About the major:
English is a discipline devoted to the study of the English language, encompassing the study of literature, literary/cultural theory, film, creative writing, rhetoric, professional writing, and linguistics. In English courses, students develop strong critical thinking and analytical skills; they learn to read with interpretive power and write with fluency, power, and precision; and they apply a variety of research strategies and methods.

Emphases within the Major:
Students can major in one of 5 emphases (areas of concentration) in English:
- Creative Writing
- Linguistics
- Critical Studies in Literatures, Cultures, and Film
- Rhetorics of Science, Technology, and Culture
- English – Teaching (Standard & Comprehensive)

Minors:
Students can minor in one of 4 emphases (or areas of concentration) in English:
- Creative Writing
- Critical Studies in Literatures, Cultures, and Film
- Rhetorics of Science, Technology, and Culture
- English – Teaching

In lieu of a linguistics minor, English houses the interdisciplinary Language Studies minor.

Required GE or University Courses:
English majors in Creative Writing, Critical Studies in Literatures, Cultures, and Film, Linguistics, and Rhetorics of Science, Technology, and Culture follow the University and General Education requirements for either the Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science degree in the College of Arts and Sciences. (See the University Catalog and advising handouts).

For all English majors:
- **University Writing requirement:** WRIT 114, 116, 118, 120
- **Mathematics competency:** We recommend a course with GE IB designation, especially Math 104, 106, 108.
- **Foreign language requirement**
- **English courses meet GE IA and GE IVD requirements, so we advise against taking other GE IA or GE IVD courses.**

For **English Teaching majors** some GE requirements differ; here are recommendations:
- **GE IA:** Either CJ 201, 202, or 205
- **GE IB:** Math 104 or higher with GEIB designation. We recommend Math 104, 106, 108, 246.
- **GE II:** Must include one GE IIA: Biology course.
- **GE III:** Pols 110 American National Politics, and Psych 261 Psychological Development & Classroom Processes are required. Students must take 1 other GE III course.
- **GE IV:** Must include one course from GE IVA: Fine Arts and one GE IVD: Literature, which the English major fulfills.

Major Coursework:
All English majors take three core courses (Engl 210 Intro to Texts, Engl 221 Intro English Linguistics, and Engl 284 Intro to Theory & Criticism), a minimum of 9 credits of literature, and a minimum of 13 credits in their emphasis.

Students should plan to complete their core courses in their first two years and should take literature and emphasis courses alongside the English core courses.

Recommended courses for first-year students:
- **English Creative Writing majors:** A 200-level literature course from this list: Engl 245, 273, 274, 275, 276.
- **All other English majors:** A 200-level literature course, from this list: Engl 230, 242, 243, 244, 245, 252, 257, 259, 268, 272, 296. (See emphasis advising guides for options.)
- **Strong students who do not need a 5-credit WRIT course for the university writing requirement may take Engl 210.**
- **Engl 221 for students with strong analytical skills.**

Please see the emphasis advising guides for specific details about course requirements and for sample degree plans. The emphasis advising guides can be found on the English Department website and in the department office.
Recommendations for Admission to the Teacher Education Program:

English teaching majors begin their program of study as “pre-education” majors and must apply (and be admitted) to the College of Education and Human Sciences about 2-3 semesters before their expected graduation. See the Early Adolescence to Adolescence First Year Advising sheet or the University Catalog for requirements.

Praxis Core or appropriate ACT scores required for ES 212:

Students are required to pass a standardized test—the Praxis Core—preferably in their first year of study. The Praxis core may be waived if a student has a composite ACT score of 23 with a minimum score of 20 on the English, math, and reading subject tests from a single ACT taken within the past 5 years. If a student does not meet all of these ACT criteria, they must take the entire Praxis Core. The passing test scores must be received before students can register for ES 212, Initial Teaching Experience in Elementary, Middle and High School Settings, preferably in their second year of study.

Tips for English Majors:

- Take courses from all areas of your degree—(1) University & General Education, (2) English major, and (3) minor—each semester. Do NOT work to finish all of your GEs first; get started right away on courses for your major and your minor.
- Get involved in an English Department organization (see below).
- Take Engl 210 before taking Engl 284.
- Students who intend to graduate in four years, must take on average 15 credits every semester.
- Consult the English advising guides, carefully plan your courses, and meet with your English advisor every semester.

Suggestions for Prospective Majors:

- Take a 200-level English course that sounds interesting.
- Review the English advising guides for the emphases that you are interested in (available on the English Department website and in the department office).

Student Activities/Organizations:

Many students find that getting involved with student organizations/activities enhances their college experience and gives them valuable career/life-enhancing skills.

- **Center for Writing Excellence Writing Assistants & Writing Fellows**—tutor in the CWE or assist professors in writing-intensive courses.
- **English Ambassadors**—promote the department at recruitment events, mentor other English majors and minors, and advise the department on student concerns.
- **English Festival**—organize events and activities of interest to English majors, minors, and faculty.
- **NOTA (None of the Above)**—contribute to the creation of the creative writing and arts publication.
- **Sigma Tau Delta**—English honor society, fosters relationships between students and faculty and inspires students to promote their love of literature and words to the greater campus and local community through service projects and activities.
- **English Writing Internships**—build your writing and professional skills by working for community agencies or businesses in the Chippewa Valley.

Potential Career Paths:

- teaching/training
- writing (grant, tech, creative)
- editing
- publishing
- public relations
- sales/marketing
- advertising
- management
- many other careers requiring creative and critical thinking, research and analysis, and strong communication skills.

Contact Information:

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UW-Eau Claire respects individual differences. This guide complements rather than substitutes for individual advising. Students should become familiar with their academic catalog and the requirements for their particular programs.

For instructions to declare this major: www.uwec.edu/Registrar/student/chgofmajor/index.htm