

## English Major Planning Form 2026-27

Student's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Faculty Adviser: \_\_\_\_\_

Pathway: \_\_\_\_\_

Welcome to the English Department. Now that you have declared your major, and have been assigned an adviser, you will need to meet with that adviser to plan your major. The Department Assistant or directory can help you find faculty email addresses, office numbers, and office hours; we recommend that you email your new adviser to make an appointment, rather than simply dropping by.

Before meeting with your major adviser, look over the English Department offerings in the online College Catalogue. You do not need to know with certainty which English courses you will take between now and graduation: your interests may change; new courses will be offered; and some courses may not be available at the time you wish to take them. Think of this as a modeling exercise: the process will give you and your adviser a chance to talk about the different pathways through the major, based on your interests. **Remember to discuss the distribution requirements and how you plan to fulfill them with your adviser.**

**Total Units Required for the major:** 11 units, comprising 10 graded units of coursework and 1 ungraded intensive unit.

### **Distribution Requirements for the major:**

- 1 unit of coursework in literature written before 1800
- 1 unit of coursework in literature written before 1900
- Alternatively, students may take 2 units of coursework in literature written before 1800
- 1 unit of coursework that focuses on issues of race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality or disability
- 1 intensive unit at any level

The distribution requirements must be taken at the 200- or 300-level. (Intensives do not qualify)

300-level seminars: 3 units, at least one taken in the senior year. (Intensives do not qualify)

### **Pathways in English:**

The curriculum in English presents a broad array of courses representing a variety of subjects—literatures from different periods of history and geographical locations, genres, approaches or methods of study. Given the scope of the discipline, the English department has decided to offer alternate pathways through the English major for students who wish to tailor their programs to individual interests within the discipline. These pathways are modeled on the correlate sequences, which have been revised to achieve a broader understanding of the historical contexts underpinning each area of focus.

Students may elect a pathway when declaring the English major as sophomores or by the end of their junior year. The distribution requirements for the major remain the same whether a student elects a pathway or not.

Pathways:

1. Race, Ethnicity, and Indigeneity
2. Gender, Sexuality, and the Body
3. Literary Geographies
4. British and American Literary History
5. Creative Writing and Literary Forms

These pathways are designed to articulate coherent plans of study that build on a foundation in introductory and intermediate courses to greater depth and complexity in advanced courses. Students are advised to take the courses in sequence, beginning with either English 101, 105 or 170 (Perhaps 2 of 3), moving on to 200-level courses, and concluding with 300-level seminars. Intensives may be taken at any point. Each pathway offers a number of courses from which the students must elect at least 6, *including* 101, 105 and/or 170. Students may petition the Associate Chair or Chair to substitute one intensive credit (or two .5 intensive units) for a course where appropriate.

Since many of the courses in the English Department are topics courses that change from year to year, especially our intensive offerings, we cannot list all the courses that, in any given year, qualify for inclusion. If you wish a special topics course or intensive to count towards one of the concentrations, you should consult the English Major Handbook and check with your major adviser.

**Color Key: RED (pre-1800) BLUE (pre-1900) Green (REGS)**

### 1. **Race, Ethnicity, and Indigeneity**

Though grounded in lived experience, race, ethnicity, and indigeneity sustain themselves by powerful acts of imagination--beliefs regarding the self and its relation to others--and thus constitute a significant province of literary studies. This pathway explores literatures that interrogate identity, explore its social function and value, and contemplate its undoing and re-making. Courses examine common tropes like noble savages, tragic mulattoes, transracial adoptees, and terrorist threats and particularly track debates about ethnic traditions in English writing.

- At least three of the following: English 217\*, 223, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 233, 243, 251, 252, 253\*, 262, 265\*
- At least two of the following: English 319, 325, 328, 329, 332, 340\*, 350, 355\*, 365\*, 370, 380\*
- Intensives: 261, 273, 276,

### 2. **Gender, Sexuality, and the Body**

Gender, Sexuality, and the Body offers students a powerful lens through which to study literature. Embedded in all social, cultural, and political relationships, gender and sexuality are key categories of analysis across historical periods, national boundaries, and literary traditions. Students choosing the Gender, Sexuality, and the Body pathway can take courses that range historically from the medieval period through postmodernism, and that feature a variety of genres and critical approaches (e.g., historical, biographical, psychoanalytical). The Gender, Sexuality, and the Body pathway challenges gender and sexual norms often upheld as "natural," introducing students to the crucial insights of feminist, queer, and transgender studies, and asking students to reflect upon the way that gender, sexuality, and the body intersect with categories of power such as race, class, nation, religion, and ability.

- At least two of the following: English 217\*, 218, 219
- At least one of the following: English 222\*, 240\*, 247\*, 341\*, 350\*
- At least one of the following: English 226, 231, 248\*, 329, 351, 352
- At least one of the following: English 227, 229\*, 230, 251\*, 257\*, 265\*, 330, 355, 357, 365\*
- Intensives: 183

### 3. **Literary Geographies**

Every literary work presupposes a geography: not only a physical space within which it was conceived (a landscape, a horizon, a city, a nation state, a site of arrival, occupation, bondage, or exile), but also a space it imagines (a heaven or hell, a fictional elsewhere, a regionalized immersion, a world in miniature, a wasteland or homeland). Framing literary analysis in terms of spatial systems and metaphors allows us to cluster and compare texts in a synchronic fashion

without losing sight of the historical forces that shaped human geographies in the first place. This track invites various scales and vectors of geographic organization: environmental, global, transnational, settler-colonial, post-colonial, territorial, archipelagic, regional, and urban, including spaces of myth and allegory, quest and pilgrimage, voyage and travel, diaspora and migration, utopia and dystopia.

- At least three of the following: 225, 226, 227, 229, 230, 231, 237, 247, 248, 253\*, 256, 257, 262
- At least two of the following: English 319, 320, 325, 328, 330, 340, 341\*, 352\*, 355\*, 357, 370, 380\*
- Intensives: 261, TBA

4. **British and American Literary History** offers a historicist rather than great books approach to two national literatures. Organized chronologically and presented comparatively, this concentration facilitates an understanding of the process of canonization, the gradual assimilation of extraterritorial traditions, and how culture contributes to the formation of national identity. Students electing the British and American Literary History pathway must take two units of literature written before 1800 and one unit of literature written before 1900. Alternatively, students may satisfy this requirement by taking 3 units of coursework in literature written before 1800.

- At least one of the following: English 213, 215, 216, 222, 235, 236, 237, 240, 241, 245, 247, 248, 249, 255, 256, 257, 262, 265\*
- At least one of the following: English 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 251, 253, 281
- At least one of the following: English 307, 315, 340, 341, 342, 345, 350, 351, 352, 355, 357, 365\*, 370, 380\*
- At least one of the following: English 319, 325\*, 328, 329, 330, 365\*, 380\*
- Intensives: 261, 266, 270, 271, 273, 274, 278, 279, TBA

#### 5. **Creative Writing and Literary Forms**

This track supplements required creative writing classes with a selection of non-creative writing courses that foreground considerations of craft and form. Students may pick from the following list:

- At least three literary courses: 1 before 1800, 1 before 1900, and a REGS unit.  
You may wish to draw from this list: English 215, 216, 222, 235, 236, 237, 240, 241, 247, 248, 249\*, 255, 257, 320\*, 325\*, 329, 342, 345, 352, 365\*
- At least two of the following: AS/English 203, English 205, 206, 207, 209, 211
- At least one course: 304, 305-306, 315, 330, 355
- Intensives: 178, 267, 374, 378, TBA

\* Courses that may be counted when the topic is appropriate

Courses in the English Major  
(to be filled out in consultation with the major adviser).

|                | a-term | b-term |
|----------------|--------|--------|
| Freshman Year  |        |        |
| Sophomore Year | ENGL   | ENGL   |
| Junior Year    |        |        |
| Senior Year    |        |        |