

## English Writing Major

[www.english.pitt.edu](http://www.english.pitt.edu)

Revised: 09/2009

Pitt's creative writing program is the oldest, and one of the largest in the United States. We offer concentrations in fiction, poetry, nonfiction and journalism. The maximum number of students in a writing class is 22. Our faculty includes widely published poets, fiction writers, non-fiction writers, senior reporters and editors. Graduates of the writing program include editors at major daily newspapers and publishing houses, winners of the Pulitzer and other major prizes, and the authors of many published books.

### Required courses for the English Writing major

The English writing major requires the completion of 33 credits: 21 credits in English writing courses, and 12 credits in English literature courses. Students are encouraged to take additional writing and literature courses beyond the required minimum. Courses in film studies, women's studies, business, and technical writing are particularly useful for English writing majors.

### Prerequisites

The Seminar in Composition requirement must be completed prior to enrollment in any ENGWR T course. A Seminar in Composition course can be selected from the following list.

ENGCOMP 0200 Seminar in Composition  
ENGCOMP 0203 Seminar in Composition: Women's Studies  
ENGCOMP 0205 Seminar in Composition: Film  
ENGCOMP 0207 Seminar in Composition: Education  
ENGCOMP 0208 Seminar in Composition: Service Learning  
FP 0003 / FP 0006 Freshman Seminar

### Tracks

Majors must choose a concentration in at least one of the three tracks – Fiction, Poetry, or Nonfiction. In most cases, the student will take other writing courses as well. Each track consists of three levels of courses. The introductory courses (0500s) offer a broad introduction to the skills required of writers in that area and *generally should be taken no later than the second terms of the sophomore year*. The intermediate courses (1000s for Fiction, 1200s for Poetry, 1300s for Nonfiction) refine and develop those skills. The senior seminars (1700s) provide a capstone experience for the student writer.

#### Fiction track

\_\_\_\_\_ ENGWR T 0520 Introduction to Fiction Writing  
\_\_\_\_\_ ENGWR T 1010 Intermediate Fiction  
\_\_\_\_\_ ENGWR T 1020 Advanced Fiction  
\_\_\_\_\_ ENGWR T 1094 Readings in Contemporary Fiction  
\_\_\_\_\_ ENGWR T 1710 Senior Seminar in Fiction  
\_\_\_\_\_ ENGWR T \_\_\_\_\_ (elective)  
\_\_\_\_\_ ENGWR T \_\_\_\_\_ (elective)

#### Poetry track

\_\_\_\_\_ ENGWR T 0530 Introduction to Poetry Writing  
\_\_\_\_\_ ENGWR T 1210 Poetry Workshop  
\_\_\_\_\_ ENGWR T 1290 Readings in Contemporary Poetry  
\_\_\_\_\_ ENGWR T 1510 Advanced Poetry  
\_\_\_\_\_ ENGWR T 1730 Senior Seminar in Poetry  
\_\_\_\_\_ ENGWR T \_\_\_\_\_ (elective)  
\_\_\_\_\_ ENGWR T \_\_\_\_\_ (elective)

#### Nonfiction track

\_\_\_\_\_ ENGWR T 0550 Introduction to Journalism  
\_\_\_\_\_ ENGWR T 1330 Nonfiction 1  
\_\_\_\_\_ ENGWR T 1340 Nonfiction 2  
\_\_\_\_\_ ENGWR T 1390 Readings in Contemporary Nonfiction  
\_\_\_\_\_ ENGWR T 1750 Senior Seminar in Nonfiction  
\_\_\_\_\_ ENGWR T topics course (1391 – 1405, course or  
\_\_\_\_\_ ENGCOMP 1100, 1101, 1103, 1104, 1250, 1400, 1410)  
\_\_\_\_\_ ENGWR T \_\_\_\_\_ (elective)

#### Journalism track (cannot be declared after Sept. 4, 2009)

\_\_\_\_\_ ENGWR T 0550 Introduction to Journalism  
\_\_\_\_\_ ENGWR T 1310 Newspaper 1  
\_\_\_\_\_ ENGWR T 1320 Newspaper 2  
\_\_\_\_\_ ENGWR T 1760 Advanced Reporting  
\_\_\_\_\_ ENGWR T 1900 Internship: News  
\_\_\_\_\_ ENGWR T topics course (1391 – 1405, course or  
\_\_\_\_\_ ENGCOMP 1100, 1101, 1103, 1104, 1250, 1400, 1410)  
\_\_\_\_\_ ENGWR T \_\_\_\_\_ (elective)

**Note on the Journalism track:** The Journalism track is being phased out; no new declarations of this track will be permitted after September 4, 2009. Journalism courses will continue to be offered as electives.

**Note on electives:** ENGWR T 0400 may be taken as an elective for the English writing major **prior** to taking ENGWR T 0520 or ENGWR T 0530. ENGWR T 0411 may be taken as an elective **prior** to taking ENGWR T 1330. ENGCOMP 0400 and above may be taken as electives.

### Core literature requirement

#### Fiction track

\_\_\_\_\_ ENGLIT 0325 Short Story in Context  
\_\_\_\_\_ ENGLIT \_\_\_\_\_ (elective)  
\_\_\_\_\_ ENGLIT \_\_\_\_\_ (elective)  
\_\_\_\_\_ ENGLIT \_\_\_\_\_ (elective)

#### Poetry track

\_\_\_\_\_ ENGLIT 0315 Reading Poetry  
\_\_\_\_\_ ENGLIT \_\_\_\_\_ (elective)  
\_\_\_\_\_ ENGLIT \_\_\_\_\_ (elective)  
\_\_\_\_\_ ENGLIT \_\_\_\_\_ (elective)

#### Nonfiction track

\_\_\_\_\_ ENGLIT 0321 Forms of Prose **or** ENGLIT 0399  
\_\_\_\_\_ Narrative and Technology  
\_\_\_\_\_ ENGLIT \_\_\_\_\_ (elective)  
\_\_\_\_\_ ENGLIT \_\_\_\_\_ (elective)  
\_\_\_\_\_ ENGLIT \_\_\_\_\_ (elective)

**Note:** It is strongly recommended that majors choose one or two of their literature electives from the list of courses on the back of this sheet.

**Recommended Literature Electives**

ENGLIT 0500 Introduction to Critical Reading  
ENGLIT 0505 Lectures in Literature  
ENGLIT 1100 Medieval Imagination  
ENGLIT 1125 Renaissance in England  
ENGLIT 1135 Early Modern Literature in English  
ENGLIT 1150 Enlightenment to Revolution  
ENGLIT 1175 19th Century British Literature  
ENGLIT 1200 American Literature to 1860  
ENGLIT 1220 Emergence of Modern America  
ENGLIT 1325 The Modernist Tradition  
ENGLIT 1380 World Literature in English

**Additional Literature Electives**

ENGLIT 0560 Children and Culture  
ENGLIT 0562 Childhood's Books  
ENGLIT 0570 American Literary Traditions  
ENGLIT 0573 Literature of the Americas  
ENGLIT 0580 Introduction to Shakespeare  
ENGLIT 0590 Formative Masterpieces  
ENGLIT 0597 Bible as Literature  
ENGLIT 0610 Women and Literature  
ENGLIT 0615 Literature and Race  
ENGLIT 0616 Literature and Migration  
ENGLIT 0625 Detective Fiction  
ENGLIT 0626 Science Fiction  
ENGLIT 0627 Literature of Sports  
ENGLIT 0628 Working Class Literature  
ENGLIT 0629 The Wild West  
ENGLIT 0630 Sexuality and Representation  
ENGLIT 0635 New Literature  
ENGLIT 0636 Gothic Imagination  
ENGLIT 0640 Allegory  
ENGLIT 0641 Tragedy  
ENGLIT 0642 Comedy  
ENGLIT 0643 Satire  
ENGLIT 0644 Myth and Folktales  
ENGLIT 0645 Fantasy and Romance  
ENGLIT 0655 Representing Adolescence  
ENGLIT 1020 History of Literary Criticism  
ENGLIT 1023 Contemporary Critical Theory  
ENGLIT 1028 Literature and Psychoanalysis  
ENGLIT 1105 Middle English Literature  
ENGLIT 1115 Chaucer  
ENGLIT 1126 Advanced Shakespeare  
ENGLIT 1127 Shakespeare on Film  
ENGLIT 1128 Women in Shakespeare  
ENGLIT 1132 Elizabethan and Jacobean Drama  
ENGLIT 1170 The Romantic Period  
ENGLIT 1180 Victorian Literature  
ENGLIT 1181 Victorian Novel  
ENGLIT 1210 American Renaissance  
ENGLIT 1250 20th Century American Literature  
ENGLIT 1255 American Theatre  
ENGLIT 1272 The Roaring 20s  
ENGLIT 1280 Contemporary American Women Writers  
ENGLIT 1360 Topics in 20th Century Literature  
ENGLIT 1370 Makers of Modern Drama  
ENGLIT 1372 Contemporary Drama  
ENGLIT 1587 Utopian Literature  
ENGLIT 1607 Advanced Short Story  
ENGLIT 1645 Critical Approaches to Children's Literature  
ENGLIT 1704 Women Novelists  
ENGLIT 1738 Irish Literature  
ENGLIT 1772 Adoption Literature

**Grade requirements:** A minimum grade of C or better (not C-) is required in any 0500-level ENGWRT course to advance to the first 1000-level course in that track. Students who earn less than a C in their first 1000-level course may not advance to the other courses in that track. Moreover, students must earn a minimum grade of C or better (not C-) in their Senior Seminar or Internship course.

**Satisfactory/No Credit option:** There is no limit on the number of courses in the major that can be taken on an S/NC basis.

**Writing (W) requirement:** English writing majors automatically fulfill both of the Arts and Sciences W-course requirements. Students pursuing a second major would be required to complete an additional W course for that major.

**Related area:** A minimum of 12 credits is required in any one Arts and Sciences department chosen in consultation with the major advisor. The completion of an official Arts and Sciences minor or an Arts and Sciences or UCIS certificate also satisfies this requirement.

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