

HONOURS BA ENGLISH

Besides providing an excellent base for professional careers, a degree in English literature can offer you unmatched intellectual challenges and rewards. The Department provides courses in all major historical periods and national traditions of literature in English. It also offers courses in creative writing and literary theory, along with general interest courses in such topics as literature and film, children's literature, science fiction, graphic novels, and literature and the environment. The Undergraduate English degree lays a foundation for the pursuit of graduate studies, and is also an excellent preparation for professional degrees like Law, Business and Education.

This program is offered in English only.

Program Requirements

Co-operative education is available with this program.

Requirements for this program have been modified. Please consult the 2022-2023 calendars (<http://catalogue.uottawa.ca/en/archives/>) for the previous requirements.

Basic Skills

3 course units from: 3 Units

PHI 1101 Reasoning and Critical Thinking

PHI 1301 Philosophy: Ideas and Arguments

3 course units from: 3 Units

AHL 1100 Introduction to Interdisciplinary Study in the Arts¹

AHL 1900 Introduction to Interdisciplinary Study in the Arts¹

PHI 1102 Moral Reasoning

PHI 1103 Fundamental Philosophical Questions

PHI 1104 Great Philosophers

PHI 1302 Philosophy: Themes and Texts

Compulsory Courses

ENG 1124 Engaging with Literature 3 Units

ENG 1140 Introduction to Indigenous Literatures 3 Units

ENG 1141 Reading the Contemporary World 3 Units

ENG 2105 Introduction to British Literature Before 1700 3 Units

ENG 2124 Second-Year Seminar 3 Units

Optional Courses

9 course units from: 9 Units

ENG 2106 Introduction to British Literature After 1700

ENG 2107 Introduction to Canadian Literature

ENG 2108 Introduction to American Literature

ENG 2175 Introduction to the Literatures of Asia and the Asian Diaspora

ENG 2176 Introduction to the Literatures of Africa and the African Diaspora

6 course units from the following Critical Conversations courses:¹ 6 Units

ENG 2180 Critical Conversations: Sex and Gender Identities

ENG 2181 Critical Conversations: Race and Decolonization

ENG 2182 Critical Conversations: Environmental Humanities

ENG 2183 Critical Conversations: Class, Capitalism, and Culture

ENG 2184 Critical Conversations: Form and Style

ENG 2185 Critical Conversations: Special Topics

3 course units from List A (Literature Before 1700): 3 Units

ENG 3133 Elizabethan Shakespeare

ENG 3134 Jacobean Shakespeare

ENG 3135 Early Modern Drama

ENG 3323 Medieval Literature I

ENG 3324 Medieval Literature II

ENG 3339 Sixteenth-Century Literature

ENG 3340 Seventeenth-Century Literature

3 course units from List B (Literature 1700-1900): 3 Units

ENG 3108 Transatlantic Literature 1700-1900

ENG 3318 Romantic Literature

ENG 3341 Eighteenth-Century Literature

ENG 3349 Restoration and 18th-Century Drama

ENG 3356 18th-Century and Romantic Fiction

ENG 3362 Victorian Literature

ENG 3364 Victorian Fiction

ENG 3377 American Fiction of the 19th Century

ENG 3384 Literatures of Exploration and Settlement in Canada

ENG 3385 Canadian Literature of the Confederation Period (1867-1912)

3 course units from List C (Literature 1900 to the Present): 3 Units

ENG 3106 Topics in Film Studies

ENG 3109 Transnational Literatures 1900-Present

ENG 3110 Canadian Drama

ENG 3190 Speculative Genres

ENG 3191 Gender, Sexuality, and Literature

ENG 3192 African American Literature

ENG 3193 Advanced Study in Children's Literature

ENG 3194 Young Adult Literature

ENG 3320 Modern British Literature

ENG 3321 Canadian Short Story

ENG 3370 Modern British Poetry

ENG 3371 Modern Drama

ENG 3372 Modern Short Story

ENG 3373 Modern British Novelists

ENG 3374 Topics in the Environmental Humanities

ENG 3376 Contemporary Novel

ENG 3378 American Fiction 1900 to the Present

ENG 3379 American Poetry 1900 to the Present

ENG 3381 Indigenous Literatures

ENG 3383 Jewish Canadian Writers

ENG 3386 Canadian Fiction 1900 to 1950

ENG 3387 Canadian Fiction 1950 to the Present

ENG 3388 Canadian Poetry 1900 to the Present

ENG 3389 Writing Resistance in the English Literatures

3 course units from List D (Forms, Theories and Methods): 3 Units

This is a copy of the 2025-2026 catalog.

ENG 3105 Book History: Theories and Methods	
ENG 3107 Literature and Visual Culture: Theories and Approaches	
ENG 3111 Poetics	
ENG 3112 Narrative Genres: Theories and Approaches	
ENG 3195 Critical Race Theory	
ENG 3375 Critical Theory	
12 course units in English (ENG) at the 3000 level from the list of optional courses	12 Units
6 course units at the 4000 level, 3 of which can be fulfilled by a Special Topics course. ²	6 Units
Total:	66 Units
Elective courses	
54 elective course units	54 Units
Total:	54 Units

The electives may be replaced by a combination of a Minor, Option(s) (http://catalogue.uottawa.ca/en/programs/#filter=filter_19&filter_170&filter_27), and/or elective units.

Note(s)

1

This course has variable topics. Students may take this course twice.

2

Honours Essays, Directed Readings, and Writing Workshops will not count towards 4000 level requirements.

For example, this requirement could be fulfilled by 6 units of seminars OR 3 units of seminar and 3 units of special topics.