The University of Alabama in Huntsville

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Mission Statement

The English Department is comprised of scholar-teachers committed to the promotion of literacy and the cultivation of scholarly and professional competencies in critical thinking and persuasive writing across a wide spectrum of literary, technical, and rhetorical situations. We foster intellectual and cultural diversity, originality of thought, and clarity and cogency of expression through degree programs designed to advance careful, sophisticated reading practices as well as complex analytical and research skills. We aim to cultivate our students' management, organization, and production of knowledge. Our curricula prepare students for a wide array of professional endeavors, including law, teaching, publishing, technical communication, advertising, media, and business, as well as the pursuit of advanced degrees.

The Department of English offers courses to fulfill requirements for the major and minor in English and in Writing at the bachelor's degree level. It also offers a program leading to teacher certification and a minor in Technical Writing. A Master of Arts degree in English is described in the Graduate Catalog.

The department of English offers the following degree programs:


CLEP Examinations

EH 101: Score of 50 and proficient performance on Freshman College Composition Essay.
EH 102: Score of 65 and superior performance on Freshman College Composition Essay.

Declaring the Major

Students are advised to officially declare a major and to obtain a Program of Study by the end of the sophomore year or at the completion of 42 semester hours. Students may initiate the Program of Study by meeting with the College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences Academic Advisor (Morton Hall, Room 336).

Majors in English


Minors in English


EH 101 - COLLEGE WRITING I
Semester Hours: 3

Introduction to academic writing, critical reading, and rhetorical knowledge.
EH 101L - STUDIO FOR COLLEGE WRITING I
Semester Hours: 0

A writing workshop/lab to be taken concurrently with EH 101S. The course provides supplementary instruction and practice in written English language skills, editing techniques, writing strategies (brainstorming, drafting, revising and editing) as well as critical reading (skimming, scanning, inferring) for students needing additional support. Students must pass EH 101L to pass EH 101S.

EH 101S - COLLEGE WRITING I W/STUDIO
Semester Hours: 3

Introduction to academic writing, critical reading, and rhetorical knowledge. For students whose preparation suggests a need for intensive support as they progress through the composition sequence. Requires concurrent registration in studio section 100L.

EH 102 - COLLEGE WRITING II
Semester Hours: 3

Intermediate academic writing. Focuses on research questions and techniques, as well as critical engagement with published and student texts. Prerequisite: EH 101 or 101S.

EH 103 - ACCELERATED COLLEGE WRITING
Semester Hours: 3

Accelerated introduction to academic writing, critical reading, and research questions. Focuses on research questions and techniques, as well as critical engagement with published and student texts. Prerequisites: minimum high school GPA 3.5; minimum 26 on ACT or minimum 1170 on SAT.

EH 105 - HONORS ENGLISH SEMINAR
Semester Hours: 3

Interpretive and comparative readings in texts of enduring intellectual, esthetic, and ethical importance; critical and analytic writing and research projects. Grading Scale: A, B, C, D, F. Minimum grade of C- required to advance to 200-level English classes. Prerequisites: Formal admission to the University Honors Program.

EH 207 - READINGS LITERATURE/CULTURE I
Semester Hours: 3

Critical analysis of texts from ancient times through the Age of Discovery. The course introduces students to the methods of literary study through an examination of works in their social, historical, and philosophical contexts. Prerequisite: EH 102 or EH 105.

EH 208 - READINGS LITERATURE/CULTURE 2
Semester Hours: 3

Critical analysis of texts from the Age of Discovery through the present. The course introduces students to the methods of literary study through an examination of works in their social, historical, and philosophical contexts. Prerequisite: EH 102 or EH 105.

EH 209 - HONORS SEM READINGS LIT/CUL I
Semester Hours: 3

Critical analysis of texts from ancient times through the Age of Discovery. The course offers an in-depth examination of important works and their cultural contexts in a seminar format. Prerequisite: EH 101/101S and EH 102 OR EH 105.

EH 210 - HONORS SEM READINGS LIT/CUL 2
Semester Hours: 3

Critical analysis of texts from the Age of Discovery through the present. The course offers an in-depth examination of important works and their cultural contexts in a seminar format. Prerequisite: EH 101/101S and EH 102 OR EH 105.

EH 211 - INTRO CREATIVE WRITING
Semester Hours: 3

Students will discuss contemporary stories/poems and will participate in workshops, where their own poetry and fiction is examined and critiqued by the class and instructor. The class culminates in two revision portfolios (one fiction and one poetry). Prerequisite: EH 102 or EH 105.

EH 242 - MYTHOLOGY
Semester Hours: 3

Archetypal, metaphorical, and historical significance of deities and myths. Prerequisite: EH 102 or EH 105.

EH 260 - INTRO TO WRITING MAJOR
Semester Hour: 1

An introduction to the Writing B.A., this course will overview the field of Writing Studies, its methods of inquiry and the interdisciplinary nature of its rhetoric, composition and language/literacy influences. Prerequisites: EH 101 and 102.
EH 300 - STRATEGIES FOR BUSINESS WRITING  
Semester Hours: 3  
Practical business writing with emphasis on rhetoric, organization, and research. Open to all students in the College of Business or by permission of the Department of English. Qualifies as elective in the English major. Does not count toward English minor. Junior standing required. Prerequisite: EH 102 or EH 105.

EH 301 - TECHNICAL WRITING  
Semester Hours: 3  
Practical writing, especially technical or scientific reports and proposals, with emphasis on organization, research, and presentation. Qualifies as elective in English major. Does not count toward English minor except Cognate Studies in Technical Writing. Junior Standing. Prerequisite: EH 102 or EH 105.

EH 302 - TECHNICAL EDITING  
Semester Hours: 4  
Clarifying, expanding, reducing, and rewriting technical reports and other documents created by others. Emphasis on elements of style and usage, revision, proofreading, and application of rhetorical techniques to the work of engineers, scientists, and technicians. Includes lab emphasizing software skills useful for technical editing. Qualifies as elective in English major. Does not count toward English minor with special approval. Prerequisite: EH 301.

EH 303 - PRAC & RSRCH IN TECH COMM  
Semester Hours: 3  
Provides an overview of technical communication as a career field and as a research field. Introduces students to best practices and career options in technical communication and to the research methods used by technical communication practitioners and researchers. Does not count toward English minor without special approval. Prerequisite: EH 301.

EH 305 - INTRO TO ENGLISH MAJOR & MINOR  
Semester Hours: 3  
Designed as an introduction to the discipline of English studies, this course will address the history of textual interpretation, the theoretical debates central to the field, and the basic research skills required for academic writing. Prerequisite: EH 207 and 208 OR EH 209 and 210.

EH 320 - PRACTICUM IN WRITING  
Semester Hours: 3  
Writing and editing under the supervision of professionals. Enrollment requires advance planning. Does not count toward English minor without special approval. Prerequisite: EH 301 and EH 302.

EH 335 - SURVEY BRITISH LITERATURE  
Semester Hours: 3  
Writers, genres, and periods from Beowulf through the present. Prerequisite: EH 207 and 208 OR EH 209 and 210.

EH 336 - SURVEY AMERICAN LITERATURE  
Semester Hours: 3  
Writers, genres, and periods from the Age of Discovery through the present. Prerequisite: EH 207 and 208 OR EH 209 and 210.

EH 340 - ACADEMIC WRITING  
Semester Hours: 3  
Advanced academic writing designed to prepare students for the writing, research, and publishing requirements of their field of study. Prerequisites: EH 101 and 102.

EH 400 - COMPOSITION STUDIES FOR TCHERS  
Semester Hours: 3  
Introduction to effective strategies for the teaching of writing. Students will report on their own writing pedagogy as a result of reading and analyzing a range of writing research related to strategies of assigning, responding and assessing writing. Prerequisite: EH 207 and 208 OR EH 209 and 210.

EH 401 - THEORY & PRACTICE IN TECH COMM  
Semester Hours: 3  
Explores the relationships between common practices in technical communication and the theories that legitimize those practices. Introduces students to research and theories about fundamental issues in technical communication which may then become the basis for further graduate study in technical communication. Prerequisite: EH 301 or CM 301.
EH 403 - LITERARY CRITICISM & THEORY  
Semester Hours: 3

Major texts and approaches from Plato to the present. Prerequisite: EH 207 and 208 OR EH 209 and 210.

EH 406 - FEMINISM AND COMPOSITION  
Semester Hours: 3


EH 408 - HISTORY OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE  
Semester Hours: 3

History of the emergence and development of English from the pre-Anglo-Saxon period to the present. Emphasis on cultural contexts. Prerequisite: EH 207 and 208 OR EH 209 and 210.

EH 410 - FICTION WRITING  
Semester Hours: 3

Practice in writing fiction from conception to revision. Students will read and write contemporary literary fiction. Student work will be commented on and critiqued in regular class workshops. The class culminates in a revision portfolio. Prerequisite: EH 207 and 208 OR EH 209 and 210.

EH 411 - POETRY WRITING  
Semester Hours: 3

Practice in writing poetry from conception to revision. Students will read and write contemporary poetry. Student work will be commented on and critiqued in regular class workshops. The class culminates in a revision portfolio. Prerequisite: EH 207 and 208 OR EH 209 and 210.

EH 412 - SPEC STUDIES CREATIVE WRITING  
Semester Hours: 3

Topics in creative writing, professional writing, or other advanced writing announced in advance. Prerequisite: EH 207 and 208 OR EH 209 and 210.

EH 413 - CHILDREN'S & ADOLESCENT LIT  
Semester Hours: 3

Course content will include the study of various genres of children's and adolescent literature and their relationship to beginning reading, enhancement of reading comprehension, and intervention instruction in the various content areas. Prerequisite: EH 207 and 208 OR EH 209 and 210.

EH 414 - CREATIVE NONFICTION WRITING  
Semester Hours: 3

This composition class introduces students to the genre of creative non-fiction via revising, peer responding, prose modeling, and conferencing; and developing expertise in rhetorical writing concepts. Prerequisite: EH 207 and 208 OR EH 209 and 210.

EH 415 - ANGLOPHONE/POSTCOLONIAL LIT  
Semester Hours: 3

An introduction to major concepts, figures, and works with emphasis upon historical and cultural context. Specific focus will vary. Prerequisite: EH 207 and 208 OR EH 209 and 210.

EH 418 - REP TEXTS-WOMEN WRITERS  
Semester Hours: 3

Focus on women's contribution to the literary tradition. Prerequisite: EH 207 and 208 OR EH 209 and 210.

EH 422 - STUDIES IN THE NOVEL  
Semester Hours: 3

Focuses on varying topics in the novel with special attention to form. Texts may be drawn from diverse national and cultural origins. Prerequisite: EH 207 and 208 OR EH 209 and 210.

EH 423 - CONTEMPORARY BRITISH LITERATUR  
Semester Hours: 3

Major works after 1945 with emphasis on historical and cultural contexts. Specific focus will vary. Prerequisite: EH 207 and 208 OR EH 209 and 210.
EH 424 - POETRY AND POETICS
Semester Hours: 3

An attempt to answer (at least provisionally) the questions "What is a poem?" and "What is poetry?". How to read a poem closely and carefully, with attention to theory, history of genres, and especially the technical aspects of poetry. Prerequisite: EH 207 and 208 OR EH 209 and 210.

EH 425 - LITERATURE, SCIENCE & TECH
Semester Hours: 3

Considers the relationships among literature, scientific theories, and technological practices through a study of texts from ancient times to the present. Prerequisite: EH 207 and 208 OR EH 209 and 210.

EH 429 - STUDIES IN AMERICAN CINEMA
Semester Hours: 3

Focuses on select topics in American cinema with an emphasis on film history, technique, aesthetics, and cultural context. Prerequisite: EH 207 and 208 OR EH 209 and 210.

EH 430 - THE AMERICAN NOVEL
Semester Hours: 3

The American novel. In alternate years the course may focus on 19th or 20th century American novels. Prerequisite: EH 207 and 208 OR EH 209 and 210.

EH 432 - AMERICAN LITERARY MODERNISM
Semester Hours: 3

Major writers and cultural/historical events surrounding American Modernism, with a focus on long texts and shorter forays into the major poets. Prerequisite: EH 207 and 208 OR EH 209 and 210.

EH 433 - WILLIAM FAULKNER
Semester Hours: 3

Critical study of the major novels. Prerequisite: EH 207 and 208 OR EH 209 and 210.

EH 434 - SCIENCE FICTION
Semester Hours: 3

Selected short stories and novels, exploring the thematic and narrative concerns of both classic and contemporary science fiction. In alternate years, the course may focus on a specific problem or concern in science fiction. Prerequisite: EH 207 and 208 OR EH 209 and 210.

EH 435 - SPECIAL STUDIES AMERICAN LIT
Semester Hours: 3

Topics announced in advance. Prerequisite: EH 207 and 208 OR EH 209 and 210.

EH 436 - READING THE EARLY REPUBLIC
Semester Hours: 3

This class will investigate cultural expression and literary critical traditions associated with the founding period of the American nation (1776-1828). Writers might include Franklin, Jefferson, Equiano, Sargent, Rowson, Brockden Brown, and Irving. Prerequisite: EH 207 and 208 OR EH 209 and 210.

EH 437 - THE AMERICAN NINETEENTH CNTRY
Semester Hours: 3

This class will investigate Anglophone cultural expression and literary critical traditions associated with long nineteenth century (1789-1919). Specific thematic concern or period of focus is left to the discretion of the instructor. Prerequisite: EH 207 and 208 OR EH 209 and 210.

EH 438 - AFRICAN AMERICAN LITERATURE
Semester Hours: 3


EH 439 - ETHNIC AMERICAN NOVEL
Semester Hours: 3


EH 440 - SPECIAL STUDIES IN ENGLISH LIT
Semester Hours: 3

Topics announced in advance. Prerequisite: EH 207 and 208 OR EH 209 and 210.
EH 441 - THE CIVIL WAR IN AMERICAN HISTORY
Semester Hours: 3
Cultural representations of the Civil War (1861-5) past and present in diaries, poetry, photography, novels, oratory, history writing, and film. Prerequisite: EH 207 and 208 OR EH 209 and 210.

EH 442 - USABILITY STUDIES
Semester Hours: 3
Introduces students to theory and practice of usability, which involves designing useful, easy-to-use websites, software, and products. The course involves group projects conducting real-world usability testing. Junior Standing required.

EH 448 - THE BIBLE AS LITERATURE
Semester Hours: 3
An introduction to the major literary forms of the Bible. Material will be approached analytically, involving both socio-historical and literary-critical perspectives. Prerequisite: EH 207 and 208 OR EH 209 and 210.

EH 450 - CHAUCER
Semester Hours: 3
A study of Geoffrey Chaucer's Middle English works including the early drama visions, Troilus and Criseyde, and the Canterbury Tales. Prerequisite: EH 207 and 208 OR EH 209 and 210.

EH 451 - ARTHURIAN ROMANCE
Semester Hours: 3
A study of Arthurian Literature focused on medieval Welsh, Scottish, English, and French poetry and prose, as well as early-modern and modern adaptations of Arthurian stories in poetry, prose, drama, and film. Prerequisite: EH 207 and 208 OR EH 209 and 210.

EH 454 - NEW MEDIA WRITING & RHETORIC
Semester Hours: 3
This course teaches students to apply rhetorical principles across a variety of media and includes an examination of communication strategies used widely in academic and industry settings. The course focuses on new media through an exploration of digital technologies and the way digital culture and new media have dramatically impacted reading, writing, and research practices. Prerequisites: EH 101 and EH 102.

EH 460 - 16TH CENTURY LITERATURE
Semester Hours: 3
Selected works from the reigns of Henry VIII and Elizabeth I Close readings of texts in their historical, intellectual, and social contexts. Prerequisite: EH 207 and 208 OR EH 209 and 210.

EH 461 - SHAKESPEARE I
Semester Hours: 3
Introduction to Shakespeare's canon, selected from tragedies, comedies, histories, romances; the course may include a variety of critical approaches (historical, political, feminist, queer, performative, linguistic, and cultural). Prerequisite: EH 207 and 208 OR EH 209 and 210.

EH 462 - SHAKESPEARE II
Semester Hours: 3
Specialized study of Shakespeare's works, with particular attention to a given genre, time period, theme, cultural context, and/or critical/theoretical approach. Prerequisite: EH 207 and 208 OR EH 209 and 210.

EH 463 - CAPSTONE IN WRITING
Semester Hours: 2
A senior capstone course for the Writing BA for which students will complete a portfolio of their writing. Portfolios will include reflection on and revision to selected samples of course-participants' writing and a scholarly project completed for the capstone course. Prerequisites: EH 260.

EH 465 - DRAMATIC LITERATURE
Semester Hours: 3
Studies in Drama and interpretive strategies for reading plays. May be organized nationally, by genre, or by theme/topic. Prerequisite: EH 207 and 208 OR EH 209 and 210.

EH 470 - MILTON
Semester Hours: 3
A study of the development of Milton's thought and art as it appears in his early poems, selected prose, and later poetry, with particular attention given to Paradise Lost. Prerequisite: EH 207 and 208 OR EH 209 and 210.
EH 473 - EARLY MODERN LITERATURE  
Semester Hours: 3  
This course will examine a particular theme, issue and/or debate within the early modern period, roughly 1500-1700: constructions of subjectivity and community, the exploration of the New World, the rediscovery of the natural world through scientific investigation. The course will likely introduce modern scholarship. Prerequisite: EH 207 and 208 OR EH 209 and 210.

EH 475 - RHETORIC AND WRITING  
Semester Hours: 3  
Provides a focused look at specific issues of rhetoric in society, with an emphasis on academic analysis and rhetorical strategy.

EH 480 - THE LONG EIGHTEENTH CENTURY  
Semester Hours: 3  
Introduction to major works from the Restoration through the American and French Revolutions, 1680-1800, with an emphasis on Britain and the colonies. Topics may include: the rise of the novel, the rise of the lyric, consciousness of modernity, satire, book history, working-class writers, female authorship, empire. Prerequisite: EH 207 and 208 OR EH 209 and 210.

EH 485 - THE ENLIGHTENMENT  
Semester Hours: 3  
The European Enlightenment emphasized the importance of reasoned, open-eyed investigations into nature and human society. Its legacies include the scientific method, the valuation of universal human rights, and the American and French Revolutions. Authors may include: Bacon, Behn, Hume, Swift, Voltaire, Montagu, Franklin, Jefferson, Equiano, and Wollstonecraft. Prerequisite: EH 207 and 208 OR EH 209 and 210.

EH 496 - ROMANTIC LITERATURE  
Semester Hours: 3  
Poetry and prose, 1780-1832, with a focus on English language traditions. Emphasis may vary with instructor. Prerequisite: EH 207 and 208 OR EH 209 and 210.

EH 497 - VICTORIAN LITERATURE  
Semester Hours: 3  
Representative writing of the Victorian Age (1837-1901), selected from prose, poetry, or fiction, with emphasis on social and cultural changes that inform the literature. Prerequisite: EH 207 and 208 OR EH 209 and 210.

EH 498 - INDEPENDENT STUDY  
Semester Hours: 3  
Individual investigation into significant issues in linguistics, literature, technical communication, or composition studies under direct supervision of instructor. Prerequisites: Written approval by the instructor and the department chair of a project prospectus. Junior or Senior standing.

EH 499 - SENIOR RESEARCH PROJECT  
Semester Hours: 3  
Required: special approval from chair and instructor.

EHL 301 - TECH WRTG FOR GRAD STUDENTS  
Semester Hours: 3  
Practical writing, especially technical or scientific reports and proposals, with emphasis on organization, research, and presentation. Designed to address the specific needs of nonnative speakers of English who are developing their skills in written discourse. Prerequisite: ESL 103.

EHL 405 - SUR GEN LINGUISTICS:APP ENG I  
Semester Hours: 3  
Come to see the strange in familiar as you engage in the study of the system of language through focused analysis of the components of English. Language is usually the lens through which we observe and report on the world. In this course, it becomes the object of observations and discussion.

EHL 406 - CRITICAL ISSUES  
Semester Hours: 3  
Come to an understanding of the complex of policies, legislation, and practice that impact the progress of English Learners in elementary and secondary schools across the U.S. Understand the impact of federal, state, and local policies on classroom settings and teacher-student interactions.

EHL 407 - ADV EH GRAM:APP LINGUISTICS II  
Semester Hours: 3  
Through an in-depth analysis of the structure of sentences and discourse in contemporary English, you will understand more clearly the impact of the choices we make in the language we use in day-to-day conversations, instructional settings, political discourse, and beyond.
EHL 409 - SPEC STUDIES: APPL LINGUISTICS
Semester Hours: 3

Special topics in linguistics. Focus and emphasis of topics announced in advance.