



UC Riverside

English/Literature

English, B.A.

Major Description

The English major at UC Riverside offers a well-balanced, thought-provoking program for students with a serious interest in the study of literature. Students begin the major by taking a seminar that introduces them to literary analysis and a selection of literary genres. They then complete a series of requirements that familiarize them with a broad range of English and American literature and expose them to important new thinking about the relation of gender and ethnicity to representation, as well as to how literature matters outside the classroom. Students also may elect to study postcolonial literature, film and visual culture. Courses may focus on literary periods, such as Medieval, Renaissance, Eighteenth-Century, Colonial American, Romantic Victorian, 19th-Century American, 19th-Century African American, Modern and Contemporary, and 20th-Century African American; genres such as the dream vision, the Gothic novel or horror film; areas such as Asian American, Chicano Latino or postcolonial literature, gender and sexuality in literature, film and visual culture, or cultural studies; authors such as Chaucer, Austen, Dickinson and Wilde; major works such as *Hamlet*, *Ulysses* or *Beloved*; critical theory; the history of the English language; and creative writing. Combining tradition with innovation, and structure with flexibility, the program allows students considerable freedom within the major to select courses according to their own interests.

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.

- Introduction to British Literary Translation
- Introduction to American Literary Translation
- Introduction to Alternative Critical Perspectives on Literature and Culture
- Comparative Media Studies (recommended; can also be completed as upper-division coursework at UCR after transfer)

!!! 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

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- One course chosen from the following: Classical Literature in Translation, Masterworks of World Literature, Classical Mythology, or any literature course in a language other than English (recommended; can also be completed as upper-division coursework at UCR after transfer)
- British History or History of the United States (recommended; can also be completed as upper-division coursework at UCR after transfer)

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.

- Completion of the lower-division major-preparation coursework is not mandatory for admission to the English major.
- You are advised to complete as many lower-division major-preparation courses as possible prior to transfer to be ready for upper-division coursework and to move more efficiently toward graduation after transfer.

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.

- You may satisfy GE requirements with either IGETC or UCR’s GE/breadth requirements.

Related Majors

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

- Comparative Literature, B.A.
- Creative Writing, B.A.