



# English/Literature

## English, B.A.

### Major Description

The Department of English is dedicated to the study of the literatures and cultures of those parts of the world in which English is the primary language, and to the study of the history and structure of the English language itself. Although committed to no single method or approach, the department encourages an emphasis on British, American and world literary history, and requires a firsthand acquaintance with many of the more influential writers who have helped during the past millennium to make English a global language that possesses richly diverse and highly influential literary cultures. Within the B.A. degree in English, you may elect a concentration in either creative writing or world literature.

An understanding and appreciation of literature can furnish lifelong rewards. In addition to such personal benefits, the department seeks to impart the capacity to make balanced critical judgments and the ability to write the English language persuasively, with point and effect. Such skills are essential to success in a variety of professions for which the major in English can provide excellent preparation, including law, administration, business and teaching.

### Starting Your English/Literature Degree

#### Lower-Division Major Requirements in English/Literature

From UC's perspective, community college is where you begin working on the first two years of your bachelor's degree. This includes taking lower-division coursework specifically related to your field of study that may be applied toward graduation in your major.

Listed below are the lower-division requirements for **English, B.A.** that may be satisfied with approved community college courses unless otherwise noted. To find out which of these requirements are shared by other UC campuses, see the UC Statewide Transfer Preparation Path in English/Literature.

- Survey of English Literature (yearlong sequence)
- Critical Reading and Writing: Literature
- English Composition, Rhetoric and Language

**!!! IMPORTANT !!!**  
All of these requirements do not necessarily have to be completed **before** you transfer. See the next section of this path for what you must do to be competitive for admission.

**FIND YOUR COURSES**  
Every course at your community college that can be used to meet any of the lower-division major requirements is listed at [www.assist.org](http://www.assist.org)

- Foreign language requirement through one of the following options: 1) completion of the equivalent of year-two level in any one foreign language; 2) completion of the equivalent of a second semester in one foreign language plus two additional courses in foreign language or literature in translation. Students who have satisfied the Language Other Than English requirement at the high school level through the IGETC program may fulfill the department requirement by completing five foreign literature in translation courses.

## Becoming Competitive for Admission to English/Literature

### Selection Requirements

Important information on selection requirements for admission to the major, including what this campus advises applicants to complete, and by when, is outlined below. It is important to note that meeting these requirements does not necessarily guarantee admission to the campus or major. The stronger your major preparation, the more competitive you will be.

- You are advised to complete as many lower-division major-preparation courses as possible prior to transfer, based on the availability of courses.
- With the exception of the foreign language courses, you **must** take all lower-division major-preparation courses for a letter grade and complete them with a grade of no less than a C.

## Satisfying General Education in English/Literature

### General Education Requirements

While all UC campuses urge you to focus on your lower-division major requirements while in community college, it is important to remember that general education (GE), or “breadth,” requirements for your bachelor’s degree may also be met with approved community college courses. In fact, some majors require completion of lower-division GE coursework as part of your preparation prior to transfer. The good news is you may be able to double-count some of your lower-division major coursework for related GE requirements.

The Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC) is a series of courses at California community colleges that students may complete to satisfy GE requirements. Certain students, however, may not be well served by following this GE option. Specific information about satisfying GE requirements as an English/Literature major is listed below.

- IGETC is **strongly** recommended.

## Related Majors

Preparation for the following majors may be similar to the English major described above (consult the campus catalog and [www.assist.org](http://www.assist.org)).

- American Literature and Culture, B.A.
- Comparative Literature, B.A.
- English, B.A., Concentration in Creative Writing
- English, B.A., Concentration in World Literature