WHY MINOR IN ENGLISH?

Are you interested in communications, media, literature, and culture? Do you enjoy reading or writing? Are you ready to engage in active discussions of issues that affect you, your country, your generation? If you are looking for a way to round out your degree, a Minor in English is for you.

English courses enhance writing and presentation skills, reading and analytical competencies, and critical and creative thought. A minor in English will enable you to practice and hone these skills over several years to complement your major or honours degree and to help prepare you for work after graduation. A Minor in English will help prepare students for work in any profession in which cultural awareness, analytical thinking, and communication are important.

Taught by world-renowned, prize-winning scholars, UBC English courses cover a wide range of topics from the structure of English grammar to monsters and demons in indigenous literature, from Shakespeare in film, to the rhetoric of health, from the ecology of Victorian fiction to transsexuality in television: every historical event from the Fall of Rome to the Rise of Trump and every medium from words to pages to film to Facebook.

The English program at UBC offers two minors, one in language and one in literature. If you are interested in the way the English language works and how it shapes what we say in our daily lives, the language minor is for you. If you are interested in literature and culture, media and communication, reading and writing, the literature minor is your best bet. All our courses are taught in small classes by award-winning instructors who understand the importance of your degree to your future career.

WHERE CAN I FIND MORE INFORMATION?

english.ubc.ca/undergraduate/major-in-english or the department website: english.ubc.ca

You can also browse all our courses at english.ubc.ca/courses!

WHOM CAN I CONTACT FOR MORE INFORMATION?

Consult with an English Advisor:
see the schedule at english.ubc.ca/undergraduate/minor-in-english/advising/

Undergraduate Program Assistant
Ms. Donna Shanley
english.undergraduate@ubc.ca

Chair of Majors Committee
Professor Alexander Dick
alex.dick@ubc.ca

Associate Head, Undergraduate
Professor Elizabeth Hodgson
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The University of British Columbia
Faculty of Arts
2017-18

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Visit us:
english.ubc.ca

Connect with us:
facebook.com/ubcEnglish
The English Minor Program

WHAT COURSES DO I TAKE?

Entry Requirements (12 credits):
To declare either the Minor in Language or the Minor in Literature, students must have completed either Arts One, the Coordinated Arts Program, six credits of first-year English, or WRDS 150 plus three credits of first-year English. In second year, students take two second year English courses: the early British literature survey (ENGL 220) is recommended for students interested in literature while the introduction to language study (ENGL 229) is recommended for those interested in language.

Program Requirements (18 credits)
For the Minor in Language students take 2 courses on the structure of English and 2 courses in either linguistics or rhetoric, depending on their choice of specialization. They take 2 courses from a selection of courses on the history of English, discourse analysis, or cognitive approaches to language.

For the Minor in Literature students take 2 courses in Medieval, Early-Modern, or Eighteenth and Nineteenth-Century Literature plus 4 courses chosen from our wide selection of amazing offerings in historical, contemporary, indigenous, and global literatures, genre, critical theory, language, and media studies.

CAN A MINOR IN ENGLISH HELP TO START MY CAREER?

English degrees are a hot commodity on the job market. Knowing how and why media and communication work can give you a huge advantage in today’s rapidly-changing work-world. Employers know that only applicants with skills in critical thinking and writing and who understand the power of language and media are ready for its challenges. English grads are teachers, lawyers, journalists, publishers, actors, entrepreneurs, consultants, even Prime Ministers.

CAN I COMBINE MY PROGRAM WITH AN ENGLISH MINOR?

An English Minor productively complements any major or honours program in Arts or Science. Current students in the minor program are pursuing majors and honours degree programs in such fields as economics, political science, psychology, biology, environmental studies, history, geography, anthropology, and visual art. Talk to an advisor about how you might develop a double major that will meet your goals and interests.

HOW DO I DECLARE A MINOR IN ENGLISH?

Faculty of Arts students can declare their Minor through the Student Services website (http://students.ubc.ca). All you need is third-year standing. Students in Faculties other than Arts should consult with their Faculty Advising Offices about how the declare the Minor or English.

“Heads up, business majors: Employers are newly hot on the trail of hires with liberal arts and humanities degrees.”
Wall Street Journal

“The Best Argument for Studying English? The Employment Numbers... Only people who don’t understand statistics would question the value of an English degree.”
The Atlantic

“English Majors are the Hot New Hires”
Open Forum

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