



# UC Santa Cruz

## English/Literature

### Literature, B.A.

## Major Description

The study of literature at UC Santa Cruz is organized as an interdisciplinary field coordinated through a single Department of Literature, rather than through separate departments of English, modern languages and classics. This structure fosters innovative and comparative approaches to literature among both faculty and students. Courses in the major encompass traditional literary history and interpretation, as well as cross-cultural inquiry and current theoretical debates.

The Literature major does permit focused work in national literary traditions. Students may concentrate in English language literatures, French, German or Italian, Latin and/or Greek, or in Spanish/Latin American/Latino literatures. Alternatively, students may organize their studies by period. Students who choose pre- and early modern studies focus on early literary traditions from antiquity through the Middle Ages, the Renaissance and the neo-classical period, while those engaged in modern literary studies concentrate on literature of the 18th, 19th, 20th and 21st centuries. In addition, students may choose to concentrate in world literature and cultural studies. The world literature concentration is dedicated to non-Western literatures and the study of literature in a global context. Finally, the Literature Department also offers a concentration in creative writing in which, in addition to studying literature, students work with faculty in upper-division workshops to improve their own creative writing skills.

## 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 **Literature, 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 Literature
- English Literature, American Literature or other literature courses (two courses in total; see ASSIST for a list of transferable courses)
- Proficiency in a second language (**strongly** advised, especially for those planning to pursue graduate study in literature)

#### !!! 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)

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## 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. Although completion of all major-preparation courses is not an admissions requirement, completion, or near completion, of these courses will help you move more efficiently toward graduation.

## 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 a English/Literature major is listed below.

- You may satisfy GE requirements with either IGETC or UCSC’s GE requirements.

## Related Majors

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

- Classical Studies, B.A.
- German Studies, B.A.
- Italian Studies, B.A.
- Language Studies, B.A.