essays/writing projects that you consider examples of your best work completed at WCU.

Be sure to review the requirements for the B.A. English portfolio now to ensure that you will have copies when it comes time for you to assemble and submit your portfolio. You should submit original, ungraded copies of your work. (Do not rely on faculty to hold on to assignments for you.)

#### The portfolio must include the following:

- a. a writing project submitted for an ENG 400 seminar,
- b. another significant researched writing project composed for an English course (1,800-3,000 words; can be another ENG 400 paper),
- c. a coversheet (see page 16 and available on the *English Majors' Forum* in D2L).

You should select projects that successfully demonstrate your ability to write analytically, critically, and knowledgeably about a chosen topic. Your work should showcase your skill and style in writing

and reflect the attributes you value from your work at WCU. You can choose to revise the pieces before you submit your portfolio.

Finally, each portfolio will include a **coversheet** that identifies each item presented (available on page 16 and on D2L).

#### How will the portfolio scores be used?

The portfolio is one of the three assessment tools the English Department uses to gauge the effectiveness of our B.A. program in English. Though you submit the portfolio under your name, scores will be recorded anonymously, and those scores will be examined ONLY by assessment personnel in aggregate with the scores of other portfolios and ONLY for this single purpose of program assessment. You can be confident that the information in the portfolio will be kept confidential.

The score on the portfolio will not affect any grades. Unlike the portfolio required by the B.S. Ed. program, the B.A. in English portfolio will not function as a test of your abilities that you must pass in order to complete the program. Although submission is required, the portfolio is for program assessment purposes only.

#### Submission of the B.A .Portfolio

 Online: Log into the English Majors' Forum in D2L. Click on Assessment for Graduating Seniors on the top menu bar, then choose Portfolio (BAs only). Follow instructions for submission.

Graduating B.A.
students should submit
their portfolios to the
D2L Dropbox on the
English Majors' Forum
by the end of finals
week in their last
semester.

#### 4) The B.S.Ed. Portfolio:

The Writing Portfolio for the B.S.Ed. English program is also a collection of writing done for English classes here at WCU. The B.S.Ed. Portfolio is graded Pass/Fail. Teacher Certification students must pass the Writing Portfolio as a requirement for Teacher Candidacy. Detailed information can be found on the Secondary Education department website.

#### **B.A. ENGLISH PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS**

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#### Foreign Language Requirement for B.A. English majors:

Candidates for the B.A. in English will take 0-12 credit hours, depending on their language proficiency when they enter the program. The benefits of this requirement are many, but among the most important is what learning a foreign language teaches students about English as a language and about the intricate relationship between language and culture.

B.A. students must complete a foreign language through the intermediate level (typically numbered "202"). Students with extensive prior foreign language experience should not register for a 100-level language course; those placing out of lower-level classes may replace those credits with electives. **The English Department does not offer the culture cluster option**; however, if a student has a documented disability, he/she may be work with the OSSD office to secure an approved alternative to the Foreign Language requirement.

Students planning to take a Language placement test to either test out of a language requirement, or to determine the particular level at which they should begin their language study, should contact Marlies Persch, the director of the Language Learning Center in Mitchell Hall room 006A. Please see the Language and Cultures Department home page for details:

https://www.wcupa.edu/arts-humanities/languagesCultures/placementTest.aspx

Follow all information on that page for sign-in information, password, language choice, and email instructions. French, German, Spanish and Russian are taught, as well as Arabic, Chinese, Classical Greek and Hebrew, Italian, Japanese, and Portuguese. American Sign Language also satisfies the language requirement: <a href="http://catalog.wcupa.edu/undergraduate/health-sciences/kinesiology/deaf-studies-minor/">http://catalog.wcupa.edu/undergraduate/health-sciences/kinesiology/deaf-studies-minor/</a>

Please note that you do not earn credit through the placement test!

For additional information, please see the Languages and Cultures Requirements website at: <a href="https://www.wcupa.edu/arts-humanities/languagesCultures/">https://www.wcupa.edu/arts-humanities/languagesCultures/</a>

Students whose placement scores indicate that they need to take FOUR language classes to obtain the 202 level will need to use ONE of their Gen Ed electives in order to do this.

#### Minor/Concentration/Department electives for B.A. English majors:

This 18-credit section means that there are three ways to complete this section of your program. The DPR cannot track all variations of this section of your program, so you must use your advising sheets.

**1. Formal minor.** A formal minor is an approved program of study in English or other department that will show up on your transcript – for example, Business & Technical Writing in English, or Art History, or Physics, or Interdisciplinary minors such as International Business or Women's and Gender Studies. Each comprises 18 credits, so you can use this section of your program to get a formal minor. See the full list of WCU minor programs in the Undergraduate catalog.

The English Department offers seven minors: see page 38 and the English Department Home page: http://www.wcupa.edu/arts-humanities/English/undergradStudies.aspx#englishMinors

- **2. Concentration.** If you want to study in an area for which WCU may not have a formal minor for example, Sustainability or Caribbean Studies, you can design a structured, 18-credit/six course concentration in collaboration with your advisor. This concentration must have a *clear intellectual foundation*, and your advisor should list your plans, including course numbers, in an advising note on MyWCU. You may **not** use the concentration section as a location for random electives and classes that don't fit anywhere else; the concentration must cohere. If there is a formal minor already established in your proposed concentration area, you must select the formal minor. You must declare your concentration while you still have classes to take to complete it **(no concentrations created at graduation time, no concentrations made of all transfer classes).**
- **3.** English Department electives. Don't want a formal minor or to design a concentration? Fill this section with 18 credits of any English department majors' classes. One-hundred (100) level Gen Ed. classes (CLS, LIT or WRT) do not fulfill an English major or minor requirement or concentration.

#### **IMPORTANT TO NOTE!**

Only **one** course used to fulfill requirements in this 18-credit minor section **can be used to fulfill a track major requirement**.

You can only "double-din"

You can only "double-dip" one course.

**Note:** The DPR does **not** catch this!

For more details, please see the English Department Home page:

http://www.wcupa.edu/arts-humanities/English/default.aspx.

### B.A. in English: <u>Literatures</u> Advising Sheet Pre-Fall 2019

Name: ID#:

General Education	English Major Courses – ENG 400 Seminars:	
Requirements	Literatures Track B.A.	English core courses are pre-reqs.
Academic Foundations	Language Courses	ENG 400
WRT 120	ENG/LIN 230 Intro. to Linguistics	ENG 400
WRT 200 – 220	Language 102	
MAT 103+	Language 201	ENG 400
SPK 208 or 230	Language 202	Minor OR Concentration OR English Dept. Electives
Communities (J)	English Core Courses	Electives option: Six English
Interdisciplinary (I)	ENG 194	courses, only CLS, CRW, DHL, ENG, FLM, JRN, LIT, or WRH– <b>NO 100</b>
Distributive Sciences Courses 2 dif. prefixes (see approved list)	ENG 295 (best after ENG194)	level or WRT courses!
Science #1	ENG 296 <i>or</i> ENG 206 (best after 194)	2.
Science #2	Intermediate Level Literatures	3.
Distributive Behavioral/Social Sciences 2 dif. prefixes (see approved list)	Track Courses (two must be designated as Early). See track	4
Soc. Sci #1	course lists at back of manual.  Genre (E)	5.  6.
Soc. Sci #2	Genre (E)	
Distributive Humanities HIS, LAN or PHI 2 dif. prefixes, & Arts, (see approved list)	U.S. Multi-Ethnic &	For each double-dip class between English major and minor, student must take an additional English
Humanities #1	World (E) U.S. Multi-Ethnic &	course elective. Indicate those courses below, 3 max.:
Humanities #2	World (E) Historical Contexts (E)	1.
Arts	Historical Contexts (E)	2.
Gen Ed Electives* (Use one if	Intermediate Level Writings	3
you need a 101 level language)	Crossover Courses for	
	Literatures Track	CHECK FOR COMMON ERRORS:
	Writings Crossover	None of the courses used to fulfill my Distributive Gen Ed requirements are
	Writings Crossover	Interdisciplinary "I" courses.

### B.A. in English: Writings Advising Sheet Pre-Fall 2019

Name: Name:

General	English Major Courses –	ENG 400 Seminars: English core courses are pre-reqs.
Education	Writings Track B.A.	English core courses are pre requi
Requirements	Language Courses	ENG 400
Academic Foundations WRT 120	ENG/LIN 230 Intro. to Linguistics	ENG 400
	Language 102	
WRT 200 – 220	Language 201	ENG 400
MAT 103+ SPK 208 or 230	Language 202	Minor OR Concentration OR English Dept. Electives
 Diverse	English Core Courses	Electives option: Six English
Communities (J)	ENG 194	courses, only CLS, CRW, DHL, ENG, FLM, JRN, LIT, or WRH – <b>NO 100</b>
Interdisciplinary (I)	ENG 295 (best after	level or WRT courses!
Distributive Sciences Courses 2 dif. prefixes (see approved list)	ENG194) ENG 296 <i>or</i> ENG 206	1
Science #1	(best after 194)	2
Science #2	Intermediate Level Writings Track Courses See track course lists at back of manual.	3. 4.
Distributive Behavioral/Social Sciences 2 dif. prefixes (see approved list)	Style and Aesthetics	5.
Soc. Sci #1	Style and Aesthetics	6 For each double-dip class between
Soc. Sci #2	Power and Politics	English major and minor, student must take an additional English course
Distributive Humanities HIS, LAN or PHI 2 dif. prefixes, & Arts, (see approved	Power and Politics	elective. Indicate those courses below, 3 max:
Humanities #1	Information Literacy,	1
Humanities #2	Technology, and  Media (2)	3.
Arts	Intermediate Level Literatures Crossover Courses for Writings	
Gen Ed Electives* (Use one if you need a 101 level	Track. No FLM courses	CHECK FOR COMMON ERRORS:  None of the courses used to
language)	Literatures Crossover	fulfill my Distributive Gen Ed requirements are Interdisciplinary
	Literatures Crossover	"I" courses.

# B.A. in English: <u>Literatures</u> Advising Sheet Fall 2019

Name: ID#:

General Education	English Major Courses –	ENG 400 Seminars:	
Requirements	Literatures Track B.A.	English core courses are pre-reqs.	
Academic Foundations	Language Courses	ENG 400	
WRT 120 or WRT 123	ENG/LIN 230 Intro. to Linguistics	ENG 400	
WRT 200 – 220	Language 102		
MAT 103+	Language 201	ENG 400	
FYE 100 (4 credits)	Language 202	Minor OR Concentration OR English Dept. Electives	
Diverse Communities (J)	<b>English Core Courses</b>	Electives option: Six English	
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	English core courses	courses, only CLS, CRW, DHL, ENG,	
Interdisciplinary (I)	ENG 194	FLM, JRN, LIT, or WRH – <b>NO 100</b>	
Distributive Sciences Courses 2 dif. prefixes (see approved list)	ENG 295 (best after ENG194)	level or WRT courses! Only one double dip allowed!	
Science #1	ENG 296 <i>or</i> ENG 206 (best after 194)	1	
Distributive Behavioral/Social Sciences 2 dif. prefixes (see approved list)	Intermediate Level Literatures Track Courses (two must be designated as Early). See track course lists at back of manual.	2. 3. 4.	
Soc. Sci #1	Genre (E)	5.	
Soc. Sci #2	Genre (E)	6	
Distributive Humanities HIS, LAN, LNC or PHI. 2 dif. prefixes, & Arts, (see approved list)	U.S. Multi-Ethnic & World (E)	Speaking Emphasis	
Humanities #1	U.S. Multi-Ethnic & World (E)	2.	
Humanities #2	Historical Contexts (E)	3.	
Arts	Historical Contexts (E)	Ethics	
Gen Ed Electives* (Use one if you need a 101 level language)	Intermediate Level Writings Crossover Courses for Literatures Track	1	
	Writings Crossover	CHECK FOR COMMON ERRORS:  None of the courses used to fulfill my Distributive	
	Writings Crossover	Gen Ed requirements are Interdisciplinary "I" courses.	

# B.A. in English: <u>Writings</u> Advising Sheet Fall 2019

Name:	_	ID#:
General Education	English Major Courses –	ENG 400 Seminars:
Requirements	Writings Track B.A.	English core courses are pre-reqs.
Academic Foundations	Language Courses	ENG 400
WRT 120 or WRT 123	ENG/LIN 230 Intro. to Linguistics	
WRT 200 – 220	Language 102	ENG 400
MAT 103+	Language 201	ENG 400
FYE 100 (4 credits)	Language 202	Minor OR Concentration OR English Dept. Electives
Diverse Communities (J)	English Core Courses	Electives option: Six English
Interdisciplinary (I)	ENG 194	courses, only CLS, CRW, DHL, ENG, FLM, JRN, LIT or WRH – <b>NO 100</b>
Distributive Sciences Courses 2 dif. prefixes (see approved list)	ENG 295 (best after ENG194)	level or WRT courses! Only one double dip allowed!
Science #1	ENG 296 <i>or</i> ENG 206 (best after 194)	1.
Science #2	Intermediate Level Writings Track Courses See track course	2. 3.
Distributive Behavioral/Social Sciences 2 dif. prefixes (see approved list)	lists at back of manual.	4.
Soc. Sci #1	Style and Aesthetics	5.
Soc. Sci #2	Style and Aesthetics	6
Distributive Humanities HIS, LAN, LNC or PHI. 2 dif. prefixes, & Arts, (see approved list)	Power and Politics	Speaking Emphasis
Humanities #1	Power and Politics	1.
Humanities #2	Information Literacy,	2
Arts	Technology, and  Media (2)	3
Gen Ed Electives* (Use one if you need a 101 level language)	Intermediate Level Literatures Crossover Courses for Writings Track. No FLM courses	1.
	Literatures Crossover	CHECK FOR COMMON ERRORS:  None of the courses used to fulfill my Distributive Gen Ed requirements are
	Literatures Crossover	Interdisciplinary "I" courses.

#### B.A. ENGLISH MAJORS PORTFOLIO

# Include this Coversheet with Your Portfolio (Fillable Word Doc available on D2L English Majors' Forum)

Instructions: Please fill out this sheet and submit it with your portfolio before the end of your last semester at WCU. Your portfolio should contain two writing projects that you consider the best examples of your work completed in undergraduate English courses. Selected items must include the following: (1) one ENG 400 seminar project and (2) one other English department research project (1,800-3,000 words; can be another ENG 400) of which you feel most proud. Please don't include any instructor's comments or grades, but you may revise any piece before submission

Your Name	
Track (WRT/LIT)	
Graduation: semester and year	
the spaces provided below, plea ur portfolio.	se list the titles or assignment names for the formal essays included in
Order	Title of Essay and/or Class for which Essay was Submitted
Coversheet	☐ Completed
ENG 400 Seminar Essay	
Another English Dept. Researched Essay [No WRT]. (1,800-3,000 words)	

#### Submission

• Online: Log into the *English Majors' Forum* in D2L. Click on *Assessment for Graduating Seniors* on the top menu bar, then choose *Portfolio (BAs only)* and follow the instructions.

#### **TAKE YOUR B.A. ENGLISH ADVISING QUIZ!**

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Test your program knowledge by taking the quiz below that asks you about general education and your English major. Answers can be found at the end of this handbook.

#### **General Education & General Advising**

- 1. Who is the primary steward of a student's academic career? What is the role of an English department advisor?
- 2. Why can't an Interdisciplinary course count as one of your Gen Ed distributive area classes?
- 3. Does a creative writing seminar count as ENG 400, the research seminar?
- 4. What should you do if you want to take classes at another college and have them count at WCU?
- 5. When should you apply for graduation? What happens when you apply for graduation?
- 6. What is the minimum number of credits needed to graduate, by state mandate?
- 7. If you want to declare a minor, what should you do?
- 8. How many courses can you "double-dip" between an English major and an English minor? (I.e., how many courses can you use to satisfy the requirements of both programs?)

#### B. A. English (Writings & Literatures)

- 1. What is the difference between a minor and a concentration?
- 2. How many crossover courses are required for the B.A. in either track?
- 3. What level of foreign language must you achieve?

# ENGLISH B.S.ED. & POST-BAC PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS TEACHER EDUCATION POLICIES

For students pursuing the B.S.Ed. and Post-Baccalaureate Teaching Certification in English Secondary Ed.

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This section provides B.S.Ed. students or prospective students with some information on admission to the teacher education program, student teaching prerequisites for Pennsylvania secondary schools, and the Praxis II exams. The requirements derive from directives from our accrediting bodies: the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP), National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE), and the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE). Students in our program benefit by earning a degree approved by these accrediting bodies; most school districts look for such degrees.

You can find extensive information about tests, certification, etc., on the College of Education and Social Work's site <a href="https://www.wcupa.edu/education-socialwork/">https://www.wcupa.edu/education-socialwork/</a> and D2L's English Majors Forum.

#### **Policy for Teacher Candidacy**

All students seeking a teacher education degree or certification must apply for Teacher Candidacy. In order to complete the degree in eight semesters of full-time study, students should apply for teacher candidacy sometime in their sophomore year. Students must:

- Complete 48 credits of college-level coursework. Teacher candidacy must be attained before 60 credits earned to progress in program.
- **2.** Pass the Test of Writing Competency administered by the Department of English. For details, please see page 26.
- 3. Achieve a minimum GPA of 2.8.
- **4.** Pass the Basic Skills Testing in reading, writing, and math. Passing scores are defined on the College of Education's website, at <a href="https://www.wcupa.edu/education-socialWork/paTests.aspx">https://www.wcupa.edu/education-socialWork/paTests.aspx</a>. You may be exempt from these tests depending on your SATs or ACTs; check the appropriate drop down category.
- 5. Earned 3 credits in college-level English composition, 3 credits in Literature, and 6 credits in Math.
- **6.**Complete College of Education's **English** application for Teacher Candidacy and the English department's TCA II form (see page 36). Completed forms should be handed in to the Program Coordinator in Main 506.

#### **Clearances**

B.S.Ed. English students must have criminal background, child abuse, fingerprinting, and TB clearances for EDP 250, EDA 304, ENG 390, ENG 392, EDS 306, EDS 411, and EDS 412.

If you do not have current clearances, you will be removed from these classes at the beginning of the term. To keep up-to-date with current procedures for clearances, please visit the College of Education's clearances page: https://www.wcupa.edu/education-socialWork/clearances.aspx.

#### **Student Teaching prerequisites**

To student teach, you <u>must</u> attend the mandatory student teaching meeting **two semesters** before you plan to student teach. Check your WCU email and/or D2L *English Majors' Forum* site for the meeting schedule. In addition, you must:

No student may take EDS 306, the first Level 3 field experience course without Teacher Candidacy.

- 1. Pass the Writing Portfolio requirement administered by the Department of English in order to student teach. Please see page 26 for information on procedures/requirements.
- 2. Attain a "C" or higher in selected classes. See the WCU catalogue under the English Department's Student Teaching Pre-requisites to review the current list of courses that require a "C" or higher:

LAN/ENG 382 **EDF 300** LIT 398 **EDP 250** 

ENG 194, 295, 296 or ENG 206, 331, 390, and 392 **EDS 306** WRT 120, 200 or 204, 205, 206, 208, or 220 ENG/LIN 230

If you receive a C- or lower, you should retake the course immediately before attempting more advanced courses in English or Education. Students having difficulty with several of the courses listed above should recognize that they may not meet the competency requirements for student teaching and should consider withdrawing from the B.S.Ed. program.

3. Complete **all coursework** (including NGs) before student teaching. Additional coursework or incomplete work will not be permitted during or after student teaching.

Students must complete all coursework (including NGs) before student teaching.

4. Attain a "minimum cumulative GPA" of 2.8 for all courses listed on your official transcript. However, mathematically, a GPA of 2.9 for 110 credits is required before student teaching to reach the 3.0 GPA required by the PA Dept. of Education for teacher certification, assuming a grade of A is earned for EDS 411 and 412, both sessions of student teaching. This formula changes depending on the number of credits accumulated. No one will be approved to student teach with a GPA below 2.8. To graduate with the B.S.Ed. degree, students must achieve a minimum GPA of 3.0 at the end of their program.

#### **Praxis II requirement**

All B.S.Ed. and certification students must attempt the Praxis II exam (English Language Arts: Content Knowledge, ETS #5038) before their student teaching semester. Students must pass this exam before being certified by the State of Pennsylvania. Passing scores are defined on the College of Education's website, at <a href="https://www.wcupa.edu/education-socialWork/paTests.aspx">https://www.wcupa.edu/education-socialWork/paTests.aspx</a>.

#### Field course sequence

In order for field experience hours to build logically through levels, students must take these courses in this order:

Level 1 – EDP 250

Level 2 - EDA 304

Level 3 – EDS 306 (requires Teacher Candidacy)

Level 3 – ENG 390 (pre-requisites: EDS 306 & Teacher Candidacy)

Level 3 – ENG 392 (pre-requisites: EDS 306, Teacher Candidacy, recomm. EDR 347) Level 4 – EDS 411 and 412 – Student Teaching (pre-requisites: all Level 3 courses)

\*NOTE on Level 3 courses: EDS 306 must be taken first. They are not taught during summer session. ENG 392 can be taken before ENG 390. It is recommended ENG 390 and 392 not be taken the same semester, due to the amount of field experience hours required.

#### **ENGLISH B.S.ED. PROGRAM PROGRESSION**

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General overview ONLY – please see other sections of this manual for more detail & requirements.

#### YEAR 1

- Gen Ed
- English core: ENG 194, ENG 295, & ENG 296 or ENG 206
- Education classes: EDF 300 & EDA 103 suggested
- Begin taking Basic Skills tests!



#### YEAR 2

- Finish Gen Ed and English core courses
- Begin English track classes
- Obtain field experience clearances
- ❖ Take Level 1 & 2 field classes in order: EDP 250 & EDA 304
- Pass English Dept. Test of Writing Competency (TOWC)
- Apply for Teacher Candidacy (TCA and TCA II)



#### 

#### This means you have

This means you have:

Earned at least 48 college credits, including 3 in Writing, 3 in Literature, and 6 in Math

- ❖ Passed all your Basic Skills tests (unless your SAT/ACT test scores exempt you)
- ❖ Passed the English Department's Test of Writing Competency (TOWC)
- Earned a GPA of 2.8 or higher
- Completed Teacher Candidacy English application & TCA II form and submitted them with your completed advising sheets to English Dept. Program Coordinator



#### YEAR 3

- EDS 306 after Teacher Candidacy but before ENG 390 & ENG 392 no exceptions to this pre-req. & no simultaneous enrollment
- ❖ LIT 398 and EDR 347
- Remaining English and Education classes
- ❖ 1<sup>st</sup> ENG 400
- ENG 390 or ENG 392 after Teacher Candidacy & EDS 306, no simultaneous enrollment
- Pass Writing Portfolio requirement
- \* Take Praxis II English Content test. You must **attempt** this test before your first day of student teaching and **pass** for PA teacher certification.



#### YEAR 4

- ENG 390 or ENG 392 after Teacher Candidacy & EDS 306, no simultaneous enrollment
- ❖ 2<sup>nd</sup> ENG 400
- Remaining English and Education classes
- Pass Praxis II English Content test. You must take this test before your first day of student teaching. You must pass this test for PA teacher certification.
- Final semester: Student teaching, EDS 411 and 412. All course work & NGs completed prior to ST!

#### **ENGLISH B.S.ED. & POST-BAC PROGRAM REQUIREMENT CHECKLIST**

Use this chart to keep track of when you complete each item.

\*\* Note: B.S.Ed. students should take undergraduate courses. Post-Bac students have the option of taking graduate or undergraduate courses, depending on their program of study, and should consult their Post-Bac advisor.

REQUIREMENT	NOTES	DATE COMPLETED
Post-Bac Advising Worksheet	Post-Bacs students only. Meet with Post-Bac Advisor to complete form prior to enrolling in classes.	
Clearances	ALL FIELD COURSES REQUIRE CLEARANCES.  EDP 250/550, EDA 304/511, EDS 306/505, ENG 390, ENG 392, EDS 411/412. See: <a href="http://www.wcupa.edu/education-socialwork/clearances.aspx.">http://www.wcupa.edu/education-socialwork/clearances.aspx.</a>	
Test of Writing Competency (TOWC)	This timed writing test is offered once a semester on a Friday from 4:15-7. Bring paper, a pen/pencil, and a dictionary. Registration not required.	
At least 48 Undergraduate Credits		
Approved Program of Study	Post-Bac students only: Complete during first semester, deliver to College of Education, Teacher Certification office.	
2.8 GPA	2.8 GPA required for Teacher Candidacy; 3.0 GPA required for PA teacher certification.	
6 credits Math	B.S.Ed. students only	
Basic Skills Tests	https://www.wcupa.edu/education- socialWork/paTests.aspx Not required for Post-Bac students	
Teacher Candidacy Application (TCA)	TCA English form can be found on the College of Education and Social Work website:  https://www.wcupa.edu/education- socialwork/fate.aspx  The Secondary Education Chairperson must sign this	
TCA II Form	form.  TCA II form assists the English department in planning for upcoming methods courses and insures that students understand key program requirements.  Can be found on page 34. Include a copy of your advising sheets. Your English advisor must sign this form!	
NCTE National Council of Teachers of English	Membership in the NCTE student affiliate chapter is highly recommended. Council activities can be beneficial for future teachers. Membership in a national, professional organization can only enhance a resume.	

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS			
EDA 103/EDA 542	Foundations of Special Education		
EDF 300/EDF 589	Democracy & Education		
LEVEL 1 FIELD EDP 250/EDP 550	Educational Psychology	Take this class ASAP as it is the first in a sequence of 6 field courses that must be taken in order.	
EDA 304/EDA 511	Special Ed Processes	Pre-requisites: EDA 103/EDA 542 and EDP 250/EDP 550	
ENG/LAN 382 or ENG/LAN 569 Teaching English Language Learners			
EDR 347/EDR 550	Literacy Development	Take this class prior to ENG 390	
LIT 398/LIT 593	Young Adult Literature		

Writing Portfolio		Submit two semesters before Student	
Ü		Teaching. Details in Handbook section.	
		See D2L English Majors' Forum for date	
		and time due. Late portfolios will not	
		be accepted.	
College of Education	1	Required two semesters before	
Teacher Education N	Meeting	Student Teaching - NO EXCEPTIONS!	
		Meeting schedule posted in D2L -	
		English Majors' Forum and English	
		Post-Bac Cert sites. Also emailed to	
		students and posted outside Main 506.	
LEVEL 3 FIELD		Pre-requisite: Teacher Candidacy	
EDS 306/EDS 505	Principles of Tchg & Field Expr	application	
· 		Go to Wayne 902 to register!	
LEVEL 3 FIELD		Pre-requisite: EDS 306 or EDS 505	
ENG 390	Tchg English in Sec Schools	We <b>do not</b> recommend taking ENG 390	
		& 392 in the same semester due to	
		their demanding workload and field	
		hours required.	
		Field hrs. 25+	
		Register with Program Coordinator,	
		Main 506.	
LEVEL 3 FIELD		Pre-requisite: EDS 306 or EDS 505	
ENG 392	Writing and Tchg Writing	We do not recommend taking ENG 390	
	Secondary English	& 392 in the same semester due to	
		their demanding workload and field	
		hours required.	
		Field hrs. 18-25	
		Register with Program Coordinator,	
LEVEL 4 FIELD		Main 506.	
LEVEL 4 FIELD		Pre-requisite: all Level 3 Field courses	
EDS 411/412	Student Teaching	All coursework must be completed	
		before student teaching! Minimum	
		GPA of 2.8 required; 3.0 GPA required	
		for PA teacher certification.	

# TEST OF WRITING COMPETENCY & PORTFOLIO REQUIREMENTS & PROCEDURES

#### For B.S.Ed. and Teacher Certification in English

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This document will explain the requirements for the Test of Writing Competency (TOWC) and the Writing Portfolio. These are only required for students in the B.S.Ed. and Post-Bac programs, for students pursuing PA Teacher Certification. Students must pass the Test of Writing Competency in order to apply for Teacher Candidacy (TCA) in English. Students with TCA must pass the Writing Portfolio requirement to student teach.

#### TEST OF WRITING COMPETENCY

All B.S.Ed. and Post-Bac students *must* pass the Test of Writing Competency (TOWC) to be formally admitted to our teacher education program. The Test is given once each fall and spring semester; test dates and location are posted in the Department of English, with advisors, and on our D2L site. The Test is not given during the summer. Take the Test no later than your second semester with sophomore status; transfer, certification, and graduate students should take the Test as soon as possible.

#### **Procedures:**

- You do not need to register for the Test.
- Bring to the Test: blue/black pen(s), 8 ½ X 11 writing paper; dictionary, if desired.
- If you do not pass: Students who fail the Test of Writing Competency must confer with a member of the Teacher Education Committee during the same semester in which the Test was taken. They should retake the Test the following semester.

Keep alert for the Test of Writing Competency dates on D2L and WCU email! It is only offered once per semester & never in the summer.

Students whose Test of Writing Competency does not meet Department standards after two submissions
will be required to do additional work in writing before they may take the Test a third time. This work
may involve taking an offered course or doing independent study in writing supervised by a faculty
member.

#### WRITING PORTFOLIOS

All Teacher Certification students entering the program must submit a Writing Portfolio that illustrates their excellence in writing **two semesters (one year) before student teaching**. No summer submissions are accepted. Students who submit their Portfolios at least two semesters before student teaching will have plenty of time to resubmit a revised Portfolio the following semester in the event that it does not pass on the first attempt. Students who do not pass and have not submitted their Portfolios at least two semesters prior to student teaching may risk delay in student teaching and graduation.

#### **Requirements:**

Portfolios that do not meet all of the following requirements will not be read:

- The portfolio consists of four papers (and each paper should be clearly identified):
  - The Self-Assessment is a reflection on your writing and yourself as a writer in which you connect previous pieces of your writing to the writer, reader and thinker that you have become. This piece should help your readers understand why you chose each piece of writing, the assignment for each paper, the writing/composing process, AND what each piece reveals about your ability and/or growth as a writer. Remember that you can choose writing from anywhere in your college career; the Self-Assessment is your opportunity to demonstrate how you have developed reflective and analytical skills regarding your own writing. This reflection/assessment of your

- writing should be approximately 3-4 pages long, citing specifics from your writing, and be in essay form. This should be the first paper in your portfolio.
- <u>Personal Essay</u> includes personal autobiographical narrative as well as fiction, biography, and oral
  history. The Personal Essay tells a story generated by the writer, not gathered from a secondary
  source, and may take the form of memoir, literacy narrative, stories (not poems) from creative
  writing classes, or related type. Ask yourself: does this piece tell some kind of story about me?
- <u>Research Writing</u> incorporates primary and secondary sources and a <u>recognized citation system</u> (the citations must be correct!!). It can be a literary research paper, from an English core class, from an ENG 400 seminar, or even from a Gen Ed class.
- <u>Persuasive Writing</u> paper's purpose is to move readers to form or to change an opinion or to take a specific action. This includes literary analysis and other academic essays intended to prove a thesis, as well as book reviews or other opinion-based writing.

#### • Portfolio specifics:

- The Portfolio must be in an 8 ½ X 11 manila folder with the writer's full name on the tab.
- All papers should be in their original form and include grades and comments. Graded papers can come from any university, but must have been written for a college class.
  - At least one paper must have all preceding notes and drafts.
  - You may hand in printouts of papers that were electronically graded. If your instructor provided audio comments, you may send them to Dr. Renzi as an email attachment.
  - If you do not have one of the specified modes (personal, research, or persuasive) from a college class, you can write one expressly for your portfolio. This will count as the ONE ungraded paper. Ungraded papers written expressly for the Portfolio must include all drafts and notes. No more than *two* ungraded papers (inclusive of the reflective piece) may be submitted.

#### **Procedures:**

- Students should submit and sign-in their Portfolios to the English Department secretary in Main 540. Late portfolios will not be accepted, so please observe carefully the due date and timespecified.
- If you do not pass: Students must confer with their readers, listed in the letter included with the returned Portfolio, during the same semester in which the Portfolio was submitted. Students should resubmit their Portfolios during the following semester by the deadline specified. No Portfolios are evaluated during the summer.
- Students whose Portfolios do not meet Department standards after two submissions will be required to do additional work in writing before they may resubmit the Portfolio. This may involve taking a recommended course or doing independent study in writing, supervised by an English faculty member.
- If you have questions, please contact the Secondary Education chairperson, Dr. Laura Renzi at <a href="mailto:lrenzi@wcupa.edu">lrenzi@wcupa.edu</a>. In order to receive answers to your questions in a timely manner, please contact Dr. Renzi minimally one week (7 days) before the Portfolio is due.

Remember to submit your Writing portfolio at least **two semesters** (one year) before you hope to student teach.

You must pass **both** the Test of Writing Competency & the Writing Portfolio to attain a B.S.Ed. in Secondary English Education, and PA teaching certification at WCU.

# PORTFOLIO AND TEST OF WRITING COMPETENCY HOLISTIC SCORING GUIDE

	6	5	4	3	2	1
	sharp, distinct voice substantial, specific, and/or illustrative content; sophisticated ideas that are particularly well-developed meaningful organization writer's voice apparent in tone, sentence structure, and word	<ul> <li>clear focus</li> <li>specific and illustrative content</li> <li>obviously controlled, functional organization</li> <li>precision and variety in sentence structure and word choice</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>adequate focus</li> <li>sufficient content</li> <li>logical organization</li> <li>some precision and variety in sentence structure and word choice</li> <li>mechanical and usage</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>vague focus</li> <li>content limited to a listing, repetition, or mere sequence of ideas</li> <li>inconsistent organization</li> <li>limited sentence variety and word choice</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>confused focus</li> <li>superficial content</li> <li>confused organization</li> <li>lack of sentence variety and word choice variety</li> <li>mechanical and usage errors that seriously</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>absence of focus</li> <li>absence of relevant content</li> <li>absence of organization</li> <li>no apparent control over sentence structure and word choice</li> <li>mechanical and usage errors</li> </ul>
•	choice  few mechanical and usage errors	some mechanical and usage errors	errors not severe enough to interfere significantly with the writer's purpose	repeated weaknesses in mechanics and usage	interfere with the writer's purpose	so severe that writer's ideas are difficult if not impossible to understand

NOTE: Scores 6 and 5 are "pass." Scores 4 through 1 or OP are "no pass."

NON-SCOREABLE (NS)	OFF-PROMPT (OP)
is illegible: i.e., includes so many undecipherable words that no sense can be made of the response or is incoherent: i.e., words are legible but syntax is so garbled that response makes no sense or is a blank paper	<ul> <li>is readable but did not respond to the prompt</li> <li>contains language or content that is inappropriate for a professional audience</li> <li>reflects a lack of awareness of—or sensitivity to—issues of diversity (gender, race/ethnicity, social class, sexuality, age, disability, etc.)</li> </ul>

#### **CHARACTERISTICS OF EFFECTIVE WRITING**

	FOCUS	CONTENT		ORGANIZATION		STYLE		CONVENTIONS
•	demonstrates an awareness of audience and task	information and details are specific to topic	•	logical order or sequence is maintained	•	precise language effective word choice	•	mechanics: spelling, capitalization, punctuation
•	establishes and maintains a clear purpose	information and details are relevant to focus	•	paragraphs deal with one subject logical transitions are made within	•	voice, tone, originality of language	•	usage (e.g., pronoun references, subject-verb agreement)
•	sustains a single point of view	ideas are fully developed		sentences and between paragraphs	•	variety of sentence structures, types, and lengths	•	sentence completeness
•	exhibits clarity of ideas		•	introduction and conclusion are evident				

# DISPOSITIONAL EXPECTATIONS FOR B.S.ED. AND POST-BAC TEACHER CERTIFICATION STUDENTS



#### What are "dispositions"?

Our accrediting bodies require that the teachers we graduate not only have the academic skills to succeed but also the professional and behavioral "dispositions" (see examples and expectations below). A well-developed set of professional skills and behavioral habits and attitudes speaks well of the school and the student. West Chester is committed to guiding students towards these dispositions, as well as graduating only those students who display them.

For more information on this topic, please speak with the Secondary Education Chairperson, the English Department Chair, or Chair of Educational Foundations and Policy Studies Department in the College of Education and Social Work.

#### **Professional Expectations**

#### **University-based:**

- 1. Interaction with the instructor (promotes a professional and effective relationship with the Instructor; willing to accept instructor written or verbal constructive feedback).
- 2. Interaction with other departmental, college, and support staff (maintains a professional relationship; shows respect; values the positions of faculty and support staff).
- 3. Personal appearance, mannerisms, and values (dressed appropriately to the situation and learning environment; conducts him/herself professionally in speech through appropriate verbal and non-verbal communication patterns, in personal habits, and in mannerisms; exhibits fair, consistent, and equitable treatment of all; respects civil rights and confidentiality of all; demonstrates civility and respect for diversity; sees the worth of others and dignity in others; works effectively with peers in collaborative ways).
- 4. Adherence to class policies (punctual; observes schedules, regulations, and expectations of the university-student relationship).
- 5. Attendance and responsibility (reliable, regular in attendance according to the standards set by the instructor and the university; fulfills course obligations; notifies appropriate persons/submits necessary documentation if absent; carries through on assigned responsibilities; focuses attending behaviors during class discussion and lecture presentations).
- 6. Level of preparedness (shows evidence of being well-prepared for class academically and attitudinally; shows willingness to approach tasks in an organized and skillful manner; demonstrates appropriate professional content in assignments).

#### Field-based:

- 1. Interaction with the site-based teacher (promotes a professional and effective relationship with the teacher(s); willing to accept written or verbal constructive feedback from the teacher(s)).
- 2. Interaction with other building staff (maintains a professional relationship; shows respect; values the positions of and is courteous to administrators and other building staff).

- 3. Personal appearance, mannerisms, and values (appropriately dressed and groomed to the school culture; conducts him/herself professionally in speech through appropriate verbal and non-verbal communication patterns, in personal habits, and in mannerisms; exhibits fair, consistent, and equitable treatment of all; respects civil rights and confidentiality of all; maintains confidentiality of school matters and child-specific information; demonstrates civility and respect for diversity; sees the worth and dignity of all; works effectively with school staff in collaborative ways).
- 4. Adherence to class policies (adheres to building and staff policies and procedures; punctual; observes schedules, regulations, and expectations of the university-district relationship).
- 5. Attendance and responsibility (reliable, regular in attendance and time on-site according to the standards set by the instructor in collaboration with the school partner; fulfills course field obligations; notifies appropriate persons/submits necessary documentation if absent; carries through on assigned responsibilities; shows good professional judgment).
- 6. Level of preparedness (shows evidence of being well-prepared for field duties academically and attitudinally; shows willingness to approach tasks in an organized and skillful manner; demonstrates enthusiasm for the students and the teaching process; uses time effectively; is able to adapt to changing situations in the classroom or school).

#### **Teacher Education Dispositions Monitoring Process**

If a faculty member documents that a particular Teacher Education or pre-service student is having difficulty with one of the following dispositional expectations in a university or field-based course that faculty member is teaching, he/she will refer the situation to the Secondary Education Chairperson. The Chairperson will then request a meeting with the student, share evidence of the concerns, hear the student's reason for behavior(s) of concern, make recommendations for improvement where appropriate, and follow up the meeting with a notice and action plan sent to the student and his/her department chair. The notice and action plan will be placed in the student's file in the department and will also be sent to the Teacher Education center. The student also may be required to meet with a committee of faculty within the major department, at the department's discretion, to

- 1. explore the nature of the concerns,
- 2. hear the student's reasons for the behavior(s) of concern, and
- 3. discuss corrective measures for remaining in the professional education sequence.

If the behavior of concern is not corrected satisfactorily, it may lead to the department's recommendation to deny Teacher Candidacy and/or advancement in the program. These recommendations would be forwarded to the Associate Dean of the College of Education and Social Work for a final ruling. At this time, if the student chooses to appeal the ruling, the matter would come before the Teacher Education Student Appeals Committee, according to established protocol.

# B.S.Ed. English: <u>Literatures</u> Advising Sheet Pre-Fall 2019

Name:	I	D #		Date Major Declared:		eclared:	
Ger	neral E	duc	ation Red	nuire	men	ts	
I. Foundations	101 41 12	uuc		1411 (	111011		
	Credits	Cou	rse	Semes	ter	Grade	Notes
*WRT 120 – Effective Writing	3						
*WRT 200-220	3						
MAT 103+	3						
SPK 208 or 230	3						
Diverse Communities (J)	3	*EN	G/LAN 382				
Interdisciplinary (I)	3	*ED	F 300				
2. Distributive Science Requirements	– 2 differ	ent pi	efixes. NO In	terdisci	plinary	courses	s!
Science #1 (see approved list)	3						
Science #2 (see approved list)	3						
3. Distributive Behavioral/Social Scie	nce Requi	reme	nts – 2 differe	nt pref	ixes. N	O Interd	lisciplinary courses!
Behavioral & Social Science #1	3	PSY	100 (recom.)				
(see approved list)							
Behavioral & Social Science #2	3						
(see approved list)	\ 0. HCC	<u> </u>		<u> </u>			
4. Distributive Humanities (HIS, LAN or F		rent p	refixes & Arts	Requi	remen	ts. NO In	terdisciplinary courses!
(see approved list)	3						
(see approved list)	3						
The Arts (see approved list)	3						
5. General Education Electives		<u> </u>		1			
Second Math NOT MAT 101, 102	3						
*ENG/LIN 230 Intro. to Linguistics	3						
*ENG 331 Structure of Modern Eng							
	]	Engl	ish Course	es			
1. English Core Courses		_					
*ENG 194 – Conventions of	3						
Reading & Writing							
*ENG 295 (after 194)	3						
*ENG 296 or ENG 206 (after 194)	3						
2. Intermediate Level Literatures Tra					•	-l/+ - l-	
See Track lists at back of manual.	note: U.S.	. Mult		E?	ourses	don't ai	Intermediate Lit track
Genre U.S. Multi-Ethnic & World		3		E?			classes must include one
Historical Context		3	-	E?			American, British, & World
LIT or CLS Elective (no FLM, CLS 350	))	3	-	E?			literature class. See lists
LIT or CLS Elective (no FLM, CLS 350)	<u>.                                      </u>	3		E?			at back of manual. Note these classes below.
American:	British:		-		World	d°:	Note these classes below.

Intermediate Level Writings Crossover Courses for Literatures Track – see lists at back of manual									
WRH 325 - Info Literacy, Tech & Media	3		Spring only						
Writings Elective	3								
Writings Elective	3								
3. ENG 400 Seminars – pre-reqs.: 3 English Core Courses									
ENG 400	3								
ENG 400	3								
Profess	Professional Education Requirements								
Pre-regs. for these classe			_		advisor.				
EDA 103 - Foundations of Spec. Ed.	3								
*EDF 300 – Democracy & Education	Х	See "I" req.							
*EDP 250** – Educ. Psych. <u>Level 1</u> Field Exp.	3								
EDA 304** – Spec. Ed. Processes & Procedures for Sec. Ed. <u>Level 2</u> Field Exp.	3				re-req.: EDA 103, DP 250				
*ENG/LAN 382 - Teaching English Language Learners PK-12	Х	See "J" req.			NG/LIN 230 recom.				
EDR 347 - Literacy Dev. & Secondary Student with Disabilities in Inclusive Classrooms	3			i -	e-req.: EDA 103				
*LIT 398 - Young Adult Literature	3				re-req.: 3 ENG Core ourses				
<b>Professional Education Courses Requiri</b>	ng Teach	er Candidacy (TC	(A)	·					
*EDS 306** - Teaching Principles & Field Exp. <u>Level 3</u> Field Exp.	3			Pr 30	re-req: EDP 250, EDA 04				
*ENG 390** - Teaching English in Sec. Schools. <u>Level 3</u> Field Exp.	3				re-req.: <b>EDS 306</b> ; DR 347 recom.				
*ENG 392**- Writing & Teaching Writing Secondary English Level 3 Field Exp.	3			Pr	re-req.: <b>EDS 306</b>				
Student Teaching ALL COURSEWORK MUST BE COMPLETED BEFORE STUDENT TEACHING. Minimum GPA of 2.8 required.									
*EDS 411 & EDS 412** – Student Teaching <u>Level 4 Field Exp.</u>	12								

<sup>\*</sup>C or better required in the course \*\* Course requires **Clearances** for field hours

Milestones in the Teacher Education Program									
TCA Milestones	Date Completed?	Student Teaching Milestones	Date Completed?						
Basic Skills tests		Writing Portfolio 1 yr. before ST							
Test of Writing Competency		Praxis II							
TCA II Form		ST meeting 1 yr. before ST							
Formal Admission GPA $\geq 2.8$ required		GPA to graduate $\geq 3.0$ required							

## B.S.Ed. English: Writings Advising Sheet Pre-Fall 2019

Name:	e: ID#				Date Major Declared:				
General Education Requirements									
I. Foundations									
	Credits	Course	Semester	Grade	Notes				
*WRT 120 – Effective Writing	3								
*WRT 200-220	3								
MAT 103+	3								
SPK 208 or 230	3								
Diverse Communities (J)	3	*ENG/LAN 382							
Interdisciplinary (I)	3	*EDF 300							
2. Distributive Science Requirements – 2	2 differe	nt prefixes. NO Int	erdisciplinary	/ courses!					
Science #1 (see approved list)	3								
Science #2 (see approved list)	3								
3. Distributive Behavioral/Social Science	Require	ements – 2 differe	nt prefixes. N	O Interdisc	ciplinary courses!				
Behavioral & Social Science #1 (see approved list)	3	PSY 100 (recom.)							
Behavioral & Social Science #2 (see approved list)	3								
4. Distributive Humanities (HIS, LAN or PHI)	2 differe	ent prefixes & Arts	Requiremen	ts. NO Inte	rdisciplinary courses!				
(see approved list)	3								
(see approved list)	3								
The Arts (see approved list)	3								
5. General Education Electives				•					
Second Math NOT MAT 101, 102	3								
*ENG/LIN 230 Intro. to Linguistics	3								
*ENG 331 Structure of Modern Eng	3								
	F	English Course	es						
1. English Core Courses									
*ENG 194 Conventions of Reading & Writing	3								
*ENG 295 (after 194)	3								
*ENG 296 or ENG 206 (after 194)	3								
2. Intermediate Level Writings Track Courses  See Track lists at back of manual.									
Style & Aesthetics	3								
Power & Politics	3								
WRH 325 - Info Literacy, Tech & Media	3		Spring only						
Writings Elective	3		-						
Writings Elective	3								

Intermediate Level Literatures Cross	sover (	Courses for Writ	ings Track – s	ee lists at bac	k of manual
American lit	3	E?			
British lit	3	E?			of these classes must
World lit	3	E?		be	e marked "Early".
3. ENG 400 Seminars – pre-reqs.: 3 En	glish (	Core Courses			
ENG 400	3				
ENG 400	3				
Professi	onal	Education	Require	ments	
Pre-regs. for these classes			_		Ed advisor.
EDA 103 – Foundations of Spec. Ed.	3				
*EDF 300 – Democracy & Education	Х	See "I" req.			
*EDP 250** – Educ. Psych. <u>Level 1</u>	3				
Field Exp.					
EDA 304** – Spec. Ed. Processes &	3				Pre-req.: EDA 103,
Procedures for Sec. Ed. <u>Level 2</u>					EDP 250
Field Exp.					
*ENG/LAN 382 – Teaching English	Х	See "J" req.			ENG/LIN 230
Language Learners PK-12					recom. pre-req.
EDR 347 – Literacy Dev. & Secondary	/ 3				Pre-req.: EDA 103
Student with Disabilities in					
Inclusive Classroom					
*LIT 398 – Young Adult Literature	3				Pre-req.: 3 ENG
					Core courses
Professional Education Courses Requi		eacher Candidac	y (TCA)	1	
*EDS 306** – Teaching Principles &	3				Pre-req.: EDP 250,
Field Exp. <u>Level 3</u> Field Exp					EDA 304
*ENG 390** – Teaching English in	3				Pre-req.: <b>EDS</b>
Sec. Schools. <u>Level 3</u> Field Exp.	,				<b>306;</b> EDR 347
					recom.
*ENG 392**- Writing & Teaching	3				Pre-req.: EDS 306
Writing Secondary English					
<u>Level 3</u> Field Exp.		Student Teach	ina		
Student Teaching ALL COURSEWORK MUST BE COMPLETED BEFORE STUDENT TEACHING. Minimum GPA of 2.8 required.					
*EDS 411 & EDS 412** – Student	12				
Teaching <u>Level 4</u> Field Exp.					

<sup>\*</sup> C or better required in the course \*\* Course requires **Clearances** for field hours

Milestones in the Teacher Education Program			
TCA Milestones	Date Completed?	Student Teaching Milestones	Date Completed?
Basic Skills tests		Writing Portfolio 1 yr. before ST	
Test of Writing Competency		ST meeting 1 yr. before ST	
TCA II Form		Praxis II	
Formal Admission GPA $\geq 2.8$ required		GPA to graduate $\geq 3.0$ required	

#### **TEACHER CANDIDACY APPLICATION (TCA) PART II**

\*\* TCA form will <u>not</u> be processed without this form, advising sheets and all required attachments and signatures \*\*

Submit this form with your **TCA - English** form and all required attachments to the English Dept. Program Coordinator in Main Hall 506 for review prior to submitting paperwork to Secondary Education Dept. Chairperson. Name ID# Remember, you must: Have read, understand and agree to comply with all requirements and policies of the English B.S.Ed. program detailed in the English Majors Handbook, Complete **ALL** coursework before your student teaching semester, • Have an American, British, and World Literature course from the designated courses approved in the English Major's Handbook, Receive a 3.0 GPA to graduate with a B.S.Ed. degree/teacher certification in Pennsylvania, and Attend a mandatory student teaching meeting one full year before your student teaching semester. My signature indicates that I have read and understand these requirements. Student Signature Date Advisor Signature Credits: GPA: Semester you plan on taking the following (this is not binding, but it helps for planning purposes): Course Semester **ENG 390 ENG 392** 

**Student Teaching** 

### TAKE YOUR B.S.ED. ENGLISH ADVISING QUIZ!

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Test your program knowledge by taking the quiz below that asks you about general education and your English major. Answers can be found at the end of this handbook.

#### **General Education & General Advising**

- 1. Who is the primary steward of a student's academic career? What is the role of an English department advisor?
- 2. Why can't an Interdisciplinary class count as one of your Gen Ed Distributive area classes?
- 3. Does a creative writing seminar count as ENG 400, the research seminar?
- 4. What should you do if you want to take classes at another college and have them count at WCU?
- 5. When should you apply for graduation? What happens when you apply for graduation?
- 6. What is the minimum number of credits needed to graduate, by state mandate?
- 7. If you want to declare a minor, what should you do?
- 8. How many courses can you "double-dip" between an English major and an English minor? (I.e., how many classes can you use to satisfy the requirements of both programs?)

#### **B.S.Ed. English (Writings & Literatures)**

- 1. What criteria do you need in order to apply for Teacher Candidacy? What documents need to be part of the package?
- 2. What is the field experience class sequence?
- 3. What is the difference between the "U.S. Multi-Ethnic and World" category and the "World Literature" category in the handbook? How many courses are on both lists?
- 4. How many semesters should you set aside for taking the following methods courses: EDS 306, ENG 390, ENG 392, EDS 411, & EDS 412?
- 5. When should you submit your English Teacher Education Writing Portfolio?

#### **ENGLISH DEPARTMENT MINOR PROGRAMS**

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The English Department offers programs in seven Minor programs that enable students to explore an academic area in depth without adding a second Major. These 18 credit programs expose students to skills and knowledge from a range of fields within the discipline of English Studies:

- African/African American Literature
- Business and Technical Writing
- Creative Writing
- Film Criticism
- Journalism
- Linguistics
- Literature and Diverse Cultures

For detailed information on each minor, including an advising sheet with a list of required courses, visit the English Minors link on the English Department Home page:

https://www.wcupa.edu/arts-humanities/English/undergradStudies.aspx#englishMinors

Information on the *Digital Humanities and New Media* interdisciplinary minor can be found in the WCU Undergraduate catalog:

http://catalog.wcupa.edu/undergraduate/arts-humanities/english/digital-humanities-new-media-minor/

If you are interested in enrolling in one of these minors, or any minor at WCU, please visit your *myWCU* page, and follow the link titled *Change in Academic Plan Request*. Also, contact the English Program Coordinator, Mary Clark, to review the English minor requirements.

<sup>\*\*</sup>One exception: English majors with a Literatures track cannot also have a minor in Literature.

# INTERNSHIPS FOR ENGLISH MAJORS Increase your Professional Knowledge and Experience

The English Department encourages all of its B.A. majors to pursue internships. The advantages are numerous: internships enable you to apply your reading and writing skills to real workplace situations, make informed decisions about your career plans, and build valuable contacts. Our students have completed an exciting array of internships – in publishing, broadcasting, event planning, marketing, public relations, journalism, social media, political campaigns, legal research, environmental advocacy, and more – both on and off campus.

Maybe you know exactly what you want to do after you graduate—or maybe you have no clue. An internship can help you explore a professional area to help you make such decisions, to help you test how you apply your reading and writing skills in work situations, and to allow you to build professional connections. Perhaps most important, completing an internship tops the list of what employees weigh heavily in hiring recent graduates. If you're in a major or minor English Department program, you will be eligible for an internship, once you have earned 80 credits. You owe it to yourself and your future to investigate the many possible internship experiences the English department makes available to its majors.

#### **INTERNSHIP COORDINATORS**

English majors: Dr. Eleanor Shevlin, Main 541, eshevlin@wcupa.edu

Business and Technical Writing minor: Dr. Kristin Kondrlik, Main 523, kkrondrlik@wcupa.edu

or Dr. Kyle Vealey, Main 551, kvealey@wcupa.edu.

Journalism minor: Dr. Benjamin Kuebrich, Main 542, bkuebrich@wcupa.edu

#### **INTERNSHIP PLACEMENTS**

Students have completed both on- and off-campus internships. They have done editorial work and proofreading; worked on marketing and social media campaigns; written press-releases, designed newsletters, brochures, and web pages; created and conducted questionnaires—among many other activities. Recent placements include Philadelphia-area publishers, local media, public-relations organizations, Philadelphia sports teams, corporate groups, law offices, nationally-based volunteer and nonprofit entities, and archives, museums and libraries, and select campus placements.

Before meeting with the appropriate Internship coordinator listed above, be sure to explore the many internship possibilities available to you by:

- 1. reviewing the internship section of the English Majors Forum on D2L;
- 2. visiting WCU's Twardowski Career Development Center In Lawrence Hall 225;
- 3. researching a business or organization you might like to intern for.

Once you've done this homework, you can then meet with the Internship coordinator to discuss your options.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Chronicle of Higher Education and American Public Media's Marketplace Study, December 2012.

#### **INTERNSHIP POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

Any student seeking an English internship must be in the process of completing either a Major or Minor in the English Department. The student will be permitted to undertake an internship under the supervision of the English Department only after he or she has met all of the following requirements:

- 1. Accumulated at least 80 semester hours.
- 2. Completed at least 12 semester hours in courses in the English Major or an English Minor.
- 3. Met with his or her advisor to obtain information about internship eligibility.
- 4. Met with the appropriate internship coordinator (see page 37) to discuss the student's internship plans, search, and application materials.
  - The student should come to this meeting with a draft resumé and two writing samples (the samples may be academic papers or other written work that the student is particularly proud of).
- Applied successfully for an internship. During the process students should keep the
  internship coordinator apprised of their progress and seek advice from the
  coordinator and Career Center about interviewing, follow-up, and other related
  matters.
- 6. Submitted the completed Internship Agreement form, with all signatures, to his or her faculty supervisor by the specified deadline. Fall and Summer internship forms are due by the end of the Spring semester. Spring semester internship forms are due by the end of the Fall semester. No student will be registered for ENG 395—the official course designated for internships—until the completed form has been submitted.

Any exceptions to these terms must be approved by the appropriate internship coordinator.

#### **INTERNSHIP ACTION SEQUENCE**

Please note the established sequence of actions for the internship program:

- 1. Qualifying students must first apply for the internship (see steps above).
- 2. Upon approval and submission of completed paperwork, students will be registered for the internship under the course designation ENG 395. The internship sections are typically created by the English Department scheduler during final exam period or shortly afterwards. The scheduler will enroll you in ENG 395 when he or she creates the course for you. You should check your schedule before the semester starts to ensure that ENG 395 is showing up on your course list and that it reflects the proper number of credits.
- 3. Students then will do the internship.

Please also note that no internships will be retroactively approved. In other words, you can't first do the work and then apply to have it count as an internship.

#### ADDITIONAL RULES REGARDING INTERNSHIPS

A student may complete no more than 12 total credit hours of internship credit over the course of his or her undergraduate career.

- 1. Any student who wishes to take more than 9 hours of internship credit in a single semester must obtain approval from the internship coordinator and submit an application and an academic transcript (all in the semester preceding the internship).
- 2. The number of credits to be earned during an internship will be determined by the internship coordinator by applying a ratio of 40 hours of work for each hour of academic credit (for example, a student who worked 120 hours would receive three credit hours).
- 3. The internship credits for English majors can be applied to the 18-credit "Minor, Concentration, or Department Electives" section of the student's advising sheet; students should consult with their academic advisor for guidance.
- 4. It is the student's responsibility to demonstrate that he or she has met the academic requirements for an internship.

#### **INTERNSHIP WORK REQUIREMENTS**

During the actual internship, the following minimum requirements for work must be fulfilled:

- 1. Interns must perform the required number of hours doing contracted tasks at the internship site.
- 2. Interns must maintain regular contact with their faculty internship advisor, meeting at least three times over the course of the semester.
- 3. Interns must maintain a collection of samples of their work throughout the internship.
- 4. Interns must confer regularly with their on-site internship supervisor.
- 5. At the end of the internship, interns must submit a portfolio of their work to their faculty supervisor and an analytical report (5-7 pages, minimum 1,300 words) detailing the internship experience, documenting what the student learned and gained from it.
  - (Note: Business & Technical Writing Minors should consult with their Minor advisor for their specific portfolio requirements.)

# GET INVOLVED! ACTIVITES OF SPECIAL INTEREST TO ENGLISH MAJORS

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Want to get involved, in order to hone your reading and writing skills, to express yourself, to get published, to prepare yourself for a career, or to share ideas and experiences with other students interested in writing and publishing? Here are some of the activities the English Department offers. Make sure you take advantage of them!

#### **CREATIVE WRITING CLUB**

The CWC offers students the chance to honor their craft as creative writers in a positive and nurturing environment.

Contact: Prof. Peter Duval, pduval@wcupa.edu.

#### **DAEDALUS**

Daedalus, an interdisciplinary magazine of the arts, is a showcase for the work of student writers, artists, and photographers. Any student may submit work to the editors for possible publication. Contact: Dr. Kristine Ervin, kervin@wcupa.edu.

#### **EAPSU CONFERENCE**

The English Association of the Pennsylvania State Universities (EAPSU) is a regional professional organization whose members come from the faculty and students of the 14 state university English Departments in the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education (PASSHE). EAPSU's spring conference gives English students across PASSHE a venue for presenting scholarly work.

Contact: Prof. Lisa Konigsberg, <a href="mailto:lkonigsberg@wcupa.edu">lkonigsberg@wcupa.edu</a>.

Dr. Tim Ray, tray@wcupa.edu.

#### **ENGLISH CLUB**

The English majors' student organization engages in a number of activities. It has hosted open mike nights and has published *Literati*, featuring undergraduate poetry, short stories, art, etc.

Contact: Dr. Timothy Ray, tray@wcupa.edu.

Prof. Maureen McVeigh-Trainor, <a href="mailto:mmcveigh@wcupa.edu">mmcveigh@wcupa.edu</a>.

#### **NCTE CHAPTER**

The English Department hosts a student affiliate chapter of the National Council of Teachers of English. Members meet to discuss topics of professional interest and organize events and programming. Recent activities include tutoring at a local middle school; such experience is helpful for prospective teachers and can aid in building a resume. Student participation is highly recommended for English B.S.Ed. and Post-Bac students.

Contact: Dr. Pauline Schmidt, <a href="mailto:pschmidt@wcupa.edu">pschmidt@wcupa.edu</a>.

#### PRE-LAW ADVISORY PROGRAM and THE PRE-LAW SOCIETY

The purpose of the Pre-Law Advisory Program is to familiarize students with the process of applying to law school (including the LSAT), the criteria for admission, and the financial implications of attending. The Pre-Law Advisor is available to discuss application preparation and strategies. The Society hosts events, in collaboration with the WCU Law Alumni Chapter, and speakers to discuss issues including the realities of attending law school and the present-day practice of law. Members of the Society also have opportunities to tour local law schools, attend a law school class, and complete a practice LSAT. Membership is open to all students within the University community, regardless of major.

Advisor: Dr. Sandra Tomkowicz, <a href="mailto:stomkowicz@wcupa.edu">stomkowicz@wcupa.edu</a>.

#### **THE QUAD**

The Quad is the student news service of West Chester University. It is managed by a student staff of writers, editors, photographers and multimedia journalists, with a faculty member as advisor. In addition to its primary role of disseminating news of campus events, *The Quad* provides students with practical experience in reporting, editing, photography, videography and multimedia journalism, as well as in advertising, social media marketing, web design, distribution, and business operations. Numerous *Quad* alumni have gone on to successful careers as print, broadcast, and multimedia journalists. Getting involved with *The Quad* can be a valuable first step toward launching a career in the news industry. Contact: *The Quad* Editor, 610.436.2375, Sykes Union Building 253, guadeic@wcupa.edu, or

Dr. Ben Kuebrich, Quad Faculty Advisor, bkuebrich@wcupa.edu.

#### **SIGMA TAU DELTA**

Sigma Tau Delta is the English Majors' Honor Society, and offers opportunities for scholarly exploration in the form of publications and conferences. Students are selected for admission to this society based on their academic performance. Students are notified of their eligibility for this Society.

#### **SERPENTINE YEARBOOK**

The Serpentine is West Chester University's annual archive of the experiences, events and persons of our campus community. There are many opportunities to showcase student expertise and skills. Students, from any given year, from any major, are encouraged to showcase their writing, graphic design, social media, marketing, editing, and desktop publishing skills and become a member of the Serpentine Staff. Contact: Prof. Ilknur Sancak-Marusa, <a href="mailto:ISancak-Marusa@wcupa.edu">ISancak-Marusa@wcupa.edu</a>.

#### **WCUR**

The campus radio station at West Chester University offers experience in all phases of radio broadcasting, from on-air activities to radio production, management, and advertising. Operated entirely by students, WCUR offers practical work opportunities in a learning atmosphere. WCUR has been rated as one of 50 Top Best College Radio Stations, by BestColleges.com, <a href="www.bestcolleges.com">www.bestcolleges.com</a>. Contact: Dr. Philip Thompsen, <a href="mailto:pthompsen@wcupa.edu">pthompsen@wcupa.edu</a>.

#### **WCU WRITING CENTER**

The WCU Writing Center, located in FHG Library 251, is always looking for students with good writing skills who are interested in tutoring their peers. Students who volunteer at the Writing Center must attend several training sessions, enroll in "Writing Tutoring" ENG 397, and take their commitment to the Center seriously. Such student tutoring experience is helpful for those who want to teach writing or learn more about writing; it can also aid in building a resume. Graduate Students can take ENG 600 to learn about tutoring in more depth and to gain more experience at the Center.

Contact: Dr. Margaret Ervin, mervin@wcupa.edu.

#### **WRITING ZONES 12.5**

A partnership between WCU and local high school writing centers, Writing Zones 12.5 trains university students to serve as writing mentors for high school students with the aim of bridging the gap between high school and college writing. University "peers" guide high school students toward an awareness of their own writing processes as they work on individual writing projects together. More broadly, the program attempts to use high school writing centers as a gateway to higher education, providing mentoring and encouragement for students unsure of their college readiness. Working as a Writing Zones mentor is a great way for interested WCU students to gain hands-on professional experience and contribute to local communities.

Contact: Dr. H. Bernard Hall, hhall@wcupa.edu.

# UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES

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Our students work frequently with individual faculty members on research and creative projects. Here are some of the research opportunities available to you as an English major. For more information, please visit *the Student Opportunities* page on the English Department Home page.

#### **Summer Undergraduate Research Institute**

Summer Undergraduate Research Institute (SURI) aims to enrich the undergraduate experience and prompt students to grow beyond consumers of information into creators of knowledge. Applications are typically due early in the spring semester for projects to be undertaken in Summer Session I. In the past, students have received a stipend of \$1,500 and free room and board while having the opportunity to pursue a project of their own making and work closely with a faculty mentor.

Contact: Office of Research and Sponsored Programs at http://www.wcusuri.com/.

#### **West Chester Center for Book History**

West Chester Center for Book History is dedicated to providing a multidimensional, interdisciplinary forum for the history and study of the written word.

Contact: Dr. Eleanor Shevlin, <a href="mailto:eshevlin@wcupa.edu">eshevlin@wcupa.edu</a>.

#### **PA Literary and Cultural Heritage Map**

The Literary and Cultural Heritage Map of Pennsylvania offers undergraduates the opportunity to conduct original research, edit, fact-check, update, and write new copy for writers and cultural figures associated with the Commonwealth. Students are recognized for editing or authoring the entries, so the projects offer them an opportunity for publication.

Contact: Dr. Eleanor Shevlin, eshevlin@wcupa.edu.

#### STUDENT AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

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The English Department is proud to offer several awards and scholarships in recognition of the outstanding achievements of our students. Honorees are announced at various times throughout the fall and spring semesters and are usually recognized at both the English Department's year-end student reception & awards ceremony and the College of Arts & Humanities annual Student Recognition Ceremony. Recipients are chosen by English Department faculty.

#### Alan W. France Memorial Writing Award

Eligibility: Students in General Education Writing Courses

Established in 2002 in honor of our esteemed colleague Al France (who taught in the English Department from 1989 until his death in 2001), this award is conferred each spring on a student in a general education writing course (WRT 120, or WRT 200s) from the past twelve months. The award recognizes the best essay exploring relationships among language, thought, and culture. Students may be nominated by an instructor, with the student's permission, or may nominate themselves. Winners receive a cash prize, a memorial beret, and recognition at the English faculty's year-end party.

#### **Best Seminar Paper Award**

Eligibility: Students in ENG 400 Seminars

Established in 2005, this award is presented each spring to the student who has written the best paper in an ENG 400 research seminar for the given academic year (including the current semester and the previous fall, summer, and spring semesters). Individual faculty members nominate students from their own seminars, and the winner receives a cash prize.

#### **EAPSU Outstanding English Major Award**

Eligibility: All English Majors

The EAPSU award is given each spring to an English major who has an outstanding GPA, has participated in English-related extracurricular activities, and has authored a distinguished essay in an English course. Four nominees with the highest GPAs and 80-110 credits are identified by faculty and asked to submit one "A" paper of significant intellectual or artistic merit, along with a submission form and a list of activities. The winner then presents the paper at the annual EAPSU conference the following fall, and receives a cash prize, a plaque, and reimbursement for the cost of attending the conference.

#### **English Department Faculty Scholarship**

Eligibility: Incoming English Majors

This scholarship, funded by the English faculty, is awarded each spring to a declared English major who will be entering WCU the following fall, either as a first-year or transfer student. Nominees with outstanding GPAs and SAT/ACT scores are identified by the faculty and invited to submit a five-page, nonfiction writing sample. Scholarship funds are divided over the two semesters of the winner's first year at WCU. To retain the prize for the second semester, the recipient must attain a GPA of 3.0 in the first semester and must remain an English major and maintain full-time status in both terms.

#### **Herbert Mitchell Scholarship**

Eligibility: Incoming English Majors

Established in 2014 after a landmark gift to the university by WCU alumni Herbert and Gloria (Hedley) Mitchell, this scholarship is awarded each spring to two incoming English majors who show exceptional scholastic achievement and community involvement. Nominees with outstanding GPAs and SAT/ACT scores are identified by English faculty and asked to submit statements detailing their accomplishments and future goals. Winners receive scholarship funds of \$2,500 annually for four years. In order to retain the scholarship, the recipient must remain an English major, attend classes full-time, and maintain a GPA of at least 3.6 in the major and 3.4 overall.

#### John Feely Hopkins Short Story Award

Eligibility: Graduating Senior Creative Writing Students

Instituted in 2002, this award is presented each spring to a graduating senior whose portfolio of short stories exhibits imagination, artistic merit, high literary quality, and growth in content and commitment, as determined by members of the English Department's Creative Writing faculty. The winner receives a cash prize.

#### **Viola Marple Scholarship**

Eligibility: Non-Graduating Female English Majors

This scholarship, established in memory of former English faculty member Viola Marple, honors two non-graduating female English majors who exemplify the highest standards in scholarly achievement and service, as determined by the English Department faculty. Requirements include a minimum GPA of 3.51 and 61-90 credit hours earned. Nominees who meet these qualifications are asked to submit a brief statement, and the two winners are determined by an English faculty vote. Winners are named each spring, and scholarship funds are disbursed evenly over the following fall and spring semesters. The award is co-administered by the WCU Alumni Association.

#### **CAH Outstanding Student Award**

Eligibility: Graduating Seniors Majoring in any CAH Discipline

This award is given each spring to a graduating senior who is majoring in a College of Arts & Humanities (CAH) discipline and who demonstrates exceptional intellectual or creative achievement and strong extracurricular and service activities. Students must be nominated by a CAH faculty member and hold a minimum GPA of 3.5; nominees submit an application and two faculty letters of recommendation. Nomination and application deadlines are usually announced by the CAH dean's office early in the spring semester and typically fall in late February or early March. (Note: although this award is administered by CAH—and not the English Department—we list it here in order to make English students and faculty aware of this opportunity. English majors are well represented in the ranks of past CAH (CAS) OSA winners.) For complete information, please visit the CAH website.

#### **ENGLISH DEPARTMENT AFFILIATIONS**

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The organizations and programs listed below all bear strong ties to the English Department. Many are directed—or were founded—by English Department faculty; others operate under the aegis of English or benefit from especially strong participation by English faculty and students. In all cases, these affiliations promote values central to English Studies, enrich the learning experiences of our students, and contribute to the cultural life of the university and the larger community. To read more about each, please go to the Affiliations page on the English Department Home page.

#### **English Alumni**

The English Alumni page keeps our graduates informed of exciting developments in the English Department; helps them stay in touch with former classmates and faculty; and fosters networking opportunities between current majors and alumni.

Contact: Prof. Jaime Woodlief, <a href="mailto:jwoodlief@wcupa.edu">jwoodlief@wcupa.edu</a>.

#### **WCU Poetry Center**

The WCU Poetry Center promotes the study and appreciation of poetry, particularly traditional poetic forms. Founded in 2000, the Center offers a diverse slate of activities and programs—including a prestigious annual Poetry Conference—that helps to expand its mission of bringing poetry to an everwidening audience.

#### Get involved!

Extracurricular activities related to English help you build your skills – and your resume!

A full list of WCU clubs is here: https://www.wcupa.edu/ services/ST U/ramsEyeView/studentOrgs.aspx

#### **College Literature: A Journal of Critical Literary Studies**

College Literature has long been one of the premier literary-studies journals in North America, publishing original and innovative scholarly research. Founded in 1974, the journal has its editorial offices at WCU. Editor: Dr. Carolyn Sorisio, <a href="mailto:csorisio@wcupa.edu">csorisio@wcupa.edu</a>.

#### **University Writing Center**

The University Writing Center offers free writing consultation services to all members of the WCU community. The Center is directed by English faculty and regularly employs English majors and graduate students as writing tutors. Director: Dr. Margaret Ervin, <a href="majore-members">mervin@wcupa.edu</a>.

#### **Pennsylvania Writing and Literature Project**

The Pennsylvania Writing & Literature Project (PAWLP) is one of the oldest and largest sites of the National Writing Project. Founded in 1980, PAWLP works in multi-dimensional ways to improve the teaching of writing and literature in schools and communities. Director: Dr. Pauline Schmidt, pschmidt@wcupa.edu.

#### **Frederick Douglass Institute**

WCU's Frederick Douglass Institute seeks to advance multicultural studies across the university curriculum and sponsors research, programs, awards, and teaching that honor the legacy of Frederick Douglass. The Institute was founded in 1995 by Emeritus Professor of English Dr. C. James Trotman. Contact: Dr. Chris Awuyah, cawuyah@wcupa.edu.

#### **Digital Humanities and New Media**

English Department faculty are currently in the process of developing a Digital Humanities curriculum that includes new courses, events, and programs designed to introduce students to this important new frontier in humanistic studies. Contact: Dr. Randall Cream, <a href="mailto:rcream@wcupa.edu">rcream@wcupa.edu</a>.

#### N/T/G Research Group

The National/Transnational/Global Cultures Research Group is a forum for faculty and graduate students who share research interests in the global dimensions of literary and cultural studies. Contact: Dr. Graham MacPhee, <a href="mailto:gmacphee@wcupa.edu">gmacphee@wcupa.edu</a>.

#### **West Chester Center for Book History**

The West Chester Center for Book History, founded by English professor Eleanor Shevlin, sponsors courses, workshops, talks, seminars, book-making, and a graduate certificate in publishing, all as part of an effort to provide a multidimensional, interdisciplinary forum for the history and study of the written word. Contact: Dr. Eleanor Shevlin, <a href="mailto:eshevlin@wcupa.edu">eshevlin@wcupa.edu</a>.

#### **Women's and Gender Studies Program**

WCU's Women's and Gender Studies Program shares with the English Department a commitment to empowering students to challenge preconceptions about race, class, gender, and sexual orientation. English professors have served as past WGS program directors, and many teach for the program as affiliated faculty. Contact: Dr. Simon Ruchti, <a href="mailto:eruchti@wcupa.edu">eruchti@wcupa.edu</a>.

#### Youth Empowerment and Urban Studies (YES) Program

Created by English professor Dr. Hannah Ashley, the interdisciplinary YES Minor offers students across campus the opportunity to work with youth in urban settings in hands-on, community-engaged ways that can help to bring about real social change. Contact: Dr. Hannah Ashley, <a href="https://hashley@wcupa.edu">hashley@wcupa.edu</a>.

#### **CAREER OPPORTUNITIES FOR ENGLISH MAJORS**

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The English Department recognizes that most graduates will be concerned with finding employment relevant to their course of study and personal interests. Advisors can help students make decisions in this area. The English Majors' Forum on D2L offers information on the wide range of careers available to English majors, advice on resumé writing, sample interview questions, applying to graduate school, teaching abroad, and more. Click on the "Career and Graduate Info" toolbar.

Students should take advantage of the Career Development Center and its services as soon as they begin attending at WCU. The Career Center can assist students with creating career goals — waiting until Senior year may be too late. The University's Twardowski Career Development Center at Lawrence Center 225 provides career counseling and helps students initiate job searches. http://www.wcupa.edu/\_services/stu.car/.

Every Spring semester the Department hosts an annual "What Can't You Do with an English Degree?" panel in which three or four alumni/alumnae return to campus to relate how their WCU English degree has helped them succeed professionally; a speed-networking event in which students have the opportunity to meet one-on-one with alumni follows the panel discussion. Over the years, many of these panels have been taped and are available for viewing. For more information, contact Dr. Eleanor Shevlin, <a href="mailto:eshevlin@wcupa.edu">eshevlin@wcupa.edu</a>.

#### Careers for Graduates with B.A. in English

Graduates with a B.A. in English are qualified for graduate studies in literature and related fields of interest: linguistics, law, communications, journalism, film, and many other humanistic disciplines. With experience and additional education, graduates may teach in colleges and universities. With certification, they may also teach in secondary schools. Careers in journalism, publishing, editing, public relations, advertising, marketing, government, television, radio, technical writing, and business administration are options for English majors.

#### Think about these possibilities:

Admissions Counselor

Advertising

Archivist

Literacy Instructor

Literary Agent

Lobbyist

Attorney Marketing Representative Banking Media Planner

Business Medical Writer
Admin/Consulting Multi-Media Designer

Community Services Paralegal

Director Production Coordinator
Not-for-Profit Program Developer
Organizations Proofreader

Creative Director Proposal/Grant Writer Editor Public Affairs Officer Public Relations

Freelance Writer Public Reis Government Worker Specialist

Insurance Researcher/Research
Representative Sales Representative
Journalist Speech Writer

Librarian Technical

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Writer Travel

Agent Underwriter Web Writer For more ideas and trends for various fields, see US Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Outlook Handbook, <a href="https://www.bls.gov/ooh/">https://www.bls.gov/ooh/</a>.

# Want to go to graduate school for an M.A. or Ph.D. in English, Education, TESL, Marketing, Management or other fields?

To pursue graduate studies, you need to take the GRE (Graduate Record Examination) for programs in English and related fields. If you plan to apply to graduate school within five years after graduation, you should probably take the GRE at the conclusion of your senior year. Other programs (such as MBAs) require other exams. Ask your advisor, and see <a href="http://www.gre.org/splash.html">http://www.gre.org/splash.html</a>. Please also look for special workshops the department offers, typically in the fall, on planning to attend graduate school. If you're interested in Teaching English as a Second Language, please speak with the Director of WCU's MATESOL program, Dr. Esther (Chui Kian) Smidt, <a href="mailto:csmidt@wcupa.edu">csmidt@wcupa.edu</a>.

#### Want to go to law school?

To apply to law school, you need to take the LSAT (Law School Aptitude Test). If you plan to attend law school, you should take the LSAT during your senior year. Ask your advisor, and see <a href="http://www.lsac.org/">http://www.lsac.org/</a>. Also consult with the University Pre-Law advisor: Dr. Sandra Tomkowicz, <a href="mailto:stomkowicz@wcupa.edu">stomkowicz@wcupa.edu</a>.

#### Interested in earning a certificate or graduate degree in publishing or editing?

The English department is offering a Graduate Certificate Program in Publishing. <a href="http://www.wcupa.edu/arts-humanities/English/gradAcademics.aspx">http://www.wcupa.edu/arts-humanities/English/gradAcademics.aspx</a>.

Contact: Dr. Eleanor F. Shevlin, Main, <a href="mailto:eshevlin@wcupa.edu">eshevlin@wcupa.edu</a>.

#### Thinking about becoming a librarian?

The American Library Association maintains this site that discusses the qualifications for and opportunities in library science: <a href="http://www.ala.org/educationcareers/careers/librarycareerssite/home">http://www.ala.org/educationcareers/careers/librarycareerssite/home</a>.

#### Career Information for B.S.Ed. Majors

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With an Instructional I Certificate (temporary), a graduate with a B.S. in Education is qualified to teach English in any secondary school in Pennsylvania. Numerous states have reciprocal agreements with Pennsylvania, so that a graduate may teach in any of them as well. Graduates should contact the State Board of Education in the state in which they would like to teach (if not PA) to learn about the specific certification requirements of that state. State certification requirements will vary; additional tests or college courses may be required. With experience and additional education, a graduate may qualify for college and university teaching. With additional training, a graduate may become a reading specialist, a teacher of special education, a teacher of English as a second language, an English supervisor, a curriculum coordinator, a guidance counselor, or a school administrator.

#### PREPARING FOR GRADUATION

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At least a year before you anticipate graduating, follow these steps:

- **1.** Meet with your **major and minor advisors** at least a year prior to your anticipated graduation date to review unmet requirements. Your advisor can also look at general education requirements, but are best reviewed by the Registrar.
- **2.** Count your credits! WCU cannot grant any degree without a minimum of **120** credits. (And just because you have 120 credits does not mean that you earn a degree; you also must satisfy the degree's course requirements.) The English's Department's B.A. degree is a 120-credit program. Because of accreditation requirements, our B.S.Ed. program requires 124 credits.
- **3.** Visit your *MyWCU* page and click on "Apply for Graduation" to apply for graduation analysis (see the pages that follow for instructions). This triggers a request to the Registrar (as well as putting you on the department's list of prospective graduates at the end of your anticipated graduation semester). **You should apply a year before you anticipate graduation (see English Majors' Forum for deadlines).** This will permit you to make adjustments to your course selections in your final semesters that will prevent any delay in your graduation date.
- **4.** The Registrar's Office will provide an evaluation of your general education requirements. After several weeks to a few months (depending on urgency and time of semester), the Registrar's Office will send you an email **at your WCU email address only,** with your evaluation report attached. You will be asked to come to the Registrar's office and review the evaluation with the designated Registrar staff member (determined by Major/College). Specific days/times are identified. **You must check your WCU email account to learn of your graduation status!**
- **5.** Consult with any minor advisors the first week of your last semester to verify that you will complete all requirements of minor programs.
- **6. Meet with your advisor first week of your last semester** so that you can check requirements one more time, when you still have time to adjust your schedule during the Drop/Add period.

Graduation clearances for your major are done in the last week of classes. If there is a problem with unmet major requirements, this is when you will learn about them officially. That is why regular meetings with your advisor plus familiarity with this manual and your advising sheets are essential!

#### How NOT to graduate!

The three most common problems:

- 1. You do not have **120 credits**. Common reasons: You can't count remedial classes or repeats. Using one class to meet two requirements leaves you 3 credits short. You took a 2-credit class instead of a 3-credit class. You didn't transfer in all of your transfer classes.
- 2. You have not completed the minor/concentration/department electives section of your B.A. English advising sheet.
- 3. You expected an Interdisciplinary class to count for one of your Gen Ed distributive classes (it can't).

Please do not expect either the Registrar or the department to process your graduation request a couple of weeks before you intend to graduate.

Apply at least a year ahead of when you plan to graduate.

#### LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION



This information is primarily for those intending to go to graduate school; however, the general advice also applies to those seeking letters of recommendation for jobs and scholarships.

For most graduate school applications, you will need to include three letters of recommendation from individuals who can address your abilities, suitability, and promise for graduate study. For law, library/information sciences, and other professional school applications, having a recommender who is a professional in the field would work well. For applications to English or similar academic programs, you will probably want to have three letters from academics/faculty members in the field. In selecting faculty members to approach for a letter, you should consider who knows you and your work best. Those who know you well and have ties with a particular university or program to which you are seeking admission are particularly good to approach — as are those who are well-known in the field you wish to enter.

When asking someone to write on your behalf, be sure to phrase your request in a way that allows the person a gracious way to decline. For instance, a professor may not feel that he or she could write the strong letter you need to gain admission. Also, be sure to plan in advance. You should give your recommenders three week or more lead time before the letter is due.

As part of your planning, you should prepare a packet for your recommenders. This packet ideally should include:

- A list of programs to which you are applying and the deadlines for the receipt of materials at each school.
- Any forms that should be included with the letter. Complete all portions of the form that ask for
  your personal information. Be sure to check the box that waives your right to see the letter. If you
  do not waive your rights to see the material, the letter will hold less weight.
- A draft of your personal statement or essay that you are sending with your application.
- A copy of your resumé.
- A statement in which you offer a brief summary of the work you completed for the course(s) you
  took with the recommender and the grades you earned. Such information will jog the
  recommender's memory and allow the person to add specific details that will enhance the letter.
  Feel free to include any information (course-related or otherwise) that you feel would help the
  recommender highlight your talents for graduate school, your maturity, and/or your reasons for
  selecting particular programs.
- URLs for the recommendation submission websites and any relevant instructions.

# **LITERATURES TRACK COURSE LIST**

See the correct advising sheet for your program to know how many classes you should take from each category.

- (E) = Early historical period
- (I) = Interdisciplinary class
- (J) = Diverse communities class

#### Genre

Courses in this category examine diverse forms of literary expression including: poetry, fiction, drama, memoir and autobiography, children's literature, film, creative non-fiction, letters, and reviews. Each course focuses exclusively on a specific genre.

CLS 201 Classical Greco Roman Myth in 20 <sup>th</sup>	LIT 305 Modern American Drama
Century Arts (I)	LIT 306 Modern American Novel
CLS 304 Women and Film	LIT 307 Modern American Poetry
CLS 361 Modern World Drama	LIT 310 African American Novel I
CLS 362 World Lit - Modern Fiction	LIT 311 African American Novel II
CLS 367 Classical Greco-Roman Mythology (E)	CLS 371 Law and Disorder in
Literature (I)	LIT 338 Restoration and 18 <sup>th</sup> Century
LIT 219 Lit for Young Children	Drama (E)
LIT 220 Children's Literature	LIT 339 18 <sup>th</sup> -Century British Novel (E)
LIT 269 Literature of Roguery	LIT 341 19 <sup>th</sup> -Century British Novel
LIT 271 Drama since 1970	LIT 344 Modern British Novel
LIT 272 New Fiction	LIT 360 Special Topics:
LIT 274 Feminist Poetry	Children's & Young Adult Literature
LIT 294 Topics in Digital Literature & Culture	LIT 365 Short Fiction
LIT 302 Development of the American Novel	LIT 367 Comedy & Humor (I)
	LIT 398 Young Adult Literature*

\*B.S.Ed. students: Note that LIT 398 does not meet a Genre requirement.

## **Literatures** Track Course List

continued

#### U.S. Multi-Ethnic and World Literatures

Courses in this category examine global, continental, and diverse United States writing communities. **B.S.Ed. students** please note that this list is *not* the same as the "World literature" category you must fulfill – see back of manual for list. Only the two classes noted below fulfill that requirement.

CLS 203 African Studies (E) (J)	World Lit BSEd
CLS 255 20 <sup>th</sup> Century Native An	nerican

Literature

CLS/ESP 333 Latina Writing (J)

CLS 351 African Literature World Lit BSEd

CLS 365 African American Film LIT 202 African American Lit I (E)

LIT 203 African American Lit II

LIT 204 New Black Women Writers in America

LIT 205 Harlem Renaissance

LIT 207 Life & Times of Frederick Douglass (E)

LIT 213 Asian-American Literature (J)

LIT 303 Intro to Multi-Ethnic American

Literature (J)

LIT 304 American Jewish Novel

LIT 309 Thoughts/Writings of Martin Luther

King (I)

LIT 372 African American Urban Lit

#### **Historical Contexts**

Courses in this category address literary works and their cultural and historical contexts.

CLS 258 Women's Lit I (E) (J)

CLS 259 Women's Lit II (J)

CLS 260 World Lit I (E) (J)

CLS 261 World Lit II

CLS 270 Life, Death, Disease (I)

CLS 280 Languages of Modernism (I)

CLS 368 Greco-Roman Culture Myth and

Society (E) (I)

CLS 369 Literature and Film

FLM 201 American Film (NOT FLM200!)

FLM 202 American Themes (NOT FLM200!)

LIT 200 American Lit I (E)

LIT 201 American Lit II

LIT 202 African American Lit I (E)

LIT 203 African American Lit II

LIT 230 English Lit I (E)

LIT 231 English Lit II

LIT 250 Victorian Attitudes (I)

LIT 300 Colonial and Revolutionary Lit (E)

LIT 329 Medieval Women's Culture (E)

LIT 331 Chaucer (E)

LIT 333 Early Modern Poetry (E)

LIT 334 Milton (E)

LIT 335 Shakespeare I (E)

LIT 336 Shakespeare II (E)

LIT 337 Literature of the Enlightenment (E)

LIT 340 The Romantic Movement

LIT 342 Victorian Literature

LIT 364 Modern Irish Literature

LIT 370 Urbanism and the Modern

Imagination (I)

# **WRITINGS TRACK COURSE LIST**

See the correct advising sheet for your program to know how many classes you should take from each category.

- (I) = Interdisciplinary class
- (J) = Diverse communities class

## **Style & Aesthetics**

Courses in this area help students comprehend, appreciate, and practice creative and critical conventions of written discourses. Courses in this category introduce students to a specific set of creative and critical genres and provide opportunities to practice, analyze and reflect upon a variety of stylistic and rhetorical conventions.

CRW 201 Introduction to Creative Writing CRW 301 Poetry Workshop I CRW 302 Poetry Workshop II CRW 303 Short Story Workshop I CRW 304 Short Story Workshop II CRW 305 Creative Nonfiction Workshop I	ENG 304 Essay Workshop ENG 305 Environmental/Experiential Writing: Taking Action ENG 345 Women Writing: Autobiography ENG 368 Business & Organizational Writing JRN 272 Feature Writing JRN 312 Sports Reporting & Writing
CRW 306 Creative Nonfiction Workshop II CRW 491 Creative Writing Workshop in Long Form ENG 250 Stylistics: The Language of Literature	JRN 315 Magazine Article Writing WRH 330 Autobiographical Acts WRH 333 African American Autobiography WRH 342 Document Design WRH 343 Visual Rhet. in Comics/Graphic Novels
ENG 270 Book History: Introduction	WRH 350 Grant & Proposal Writing

#### **Power & Politics**

WRH 201 Introduction to Rhetoric

Courses in this area help students develop a respect for diversity in language (dialects, idioms, culturally meaningful expressions, etc.), and understanding of the roles that texts play in shaping society (culturally and politically). These courses provide opportunities for students to become participants in larger cultural contexts through the texts they write, read, teach, and discuss.

ENG/LIN 240 Language, Gender, & Sexuality (J)	WRH 210 Multicultural Writing (J)
ENG 335 History of the English Language	WRH 301 The Rhetorics of Black America (J)
ENG 339 History & Dialects of American	WRH 310 Written Rhetoric: Power, Politics, and
English	Environmental Writing
ENG 340 Sociolinguistic Aspects of English	WRH 315 Propaganda, Power, & Politics
ENG 375 Strategies for Writing in the	WRH 320 I, Cyborg: Technology, Writing, and the
Workplace	Body
ENG 397 Writing Tutoring	WRH 333 African-American Autobiography
JRN 200 Introduction to Journalism	WRH 335 Activism and Advocacy Writing
JRN 225 News Writing	WRH 340 Introduction to Visual Rhetoric
JRN 226 Public Affairs Reporting	WRH 365 Writing in the Health Professions

### **Writings** Track Course List

continued

### Information Literacy, Technology, & Media

Courses in this area introduce students to new technologies that have influenced the production and circulation of texts and information in society, including (but not limited to): internet publishing, web design, underground publishing, visual texts, television and film, etc. These courses will emphasize becoming knowledgeable and reflective users and teachers of these new "texts," as well as being creative and critical writers of them.

CLS 350 Computer Applications in the Humanities

DHM/ENG 280 Intro to Digital Humanities (I)

ENG 215 Views on Literacy

ENG 320 Writing and Computers

ENG 371 Technical Writing

JRN 212 Digital Journalism

JRN 335 Ethical Issues in Mass Media

FLM 200 Introduction to Film\*

(NOT FLM 201 or 202)

WRH 205 Composing Cyberspace WRH 305 Images of School in Film WRH 325 Technology and the English Classroom (SPRING ONLY) WRH 341 Visual Cultures

<sup>\*</sup> also meets Arts distributive requirement

# LITERATURE CATEGORIES (AMERICAN, BRITISH, WORLD) FOR B.S.ED./POST-BAC STUDENTS ONLY

All Teacher Education students must take at least one course from each category below as they complete their tracks. This requirement overlays the track requirement, so you should choose your track courses with these requirements in mind. If you choose track courses carefully, you will not have to take three more classes to fulfill your American, British, and World literature requirement. This requirement exists to help prepare you for your Praxis II exams, which require familiarity with all three literature categories. Film classes are not included, because the Praxis II does not test film knowledge.

### American:

CLS 255 20th Century Native American	LIT 213 Asian-American Lit (J)
Literature	LIT 300 Colonial & Revolutionary Lit (E)
CLS/ESP 333 Latina Writing (J)	LIT 302 Development of the American Novel
LIT 200 American Lit I (E)	LIT 303 Introduction to Multi-Ethnic America
LIT 201 American Lit II	Literature
LIT 202 African American Lit I (E)	LIT 304 American Jewish Novel
LIT 203 African American Lit II	LIT 305 Modern American Drama
LIT 204 New Black Women Writers in	LIT 306 Modern American Novel
America	LIT 307 Modern American Poetry
LIT 205 Harlem Renaissance	LIT 310 African American Novel I
LIT 207 Life and Times of Frederick	LIT 311 African American Novel II
Douglass (E)	LIT 372 African American Urban Lit

#### **British:**

LIT 230 English Lit I (E)	LIT 337 Literature of the Enlightenment (E)
LIT 231 English Lit II	LIT 338 Restoration & 18 <sup>th</sup> -Cent. Drama (E)
LIT 250 Victorian Attitudes	LIT 339 18 <sup>th</sup> -Century British Novel
LIT 331 Chaucer (E)	LIT 340 The Romantic Movement
LIT 333 Early Modern Poetry (E)	LIT 341 19 <sup>th</sup> -Century British Novel
LIT 334 Milton (E)	LIT 342 Victorian Literature
LIT 335 Shakespeare I (E)	LIT 344 Modern British Novel
LIT 336 Shakespeare II (E)	LIT 364 Modern Irish Literature

#### World:

Note: This list is **NOT** the same as the "U.S. Multi-Ethnic & World" list for the Literatures track

CLS 201 Classical Greco Roman Myth in	CLS 261 World Lit II
20 <sup>th</sup> Century Arts	CLS 351 African Literature
CLS 203 African Studies (E)	CLS 361 Modern World Drama
CLS 258 Women's Lit I (E)	CLS 362 World Lit – Modern Fiction
CLS 259 Women's Lit II	CLS 367 Classical Greco-Roman Mythology (E)
CLS 260 World Lit I (E)	CLS 368 Greco-Roman Culture Myth and
	Society (E)

#### APPROVED GENERAL EDUCATION DISTRIBUTIVE COURSES

Students must choose distributive general education courses *from the approved list*, found in the WCU undergraduate catalog:

http://catalog.wcupa.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/

WCU will continue to accept past transfer credits for courses other than those identified as "approved" general education courses, if the course equivalent has the same prefix as those in the sciences, behavioral and social sciences, humanities, or arts categories, including those assigned the 199 course number.

Two courses from 2 different areas in:

- Sciences
- Behavioral and Social Sciences
- Humanities

Note: English Majors **cannot** use a Literature course (CLS or LIT) to meet a distributive requirement.

One course in:

• The Arts

Note: FLM 200 can count as an Arts and a Writings track course!

# ANSWERS TO: TAKE YOUR ADVISING QUIZ!

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Test your knowledge of how well you know your program by taking the quiz below that asks you about general education and the one that corresponds to your major.

#### **General Education & General Advising**

1. Who is the primary steward of a student's academic career? What is the role of an English department advisor?

Of course, you are the primary steward of your own degree program and progression through it. You are in charge of making sure you know your degree requirements, reading your majors' manual and perusing D2L's English Majors Forum, meeting with your advisor so that you can schedule classes on time, etc. Advisors only "advise": they give advice about what classes to take, minor program possibilities, special programs like internships and study abroad, support services like counseling, and career options.

2. Why can't an interdisciplinary class count as one of your gen ed distributive area classes?

The distributive classes are housed in one discipline. Interdisciplinary classes combine at least three disciplines. Thus, an interdisciplinary class is a different type of class than a gen ed distributive class; it is designed to emphasize the *interconnections* of disciplines.

BIO 100 (gen ed distributive) = general intro to biology, but BIO 102 (interdisciplinary) = Humans & the Environment, a course designed to show the connections between biology, chemistry, public health, and politics. So you cannot use BIO 102 to serve as your BIO distributive gen ed class.

An interdisciplinary class may serve as one of you major (*not* gen ed) requirements, because the disciplinary/interdisciplinary conflict does not arise in that case.

3. Does a creative writing seminar count as ENG 400, the research seminar?

**No** other classes count as ENG 400 – not even if they may have "seminar" in the title. ENG 400s are specially designed and approved to meet certain specifications required by the English dept. and external accrediting agencies. To satisfy your ENG 400 research seminar requirements, you must take ENG 400s only.

- 4. What should you do if you want to take classes at another college and have them count at WCU?
  - Check the Registrar's Transfer Credit Center to make sure the course you want to take transfers in a class you need for your WCU degree (using the Transfer Equivalencies page https://www.wcupa.edu/registrar/transferCredit.aspx
  - 2. Fill out the proper form for taking a class at another institution (on Registrar's Forms page).
  - 3. Take the class, and pass with a minimum of a "C" grade.
  - 4. Make sure you have the college send an official transcript to WCU's Registrar's office to get it on your WCU record.
  - 5. Check your record to make sure it's there.

5. When should you apply for graduation? What happens when you apply for graduation? You should apply for graduation at least one year before you plan to graduate, for example, Fall 2019 if you plan to graduate Fall 2020.

The Registrar contacts you via your WCU email address to tell you about the status of your gen ed requirements and invites you to meet with someone in the office if you want to go over your gen ed record. (Gen eds and other university policies related to graduation are administered by the Registrar; anything to do with your major requirements is overseen by your major department.) You then receive all information relating to graduation (cap & gown, etc.), and your name appears on the departmental list for graduation clearance.

- 6. What is the *minimum* number of credits needed to graduate, by state mandate? 120. **No** exceptions.
- 7. If you want to declare a minor, what should you do?

Discuss it with your advisor. Apply from your *myWCU* page, using the link *Change Academic Plan Request*. Make sure you know your minor requirements. Contact Mary Clark, Program Coordinator, if you are applying for an English minor, or the Academic Coordinator for the college your minor is housed.

8. How many courses can you "double-dip" between an English major and an English minor? (I.e., how many classes can you use to satisfy the requirements of both programs?)

One, between English major and one of the English minors.

#### **B.A. English (Writings & Literatures)**

1. What is the difference between a minor and a concentration?

A minor is a formal part of a degree that appears on your transcript. It is overseen by the department that offers it. A concentration is a special arrangement offered by the English Department. It is one of the options for the 18-credit (6 class) section of your program. It allows you to "build your own" specialized set of classes to concentrate on a topic that is not represented in WCU's formal minors — environmental sustainability, for example, or Asian studies. You must set it up in consultation with your advisor, and your advisor must put a note about it on your advising record (you should be able to see it on your DPR). A concentration will not appear on your transcript.

2. How many crossover courses are required for the BA in either track?

Two, from the list of track courses in the handbook. For Literature crossover courses, FLM courses will not be accepted.

3. What level of foreign language must you achieve?

202, which is the second Intermediate class level. ASL courses have a different numbering scheme. You can get there by starting at 101, or where you place. See the Languages and Cultures dept. for more information:

https://www.wcupa.edu/arts-humanities/languagesCultures/placementTest.aspx

#### **B.S.Ed. English (Writings & Literatures)**

1. What criteria do you need in order to apply for Teacher Candidacy?

A GPA of at least 2.8, 48 college credits, 1 writing, 1 literature, and 2 math courses, successful completion of 3 Basic Skills tests and of the Test of Writing Competency – plus submittal of the required paperwork, including the TCA application, the TCA II form, and completed Advising Sheets.

2. What is the field experience class sequence?

Level 1 - EDP 250 (clearances required)

Level 2 - EDA 304 (clearances required)

Level 3 - EDS 306 or EDS 505 (clearances & Teacher Candidacy required)

Level 3 - ENG 390 and 392 (clearances & Teacher Candidacy required)

Level 4 - EDS 411/412 (clearances & Teacher Candidacy required)

3. What is the difference between the "U.S. Multi-Ethnic & World" category and the "World Literature" category in the handbook? How many courses are on both lists?

"U.S. Multi-Ethnic & World" is a track category that has nothing to do with the B.S.Ed. program — all English majors in the literatures track take courses in this category. The "World Literature" category is one required of the B.S.Ed. program, to prepare for Praxis II, in which you are expected to know some information about world literatures. Most of the track category do not fit into this B.S.Ed. list because it is solely American. That is why there are only **two** courses from the track category of "U.S. Multi-Ethnic & World" that also appear in the "World Literature" B.S.Ed. list.

4. How many semesters should you set aside for taking the following methods courses: EDS 306, ENG 390, ENG 392, EDS 411, & EDS 412?

Four: (1) EDS 306, (2) ENG 390 OR ENG 392, (3) ENG 390 OR ENG 392 (the other one, (4) EDS 411/412.

We strongly advise but do not prohibit students from taking ENG 390 & ENG 392 in the same semester. Most students find the number of field hours required by both causes them schedule strain.

5. When should you submit your Teacher Ed writing portfolio?

Two semesters before student teaching (one year), just in case you don't pass it the first time. It gives you time to resubmit a revised portfolio. See the section on the Writing portfolio in this handbook for details.