

# English

College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences



## Bachelor of Arts in English

The study of English invites students to explore the interplay of language and imagination and their role in the shaping of culture through careful examination of text, audience, and author. English majors read and write the world engaged in the study of literature and the theoretical underpinnings of multiple readings, and become immersed in composition as a process and an art. By fostering cognitive skills and instilling the methods of critical analysis, the versatile English degree prepares undergraduates for diverse professional fields and advanced degrees while launching them on a lifetime of intellectual development.

The English Department at UIW is committed to the development of students' reading, thinking, and writing skills in the undergraduate core classes in Composition and World Literature Studies. The **Bachelor of Arts in English** requires 36 hours of coursework, some of which may be selected by the students to suit their career interests. To earn this degree, students must demonstrate competence in the theory and practice of literature, rhetoric and composition, and linguistics.

The English program balances theory and practice, offering students the opportunity to demonstrate knowledge through service-learning activities and internships. Members of the English faculty also mentor individual students in the McNair Scholars Program and encourage students to present papers at state, regional, and national conferences. The B.A. degree in English prepares students for graduate school as well as teaching (if students are also enrolled in the Education Certification program) and for numerous careers in the corporate world. To this end, several advanced courses in Rhetoric, Linguistics, and Technical Communication focus on practical applications to daily life and business. Students in the English program also can contribute to and edit the acclaimed journal *Quirk*; participate in Sigma Tau Delta, the International English Honor Society, and the English Club; and afford themselves opportunities to travel or study abroad. Because of the unique focus of the university's mission on social justice, the English program views the study of language and literature as a way for students to find their own voices through the sympathetic study of multiple perspectives.

## Faculty

- Dr. James Baker, Assistant Professor (Ph.D., Texas A&M University): Technical Communication and Rhetoric
- Dr. Emily Clark, Associate Professor (Ph.D., University of North Carolina, Greensboro): British, Post-Colonial Literature, Theory, and Composition
- Letitia Harding, Instructor (M.A., University of the Incarnate Word; M.Ed. University of the Incarnate Word, Concentration in Adult Education; ABD, Technical Communication & Rhetoric, Texas Tech University)
- Dr. Jo LeCoeur, Professor (Ph.D., Louisiana State University): English
- Dr. Patricia Lonchar, Professor (Ph.D., Texas A&M University): British Literature, Theory, Rhetorical and Women's Studies
- Elizabeth Matthews, Instructor (M.A., University of Texas at San Antonio): Rhetorical Studies and Composition
- Dr. Christopher Paris, Associate Professor (Ph.D., Texas A&M University): Rhetorical Studies, Textual Criticism, British and American Literature
- Dr. Hector Pérez, Associate Professor (Ph.D., University of Texas at Austin): Comparative Literature, Latino/a Literature, Linguistics, and Theory
- David Pryor, Instructor (ABD, Loyola University of Chicago): American and English Literature, Literary and Rhetorical Theory
- Dr. Matthias Schubnell, Professor (Ph.D., University of Oxford): American and Native American Literature

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Dr. Tanja Stampfl, Assistant Professor (Ph.D., Louisiana State University): 20th-Century Post-Colonial and World Literature, Gender and Race Studies

Dr. Mary Beth Swofford, Associate Professor (Ph.D., Texas Tech University): Fine Arts with concentration in Dramatic Theory and Criticism

**Career Opportunities**

The study of English develops reading, writing, and critical thinking skills. Close reading of texts through critical and theoretical frames and the production of clear and logically argued writing are foundations that prepare English majors for a wide variety of professions. Law, management, marketing, editing, journalism, public relations, advertising, fund-raising, non-profit administration, and teaching are among the careers our students choose. Some of our recent graduates have traveled abroad to teach English, while others have pursued graduate degrees in English and other disciplines. As a result of their practice in analytical reading and argumentation and their competence in research and writing, English majors are well prepared to advance more quickly than are more narrowly trained students in the companies and organizations they join.

**Undergraduate Courses**

Composition I and II  
World Literature Studies  
Literary Theory  
British Literature Survey  
American Literature Survey  
Literary Movements  
Genre Studies  
Major Author  
Literary Period Studies  
Introduction to Rhetorical Theory  
Rhetorical Criticism  
Visual Rhetoric  
Senior Seminar  
Contemporary Rhetorical Theory

Professional and Technical Communication  
Creative Writing  
Editing and Publishing  
Introduction to General Linguistics  
Traditional Grammar  
Sociolinguistics  
Trends in Linguistics  
Applied Linguistics  
Integrated Language Arts  
Literature for Children and Young Adults  
Introduction to Women's and Gender Studies  
Internship

**Contact**

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**Website**

<http://www.uiw.edu/english/index.htm>

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