

College of Humanities and Behavioral Sciences

Department of English

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www.radford.edu/~engl-web

RADFORD UNIVERSITY
www.radford.edu



The undergraduate major in English affords students an integrated, comprehensive learning program that teaches the fundamental ways of organizing knowledge in the discipline. The major also provides students with a core of knowledge and skills essential to career choices that require creative thinking and communication skills.

Students receiving an undergraduate degree in English may teach in the public schools (with teacher licensure that is part of the degree), or pursue careers in writing, editing, publishing, or communication-related work in business and industry.

The graduate program in English offers masters' tracks in literature and English Education (with optional teacher licensure). One of its main features is a competitive teaching fellowship program that gives selected students experience in the classroom through participation in learning community with experienced faculty members.

Students receiving a master's degree in English may teach in the secondary schools or community colleges or pursue further graduate study on the doctoral level. Others may enter various professions where critical thinking, communication skills, and writing are valued and employed.

Undergraduate Program:

The major commences with the course: Introduction to English Studies, which introduces the various aspects of the major, gives instruction in research and writing in the discipline, and allows students to plan the rest of their program based on their career trajectories. The major then offers courses that explore the various ways of learning in the discipline, such as surveys, period courses, and single author courses. Two optional concentrations are offered: English Education (which leads to teacher licensure) and professional writing. During the last semester, students take a capstone course: Senior Seminar which reviews the various parts of the major and culminates in the production of a senior thesis.

●B.A. (Bachelor of Arts): 120 hours

The B.A. program consists of 43 to 45 hours of Core Curriculum coursework, six to 12 hours of study in one foreign language, and 45 hours of English coursework

●B.S. (Bachelor of Science): 120 hours

The B.S. degree consists of 43 to 45 hours of Core Curriculum coursework, six to eight hours of additional math, science, computer-based, or social science coursework, and 45 hours of English coursework

The placement rate for English majors with an Education concentration in the schools systems is nearly 100%. They are carefully supervised by the English Education faculty and often put in contact with the public school system as pre-service teachers. Many graduates are also employed in the non-profit, government, and business sectors in work that capitalizes on their writing editing, and research skills. Several others go on for further study in English and related fields.

To apply for admission

For undergraduate programs contact the Office of Admissions, Box 6903, Radford, VA 24142 or you may apply online. For specific information on admissions and financial aid, see the RU website at www.radford.edu.

Graduate Program:

The degree begins with the course: Introduction to Literary Study, a comprehensive hands-on experience with literary theory, research in the discipline, and writing. Students can then concentrate in either British literature, American literature, or English Education. Students may elect to do a master's thesis or take a non-thesis option.

●M.A. (Master of Arts) 24 hours of coursework 6 hours of thesis (ENGL 699) Comprehensive written exam Oral thesis defense Reading proficiency in a foreign language

●M.S. (Master of Science) 33 hours of coursework Comprehensive written and oral exams

●Additional courses in English Education are required for the M.A. and M.S. in that track. Students may also meet requirements to obtain a secondary teaching license, if applicable.

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Study Abroad Opportunities

The International Education Center offers programs on a semester, summer, or academic year basis. Several summer programs are offered by the Department of English, including:

- Literary Trailers: study of major literary figures and sites in Ireland and Italy
- Study in London and environs
- Tracing the path of Ernest Hemingway through Eastern Europe

Extracurricular Experiences

Sigma Tau Delta is the National Honors Society in the discipline of English and is open to undergraduate and graduate English majors who meet the qualifications. The Department also has an active English Club that meets regularly and hosts special activities such as open mike readings and field trips to plays, movies, and festivals of literary interest. The Department also holds yearly creative writing contests in fiction, poetry, and creative non-fiction. Students interested in writing may also

work on the staff of or contribute to Exit 109, the campus creative arts magazine.

Facilities

English offices are in Russell Hall, ground and first floors.

Transfer Opportunities

Students wishing to transfer from the VCCS should complete an Associate of Arts, Associate of Science, or Associate of Arts & Science degree.

Faculty

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