

# BACHELOR OF ARTS WITH A MAJOR IN ENGLISH

GW's English major is designed to help students foster both an appreciation for literary works of art and an ability to communicate passionately, persuasively, and elegantly about the topics that matter most to them. The program's flexible structure permits students to tailor their studies to their own interests by exploring issues of community, creativity, cultural conflict, and history within an extraordinary range of texts. The department is strongly dedicated to small classes, faculty mentorship, study abroad opportunities, and undergraduate research projects that allow students to define and achieve their educational goals.

Visit the program website (<https://english.columbian.gwu.edu/>) for additional information.

## ADMISSIONS

For information about the admission process, including deadlines, visit the Office of Undergraduate Admissions website (<https://undergraduate.admissions.gwu.edu/>). Applications can be submitted via the Common Application (<https://go.gwu.edu/commonapp/>).

Supporting documents not submitted online should be mailed to:

Office of Undergraduate Admissions  
The George Washington University  
800 21st St NW Suite 100  
Washington, DC 20052

For questions visit [undergraduate.admissions.gwu.edu/contact-us](https://undergraduate.admissions.gwu.edu/contact-us) (<http://undergraduate.admissions.gwu.edu/contact-us/>).

## REQUIREMENTS

The following requirements must be fulfilled:

The general requirements stated under Columbian College of Arts and Sciences, Undergraduate Programs (<https://bulletin.gwu.edu/arts-sciences/#degreeregulationstext>).

Completion of the program-specific curriculum:

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Required</b>		
One introductory, non-creative writing ENGL course taken at the 1000 level. Suggested courses include:		
ENGL 1000	Dean's Seminar	
ENGL 1050	Introduction to Literary Studies	
ENGL 1305	Colonial/Post-Colonial British Literature	
ENGL 1315	Literature and the Financial Imagination	

ENGL 1320	Literature of the Americas
or ENGL 1320W	Literature of the Americas
ENGL 1330	Myths of Britain
or ENGL 1330W	Myths of Britain
ENGL 1340	Essential Shakespeare
or ENGL 1340W	Essential Shakespeare
ENGL 1351	Shakespeare Seminar
ENGL 1360	Fantasy and Speculative Fiction
ENGL 1365	Literature and the Environment
ENGL 1370	Topics in Global Cinema
One course in creative writing taken at the 1000 or 2000 level. Suggested courses include:	
ENGL 1210	Introduction to Creative Writing
ENGL 2210	Techniques in Creative Writing
ENGL 2240	Play Analysis
ENGL 2460	Fiction Writing
ENGL 2470	Poetry Writing
ENGL 2560	Intermediate Fiction Writing
ENGL 2570	Intermediate Poetry Writing
Two introductory survey courses taken at the 2000 level. Suggested courses include:	
ENGL 2100	Introduction to Asian American Studies through Literature
ENGL 2410	Introduction to English Literature I
or ENGL 2410	Introduction to English Literature I
ENGL 2411	Introduction to English Literature II
or ENGL 2411W	Introduction to English Literature II
ENGL 2510	Introduction to American Literature I
or ENGL 2510W	Introduction to American Literature I
ENGL 2511	Introduction to American Literature II
or ENGL 2511W	Introduction to American Literature II
ENGL 2610	Introduction to Black Literature of America I
or ENGL 2610W	Introduction to Black Literature of America I

ENGL 2611	Introduction to Black Literature of America II
or ENGL 2611	Introduction to Black Literature of America II
ENGL 2710	Postcolonialism, Race, and Gender in Global Anglophone Literature and Film
or ENGL 2710W	Postcolonialism, Race, and Gender in Global Anglophone Literature and Film
ENGL 2711	Postcolonialism and Migration in Global Anglophone Literature and Film
or ENGL 2711W	Postcolonialism and Migration in Global Anglophone Literature and Film
ENGL 2712	Bollywood Cinema
or ENGL 2712W	Bollywood Cinema
ENGL 2830	Introduction to Tragedy
ENGL 2840	Introduction to Comedy
One required course in critical theory:	
ENGL 2800	Introduction to Critical Theory
or ENGL 2800W	Introduction to Critical Theory
One minority/diversity course taken at the 3000 level. Suggested courses include:	
ENGL 3570	Nineteenth-Century Black Literature
ENGL 3660	Twentieth-Century Irish Literature I
ENGL 3730	Topics in Global Postcolonial Literature and Film
or ENGL 3730W	Topics in Global Postcolonial Literature and Film
ENGL 3800	Hawaiian Literary Renaissance
ENGL 3826	Toni Morrison and William Faulkner
ENGL 3840	Gender and Literature
or ENGL 3840W	Gender and Literature
ENGL 3850	Ethnicity and Place in American Literature
ENGL 3910	Disability Studies
ENGL 3912	Origins of Nazi Genocide
ENGL 3930	Topics in U.S. Latina/o Literature and Culture
or ENGL 3930W	Topics in U.S. Latina/o Literature and Culture
ENGL 3940	Topics in African American Literary Studies

ENGL 3945	African American Poetry
ENGL 3950	Cultural Theory and Black Studies
ENGL 3960	Asian American Literature
or ENGL 3960W	Asian American Literature
ENGL 3965	Topics in Asian American Cultural Studies
ENGL 3970	Jewish American Literature
ENGL 3980	Queer Studies
or ENGL 3980W	Queer Studies

### Electives

12 credits in ENGL courses taken at the 3000 and/or 4000 levels. These courses can include ENGL 4135, ENGL 4220, and ENGL 4250 but cannot include creative writing courses.

With departmental approval, courses with appropriate subject matter can be substituted for those specified above. A single course can fulfill only one requirement.

## GENERAL EDUCATION

In addition to the University General Education Requirement (<https://bulletin.gwu.edu/university-regulations/general-education/>), undergraduate students in Columbian College must complete a further, College-specific general education curriculum—Perspective, Analysis, Communication (G-PAC) (<https://advising.columbian.gwu.edu/general-education-curriculum-gpac/>) as well as the course CCAS 1001 First-Year Experience. Together with the University General Education Requirement, G-PAC engages students in active intellectual inquiry across the liberal arts. Students achieve a set of learning outcomes that enhance their analytical skills, develop their communication competencies, and invite them to participate as responsible citizens who are attentive to issues of culture, diversity, and privilege.

**Coursework (<https://bulletin.gwu.edu/university-regulations/general-education/#generaleducationtext>) for the University General Education Requirement is distributed as follows:**

- One course in critical thinking in the humanities.
- Two courses in critical thinking, quantitative reasoning, or scientific reasoning in the social sciences.
- One course that has an approved oral communication component.
- One course in quantitative reasoning (must be in mathematics or statistics).
- One course in scientific reasoning (must be in natural and/or physical laboratory sciences).
- UW 1020 University Writing

- After successful completion of UW 1020, 6 credits distributed over at least two writing in the discipline (WID) courses taken in separate semesters. WID courses are designated by a "W" appended to the course number.

**Coursework for the CCAS G-PAC requirement is distributed as follows:**

- Arts—one approved arts course that involves the study or creation of artwork based on an understanding or interpretation of artistic traditions or knowledge of art in a contemporary context.
- Global or cross-cultural perspective—one approved course that analyzes the ways in which institutions, practices, and problems transcend national and regional boundaries.
- Local or civic engagement—one approved course that develops the values, ethics, disciplines, and commitment to pursue responsible public action.
- Natural or physical science—one additional approved laboratory course that employs the process of scientific inquiry (in addition to the one course in this category required by the University General Education Requirement).
- Humanities—one additional approved humanities course that involves critical thinking skills (in addition to the one course in this category required by the University General Education Requirement).
- CCAS 1001 First-Year Experience

**Certain courses are approved to fulfill GPAC requirements in more than one category.**

Courses taken in fulfillment of G-PAC requirements can also be counted toward majors or minors. Transfer courses taken prior to, but not after, admission to George Washington University can count toward the University General Education Requirement and G-PAC, if those transfer courses are equivalent to GW courses that have been approved by the University and the College.

Lists of approved courses in the above categories are included on each undergraduate major's (<https://bulletin.gwu.edu/arts-sciences/#majorstext>) page in this Bulletin.

## SPECIAL HONORS

In addition to the general requirements stated under University Regulations, in order to be considered for graduation with Special Honors, students must apply in writing in the spring semester of the junior year; and they must have a GPA of 3.25 in courses in the English Department at the time of applying. Candidates take ENGL 4040 Honors Seminar in the fall semester of the senior year and ENGL 4250 Honors Thesis in the spring semester. Candidates must earn an A or A– on the Honors Thesis and have achieved a 3.4 grade-point average in courses in the English Department.

## COMBINED PROGRAM

### Combined program

- Dual Bachelor of Arts with a major in English and Master of Arts in the field of English (<https://bulletin.gwu.edu/arts-sciences/english/combined-ba-ma/>)