American Literature
Ramon Guerra, PhD; Chicano/Latino Lit, Twentieth- and Twenty-First Century American Lit
Charles Johanningmeier, PhD; American Regionalist Lit, Immigrant and Multicultural Lit, Late Nineteenth- and Early Twentieth-Century American Lit, Willa Cather
David Peterson, PhD; Early American Poetry, Irish Drama, Native American Lit, Gender Studies
Barbara Rabins, PhD; Native American Lit and Art, Veterans Lit

British/Irish/Anglophone Literature
David Boocker, PhD; Dean of College of Arts and Sciences; Renaissance and Early Modern Lit, Milton
Lisaeth Buchelt, PhD; British and Irish Medieval Lit
Robert Darcy, PhD; Shakespeare, Critical Theory and Methods, Sixteenth-Century Lit, Early British Survey
Tanushree Ghosh, PhD; Victorian Lit and Culture, Visual Culture, Pastcolonial Literatures and Cultures
Kristin Girten, PhD; English Department Internship Director; Eighteenth-Century Lit, Women’s and Gender Studies
Lucy Morrison, PhD; Director of Honors Program; Romanticism, Victorian Period

Creative Nonfiction
Jody Keisner, MFA; Modern Familiar Essay, Writing in Digital Environments, Research and Argument, Autobiography
Lesa Knopp, PhD; Narrative Nonfiction, Travel Writing, Experiments in CNF, Food Writing, Modern Familiar Essay
John Price, PhD; ADWR Director; Autobiography, Nature Writing, Great Plains Lit

First Year Writing
Maria Knudtson, MA; Composition, General Lit, Technical Writing Across Disciplines
Marsha Kruger, MA; Composition, Women’s and Gender Studies
Matthew Marx, MA; Honors Composition, General Lit

“UNO’s English department is exceptional in that [the faculty] don’t just provide the knowledge you need to be a good writer, reader, editor, speaker, and critical thinker–they also prepare you for life outside of college with applicable skills that help you find success in any career.”
—Bailey Hemphill, English Major

ENGLISH FACULTY

CONTACT THE DEPARTMENT

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Majoring in English at UNO

While studying English at UNO, you will be exposed to outstanding faculty, a wide variety of challenging and interesting classes, and a host of opportunities both inside and outside the classroom. You will learn to analyze literary and non-literary works within cultural and historical contexts, to think critically, to write clearly, and to communicate persuasively.

What can I do with an English degree?

You’ll have a wide and exciting selection of career options. English majors are trained to write well, to organize ideas in a logical way, and to develop arguments. You can analyze complex information, conduct research, and critically read and observe. With these skills, you can work for book publishers, hospitals, television networks, advertising firms, the government, and more.

Undergraduate Courses of Study

American Literature

The American literature concentration exposes students to the rich and diverse legacy of creative expressions produced by authors from the area now known as the United States of America. By applying various critical theories to these productions, students learn both to appreciate their artistry and understand their significance as cultural artifacts.

British/Irish/Anglophone Literature

The British/Irish/Anglophone concentration is the study of more than a thousand years’ worth of literature belonging to the British Isles, Ireland, and the former Commonwealths of the British Empire. Students read, study, and interpret diverse literary texts in an effort to understand their own cultural moment through literary encounters with the past and present.

Creative Nonfiction

Guided by published, award-winning faculty, students in the Creative Nonfiction (CNF) concentration study and write a wide range of creative nonfiction forms, including Modern Familiar Essay, Autobiography, Travel Writing, and Narrative Nonfiction. A key component of the CNF concentration is that students not only learn to critique artful language and literature but they also learn how to create it.

Courses of Study (cont.)

Language Studies

Language Studies is a rich, interdisciplinary concentration in which students learn to interrogate texts of all sorts. This program of study combines four disciplines: composition studies, rhetoric, linguistics, and technical communication. Students learn how people make choices about the texts they produce and those they consume. In language studies, we value text in the broadest sense of the word—any language produced for any given audience, purpose, or activity.

TESOL Certificate

TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages) is a certificate program meant for many different kinds of students. Some will be aspiring teachers who are already certified in areas such as math, science, language arts, and foreign languages. The certificate is also ideal for people who plan to teach in venues other than public schools and for anyone who works in some capacity with non-native speakers of English.

Declaring an English Major

To declare a major in English, visit the Arts & Sciences Dean’s office, Arts & Sciences Hall 240, to fill out a Change of Major form.

Resources for English Majors

Advising

Once you declare the major, you will be assigned to a faculty advisor who will guide you through the program of study.

Sigma Tau Delta

The UNO chapter of Sigma Tau Delta connects the English major to both a local congregation of peers and a national network of former English majors that has been active since 1924. Sigma Tau Delta is the premier national organization for English majors; with an element of prestige, its student members enjoy privileges and opportunities that continue long after graduation.

Scholarships

Juniors and seniors who achieve at least a 3.0 GPA within the major may be considered for the annual competitions for the Marian Basler, Helen Basler Anderson, and James C. Horejs scholarships. These scholarships, awarded by the English Faculty, entitle English majors to assistance with tuition costs and represent a highly distinguished honor.

The Writing Center

All students at UNO, regardless of major, are welcome to make use of the Writing Center as a resource for learning and writing improvement. You may visit the Writing Center and explore its resources in Arts & Sciences Hall 150.

Ireland Study Abroad

Those participating in the English Department’s Ireland study abroad summer program learn about Irish literature, history, and culture first hand as part of an upper-level, cross-listed course. Students will travel around Ireland for approximately two weeks, visiting many major highlights, including the cities of Dublin and Galway, museums, Neolithic and medieval ruins, and much more.

To learn more about English internship opportunities, contact Dr. Kristin Girten at kgirten@unomaha.edu

Opportunity