

English

The Field of English

English is designed to develop proficiency in skills that traditionally have been among those most highly prized by society: to read with comprehension and critical judgment, to communicate accurately and clearly both orally and in writing, to grasp difficult ideas and think logically, to do research and organize materials, to make ethical and moral judgments from historical and humanistic frameworks, and to appreciate literature and the arts.

The Department of English

The Department of English consists of 31 full-time faculty whose teaching fields cover every area of literary studies and the humanities, including film and folklore. Most of the faculty members have published books, textbooks, and articles in their disciplines; five have received outstanding teaching awards at the university; one has received an outstanding teaching award for the entire CSU system; and one, now retired, has won the Pulitzer Prize for poetry. The department operates an English writing lab staffed by tutors who work with students on an individual basis. In addition, the department maintains a student internship program.

Career Opportunities

English has a broad application to a variety of vocations: teaching, law, journalism, editing, publishing, business management, data processing, public office, professional writing careers, and many others. English majors and minors are being looked upon today with special favor by employers in professional and industrial fields. Graduates offer skills in writing and thinking, an ability to communicate clearly to others, and a general knowledge of people and experiences gained from the study of literature.

Future Education

A teaching career at the university level may require a doctorate. A career in law requires the appropriate law degree.

General Preparation

Students who wish to major in English should enjoy reading and writing. Students in high schools and community colleges who wish to prepare for an English major at Fresno State should be avid readers. They should seek out teachers who regularly assign papers and give thorough feedback. Reading and writing skills are important assets for the English major.

High School Preparation

Students should meet California State University's admission requirements in terms of college preparatory course requirements, grade point average, and test scores.

College Program

Students should consult the university's *General Catalog* for specific major and university requirements. Community college transfers should consult their catalogs to ensure that courses taken are CSU transferable (baccalaureate level).

General Education

Students should complete as many of the Fresno State General Education requirements as possible during the freshman and sophomore years, whether they are attending Fresno State or a community college.

California State
University, Fresno

Department
of English

559.278.2553

B.A. in English

Options:

- *The English Major*
- *English Education*

Minor in English

Minor in Creative
Writing

Certificate of Special
Study in Creative
Writing

Secondary Teaching
Credential

M.A. in English

Options:

- *Literature*
- *Composition Theory*

M.F.A. in Creative
Writing

FRESNO STATE

Discovery. Diversity. Distinction.

Course Requirements

Since changes may occur, students should consult the *General Catalog* and a Fresno State adviser prior to registering for courses.

Lower Division

Freshman-Sophomore level courses
(may be taken at a community college)

Composition

(Fresno State ENGL 5A/5B or 10)

Readings in British Literature

(Fresno State ENGL 31)

Readings in American Literature

(Fresno State ENGL 32)

Upper Division

Junior-Senior level courses
(to be taken at Fresno State)

36 units (approximately 9 courses) including a minimum of 8 units in Seminar in Literary Topics and a 4-unit course in Introduction to Literary Analysis

The core of the English major consists of four basic kinds of upper-division courses: Literary History Courses, Literary Genre Courses, Literary Seminars, and Writing Courses. The department also offers courses in folklore, mythology, methods of research, film, and women's literature.

Upper-Division Electives

Courses such as:

World Literature: Ancient, Medieval and Renaissance, and Modern

Medieval Literature

Chaucer

Renaissance

Shakespeare

Milton

Restoration and 18th Century

19th Century Romantics

Victorian Literature

20th Century British Literature

19th Century American Literature

20th Century American Literature

Mythology and Folklore

Women and Literature

Literary Theory and Criticism

Advance Writing of Fiction

Advanced Writing of Poetry

Advanced Writing of Creative Nonfiction

Students are allowed considerable freedom in selecting courses appropriate to a major in English. The intelligent use of this freedom allows the student to pursue interests in other disciplines while fulfilling the requirements for graduation.

English majors must take two semesters of study in a foreign language.

**For additional
information, write**

**California State
University, Fresno
Department of English**

5245 North Backer
M/S PB98
Fresno, California
93740-8001

Visit or call

**Department
of English**

Peters Business Building,
Room 382
559.278.2553

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