

English and English: Creative Writing

“The majors in English and English: Creative Writing create well-rounded professionals who are equipped to read texts with intelligence and nuance, to understand the complexities of language, and to write clearly and effectively, all skills valued by twenty-first-century employers. Few programs offer the versatility that the majors in English do.”



Dr. Gary Richards, Chair

If you are considering majoring in English or English: Creative Writing, you might try to take **ENGL 295** and/or **LING 101B** in your first year. The former is the required methods course for both majors and carries the Writing Intensive designation. The latter is also required for both majors and partially satisfies the General Education requirement for Human Experience and Society.

Know, though, that both English major programs are flexible enough that you do not have to take these two courses during your first semester or even your first year. Many English majors focus on General Education requirements and electives their first semester.

Also be aware that several of the English courses that fulfill General Education requirements, such as **ENGL 205** and **ENGL 206A**, will not count in the English majors. It is great to take these courses, but know that the English majors require higher level courses.

If you have a particularly strong background in literature, you might take a single 300-level literature course your first semester. These classes have no prerequisites, and there are often available seats, but these courses can be challenging for new college students. Know that most of these courses will be offered again, usually on a two-year rotation. If given the chance, always choose **ENGL 295** or **LING 101B** over one of these literature courses.

Finally, know that, even if you plan on majoring in English: Creative Writing, you cannot take **ENGL 302A**, the introduction to creative writing, until you have completed its prerequisite of **ENGL 295**. Permission of instructor is virtually never granted.

Below please find some examples of first-semester schedules for English majors. There are many variations of a first-semester schedule; the examples are just meant to help you see that there are many ways to reach the same goals.

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Communication**

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Example 1:

Course (credits)	Requirement(s) Met
1. ENGL 295 - Methods of Advanced Literary Studies (3)	Major, WI*
2. LING 101B - Intro to Linguistics (3)	Major, HES
3. PHYS 101 - Gen Physics with Lab (4)	NS
4. SPAN 101** - Beginning Spanish (3)	Language
5. FSEM 100Z - International Short Fiction by Women (3)	FSEM

Example 2:

Course (credits)	Requirement(s) Met
1. FSEM 100A4 - Autism in Contemporary Literature & Film (3)	FSEM
2. EESC 111 – Dynamic Earth (4)	NS
3. ENGL 295 - Methods of Advanced Literary Studies (3)	Major, WI*
4. FREN 101** - Beginning French (3)	Language
5. ENGL 205 – Art of Literature (3)	ALPA

Example 3: Athletes for varsity sports must register for the 400-level course of the sport. Practice times for varsity sports can vary, but generally speaking, athletes should allow for enough time to get to and from practice on weekdays from 3 - 6 p.m. Please check with the individual coach for your sport to verify specific practice times each semester.

Course (credits)	Requirement(s) Met
1. LING 101B - Intro to Linguistics (3)	Major, HES
2. GEOG 102 - Intro to Human Geography (3)	GI or HES
3. FSEM 100J7 - Octavia Butler's Science Fiction (3)	FSEM
4. ANTH 101 - Intro Cultural & Social Anthropology (3)	HES
5. PHYD 406 - Intercollegiate Cross Country Men (1)	Elective

**Please note that not all sections of a course may have the Speaking Intensive (SI) or Writing Intensive (WI) attributes. These designations for a course are dependent on instructor and semester, and are listed in the Banner description for the semester in which you are registering.*

***This particular course is in a discipline that allows students with demonstrated competence upon admission to UMW (such as AP/IB credit, dual enrollment, etc.) to begin courses at a higher level. Talk to your Student Success Coordinator if you believe you should start at a higher level.*