ENGLISH

The study of English is for anyone who wants to understand literature
and all forms of texts and media. The foundation of the English program
lies in the theory and practice of critical reading, literary analysis, and
effective writing. The major is designed to build an inclusive knowledge of
literature, to develop skills required for the critical interpretation of texts, and
to teach the principles of critical and creative writing. The range of
electives and seminars that make up the bulk of the curriculum allows
for flexibility in designing individual majors, while also giving students a
comprehensive grasp of the varieties of literature and literary study.

Premised on the belief that the study of literature and the practice
of writing are mutually reinforcing, the major with a creative writing
concentration emphasizes the interrelations among creative writing,
digital media, criticism, and scholarship. As an integrated concentration
in the English department with a dual focus on literature and creative
work, the creative writing concentration combines literature courses,
small writing workshops, and practical industry training to prepare
students for advanced study or careers in writing, media, and publishing.
Both those majoring and minoring in English benefit from the resources
provided by New York City, a worldwide center for literary activity and
publishing.

Program Activities

Events

The Department of English organizes a variety of events, which include
lectures and readings given by the Reid Family Writer of Color, the Writer-
at-Risk in Residence, the Mary Higgins Clark Chair in Creative Writing, and
participants in the Poets Out Loud Reading Series. They also include
LitFest, the Golden Gloves Literary Competition, field trips, tea parties, and
an informal professor/student book club.

Internships

We encourage students to take advantage of the many internship
opportunities that New York City offers. English majors have held
internships at magazines and newspapers, television companies, publishing
houses, marketing firms, theaters, museums, law offices, advertising companies, fashion studios, technology startups, and political
organizations. Credits received for internships count toward the total
number of credits required for graduation but not toward requirements for
the English major or minor.

Prizes and Scholarships

The department awards several creative and critical writing prizes to
students. It also awards scholarships to majors who have demonstrated
academic merit and financial need or plan to pursue graduate study in
English or a related field.

Sigma Tau Delta, the International English Honor Society

Sigma Tau Delta is an International Honor Society for students of
English. Founded in 1924, with approximately 9,000 members inducted
annually, the society strives to confer distinction for high achievement
in English language and literature in undergraduate, graduate, and
professional studies; provide cultural stimulation on college campuses;
 promote interest in literature and the English language in surrounding
communities; and serve society by fostering literacy. The Alpha Chi
Omicron chapter of Sigma Tau Delta at Fordham was founded in 2017.

Honors Options

Departmental Honors

The department offers an honors thesis option in English for senior
English majors with a 3.6 GPA or higher in English who wish to complete
an ambitious project under the direction of a faculty member and
graduate with departmental honors.

If you are interested, you should discuss this option with the associate
chair and choose a member of the faculty as an adviser for the thesis
prior to the semester in which the thesis will be completed. The associate
chair will then authorize you to register for ENGL 4998 English Honors
Thesis Tutorial, which counts as an elective toward the major. The
professor sponsoring the project will set up parameters and deadlines
at their discretion. You will write your thesis over the course of one
semester, at the end of which there will be a defense of the thesis with
the adviser and one departmental reader. That committee then evaluates
whether the thesis defense qualifies you to graduate with departmental
honors.

The English Major and the Fordham College at Lincoln Center Honors Program

For students in the Class of 2022 and earlier: Students in the
Fordham College at Lincoln Center Honors Program fulfill the first-
level core English requirements (ENGL 1102 Composition II and
ENGL 2000 Texts and Contexts) by taking HPLC 1811 Honors: Writing
Intensive and HPLC 1201 Honors: English. Additionally, those students
who are writing a senior thesis under the supervision of an English faculty
member must register for ENGL 4998 English Honors Thesis Tutorial,
which will count toward the major. Please see the associate chair to
register for ENGL 4998 English Honors Thesis Tutorial. HPLC 4050
Honors: Senior Values Seminar also can count toward the major when it
is taught by English or comparative literature faculty.

For students in the Class of 2023 and beyond: Students in the Fordham
College at Lincoln Center Honors Program fulfill the first-level core
English requirements (ENGL 1102 Composition II and ENGL 2000 Texts
and Contexts) by taking HPLC 1811 Honors: Writing Intensive and
HPLC 1201 Honors: English. Since ENGL 2000 will count toward the
English major beginning in fall 2019, HPLC 1201 Honors: English will
count toward the major for those Lincoln Center Honors Program
students who major in English. Additionally, those students who are
writing a senior thesis under the supervision of an English faculty
member must register for ENGL 4998 English Honors Thesis Tutorial,
which will count toward the major. Please see the associate chair to
register for ENGL 4998. HPLC 4050 Honors: Senior Values Seminar can
also count toward the major when it is taught by English or comparative
literature faculty.

The English Major and the Fordham College at Rose Hill Honors Program

For students in the Class of 2022 and earlier: Students in the Fordham
College at Rose Hill Honors Program fulfill the first-level core English
requirements (ENGL 1102 Composition II and ENGL 2000 Texts and
Contexts) by taking HPRH 1001 Ancient Literature. Rose Hill Honors
Program students who major in English may count two Honors Program
courses toward the major: HPRH 1051 Medieval Literature and Art counts
as one of the required Historical Distribution courses, and HPRH 2051
Contemporary Literature and Music counts as a regular elective for the
major. Additionally, those students who write a senior thesis under the
supervision of an English faculty member register for ENGL 4998 English
Honors Thesis Tutorial, which will count toward the major and fulfill the

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Honors Program requirement HPRH 4001 Senior Thesis. Please see the associate chair to register for ENGL 4998, and also inform the director of the Honors Program after you have registered so that it can count for HPRH 4001.

For students in the Class of 2023 and beyond: Students in the Fordham College at Rose Hill Honors Program fulfill the first-level core English requirements (ENGL 1102 Composition II and ENGL 2000 Texts and Contexts) by taking HPRH 1102 Foundational Texts: Theology/Classics. Since ENGL 2000 Texts and Contexts will count for the English major beginning in fall 2019, HPRH 1102 Foundational Texts: Theology/Classics will count for the major for those Fordham College at Rose Hill Honors Program students who major in English. Moreover, Fordham College at Rose Hill Honors Program students who major in English may count two additional Honors Program courses toward the major: HPRH 1202 Foundational Texts: Literature counts as one of the required Historical Distribution courses, and HPRH 3101 counts either as a regular elective for the major or as one of the required Historical Distribution courses, depending on the focus of the course. Those students who write a senior thesis under the supervision of an English faculty member also register for ENGL 4998 English Honors Thesis Tutorial, which will count toward the major and fulfill the Honors Program requirement HPRH 4101 Senior Thesis Seminar. Please see the associate chair to register for ENGL 4998, and also inform the director of the Honors Program after you have registered so that it can count for HPRH 4101.

The English Minor and the Fordham College at Rose Hill Honors Program

For students in the Class of 2022 and earlier: Students in the Fordham College at Rose Hill Honors Program may count HPRH 1051 Medieval Literature and Art towards the minor.

For students in the Class of 2023 and beyond: Students in the Fordham College at Rose Hill Honors Program may count HPRH 1102 Foundational Texts: Theology/Classics towards the minor as fulfilling the Texts & Contexts requirement.

The English Minor and the Fordham College at Lincoln Center Honors Program

For students in the Class of 2023 and beyond: Students in the Fordham College at Lincoln Center Honors Program may count HPLC 1201 Honors: English towards the minor.

Early Admission to the Master’s Program in English

Please read the Early Admission to Graduate School of Arts and Sciences Master’s Programs section, which is located under the Special Academic Programs header in the Academic Programs, Policies, and Procedures chapter of this bulletin. The English director of graduate studies, in consultation with the associate chairs, invites select second-semester juniors to apply for early admission to the M.A. program. Students must formally indicate their desire to opt for early admission into the M.A. program and submit a two-page statement of purpose by March 15. Applications do not need to include GRE scores unless the student is planning to apply for financial aid after completing their bachelor’s degree. In order to qualify for invitation, students must have a minimum 3.2 overall GPA, at least a 3.5 average GPA in their English courses, and the recommendation of two English faculty members.

This policy applies to FCRH, FCLC, and PCS. Three graduate courses can double count toward the student’s undergraduate and graduate degrees, fulfilling both undergraduate English major and master’s-level requirements. Graduate courses taken while the student is still an undergraduate must be approved by the director of graduate studies. Seniors take a total of three 5000-level graduate courses during their final two undergraduate semesters. After completing the B.A. in senior year, students then take three 5000- or 6000-level graduate courses in the fall and three in the spring. Students also must complete a capstone project and demonstrate reading knowledge of one foreign language to graduate. Applications are made online through the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences website.

For More Information

Visit the English department web page.

Contribution to the Core

The English department offers ENGL 1102 Composition II, which fulfills the core curriculum requirement in composition and rhetoric. Students who do not place into ENGL 1102 upon admission are required to take ENGL 1101 Composition I, in which they must receive a grade of C or better before they are allowed to advance to ENGL 1102.

The department also offers ENGL 2000 Texts and Contexts, which fulfills the core requirement in English literature and counts toward the distributive requirement in Eloquencia Perfecta 2. All students are required to take Composition II and Texts and Contexts/Eloquentia Perfecta 2.

Unless otherwise specified, non-majors may take the department’s elective (major) offerings toward the core requirement in Advanced Disciplinary Courses in Literature. In addition, the Department of English offers various courses that fulfill core requirements in American Pluralism, Global Studies, Eloquencia Perfecta (EP) 3 and 4, Interdisciplinary Capstone (ICC), and Values.

Programs

Majors

• English Major
• English Major with a Creative Writing Concentration

Minors

• Creative Writing Minor
• English Minor