

2-25-1991

English BA,BS Major Revisions

The College at Brockport, College Senate

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.brockport.edu/senate_resolutions



Part of the [Higher Education Commons](#)

Repository Citation

The College at Brockport, College Senate, "English BA,BS Major Revisions" (1991). *College Senate Resolutions*. 850.
https://digitalcommons.brockport.edu/senate_resolutions/850

This Resolution is brought to you for free and open access by Digital Commons @Brockport. It has been accepted for inclusion in College Senate Resolutions by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @Brockport. For more information, please contact kmyers@brockport.edu.

Resolution # 24 1990-91

John E. Van de Wetering
President
COLLEGE OF BROCKPORT
RECEIVED

MAR 13 1991

TO: President John E. Van de Wetering
FROM: The Faculty Senate Meeting 2/25/91
(Date)
14420

RE: X I. Formal Resolution (Act of Determination)
II. Recommendation (Urging the fitness of)
III. Other (Notice, Request, Report, etc.)
For your information

SUBJECT: Revisions to the English BA, BS Major Programs and
the English Minor Program Proposed by the Department of
English

Signed Thomas F. Keller Date Sent 2/28/91
(For the Senate)

TO: The Faculty Senate
FROM: President John E. Van de Wetering
RE: I. Decision and Action Taken on Formal Resolution
a. Accepted. Effective Date Fall 91
b. Deferred for discussion with the Faculty Senate
on _____
c. Unacceptable for the reasons contained in the
attached explanation

II, III.
a. Received and acknowledged
b. Comment:

DISTRIBUTION: copy page only
(See Faculty Senate for full
Resolution)

Distribution Date 3/6/91 Signed: [Signature]
(President of the College)

To: Faculty Senate
From: Fred Burelbach, Chair, English Department
Date: November 7, 1990
Subject: Proposed Changes in English Major

Following a thorough self-study in 1989-90 and a review by external consultants in Spring 1990, the Department of English has approved changes in the English Major and Minor and hereby submits these changes for Faculty Senate approval. If approved, the changes would go into effect in Fall 1991. Of course, students presently matriculated in the English Major or Minor would have the option of completing the program they began or of changing to the new one.

For several years, the State Education Department has required 36 credit hours of English courses for certification in secondary education in English, whereas the standard English Major at Brockport has required only 30 credit hours. It seems appropriate to the Department of English to increase the English Major to 36 hours in every option or specialty area, not only to meet the State Education Department requirement but also for the following reasons:

1. The proposed Major adds a required course in Introduction to Literary Analysis (ENL 201) to provide introductory-level instruction in critical skills, necessary for satisfactory work in most upper-division courses in English. The Department has observed that students need this instruction, especially since critical theory and practice has expanded in the last decade to include new methods: Reader Response, Deconstructionism, Feminist Criticism, and others.
2. The proposed Major adds requirements for courses in the study of nontraditional literature: Literature by and/or about Minorities and/or Third World Writers, Literature by and/or about Women, World Literature. These proposed requirements are in line with the College's emphasis on multicultural and women's studies.

While adding requirements, the Department proposes to reduce the historical approach to literary study and create more opportunities for student options. This is in line with recent developments in scholarship and pedagogy in the field, and has been approved by the external evaluators, who possess international reputations in post-secondary English education.

In the Creative Writing option, the Department proposes to recognize the increasing national interest in essay writing by adding an option in that area, and in the Certification and Preprofessional option, the Department proposes to increase the amount of attention paid to the study of the English language as a base for instruction in verbal skills.

Finally, in response to a perceived student interest, the Department proposes to add a Creative Writing Minor. The present and proposed programs are displayed on the following pages. The present program is displayed on the left and the proposed program on the right. Descriptions of the new courses to be added are also included. It should be noted that the new ENL 201 course will be a prerequisite for ENL 472 Critical Approaches to Literature.

The intent of the proposed changes is to make the English Major and Minor more responsive to student needs and to new directions in scholarship and pedagogy, as revealed by the self-study conducted by the department. No additional resources will be required for these changes, although it should be noted that the number of English Majors and Minors has been steadily growing (111 Majors in Fall 1984, 220 Majors in Fall 1989, over 260 Majors now) while the number of full-time faculty has been steadily decreasing (23 faculty in 1984, 20 in 1990, including several with reduced teaching loads because of administrative responsibilities).

I would be happy to meet with the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee if necessary to answer questions and to supply additional information. The department hopes that the Faculty Senate will consider the proposed changes in a timely way so that the new programs can be implemented in Fall 1991.

ENL 201 Introduction to Literary Analysis (A). This course provides skills needed to understand literature in English. Includes close reading of selected texts and study of literary genres, critical terms, the relationship between form and content, and the relationship between text and context. Provides practice in writing literary analyses and in research. 3 Cr. F'91, S'92, F'92, S'93.

ENL 430 American Literature: The Romantic Temper (A). A discussion of selected works by such authors as Irving, Cooper, Hawthorne, Melville, Poe, and others to identify the unique contributions of each to the distinct group of ideas, values, and stylistic innovations that comprise American Romanticism. 3 Cr. F '91, F '92.

ENL 432 Twain and Contemporaries (A). A study of the particularly American visions of Mark Twain and his major contemporaries, including James, Howells, and Harte. 3 Cr. S '92, S '93.

ENL 433 The Jazz Age (A). American literature from the 1920's to World War II. Emphasis will be on how the works studied do and do not reflect such "Jazz Age" themes as alienation, expatriation, loss of national and economic optimism, etc. Readings from Hemingway, Fitzgerald, and others. 3 Cr. TBA.

ENL 493 The Creative Essay (A). Prerequisite: ENL 305 or equivalent. Primarily a writing course in which students "workshop" essays, the course also explores the historical evolution of the essay and new forms it is taking. Students read a variety of essays and create their own. 3 Cr. S '91, S '92.

CURRENT

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH
(716) 395-2503

Major Specialties in English
Students majoring in English must select a 30-hour major from one of three specialties: literature, creative writing, or certification and pre-professional.

Specialty I: Literature
This specialty is recommended for English majors who:
1) are majoring in English principally because of their love of literature;
2) plan to do graduate work in English, comparative literature, American studies, or other related fields; or
3) have career goals in which the depth and breadth of their knowledge of literature are helpful.

Requirements
The minimum requirements for this specialty are 30 hours in liberal arts courses (designated by an A in the catalog) with the following distribution:
ENL 202 and 303 British Literature I and II 6 hours
ENL 204 and 205 American Literature I and II 6 hours
ENL 313 or 314 Shakespeare to 1600/Shakespeare after 1600 3 hours
ENL 472 Critical Approaches to Literature 3 hours
One upper-division elective in pre-1800 British literature (Examples: ENL 411 Chaucer and His Contemporaries, ENL 416 British Renaissance, or ENL 417 The Age of Dryden, Pope, and Johnson) 3 hours
One upper-division elective in post-1800 British literature (Examples: ENL 326 Contemporary British Literature, ENL 419 The Romantics, or ENL 420 The Victorians and Others) 3 hours
One upper-division elective in American literature (Examples: ENL 336 Recent American Literature, ENL 374 American Novel I, or ENL 431 Transcendental Movement) 3 hours
One elective in English numbered 300 or higher 3 hours

Students who wish to pursue graduate work in English should gain a thorough background in British and American literature, including at least one semester of Shakespeare, perhaps one semester of Chaucer, and as many upper-division courses in British and American literature (especially pre-1900) as are necessary to provide a thorough understanding of the major literary periods and major writers in both areas.

PROPOSED

NEW REQUIREMENTS FOR ENGLISH MAJOR AND MINOR (PROPOSED)
NOTES FOR NEW UNDERGRADUATE CATALOG COPY

Major Specialties in English
Students majoring in English must select a 36-hour major from one of three options: literature, creative writing, or certification and pre-professional.

option I: Literature (No change in text!)
Requirements:
The minimum requirements for this option are 36 credits in liberal arts courses (designated by an A in the catalog) with the following distribution:

ENL 201 Introduction to Literary Analysis 3
ENL 313 or 314 Shakespeare to 1600/Shakespeare after 1600 3
ENL 472 Critical Approaches to Literature 3
One course in British Literature before 1800 3
(Examples: ENL 202 British Literature I, ENL 411 Chaucer and His Contemporaries, ENL 416 British Renaissance, ENL 417 The Age of Dryden, Pope, and Johnson)
One course in British Literature after 1800 3
(Examples: ENL 203 British Literature II, ENL 419 The Romantic Period, ENL 420 The Victorians and Others, ENL 426 Irish Writers)
One course in American Literature before 1900 3
(Examples: ENL 204 American Literature I, ENL 430 American Literature: The Romantic Temper, ENL 431 Transcendental Movement)
One course in American Literature after 1900 3
(Examples: ENL 205 American Literature II, ENL 435 Modern American Poetry, ENL 432 Twain and Contemporaries, ENL 443 Contemporary American Poetry)
One course in Film or Advanced Composition (ENL 305-308) or Creative Writing (ENL 210, 301, 302, 491, 492, 493) 3
One course in World Literature or Literature by/about Women or Literature by/about Minorities/Third World 3
(Examples: ENL 444 Introduction to Afro-American Literature, ENL 239 Image of Woman in Afro-American Fiction, ENL 355 Mythology, ENL 365 Asia and the West, ENL 366 Arabic Culture and the West, ENL 427 Women in the Novel, ENL 441 Seeking Her Self, ENL 467 Tragedy as a Genre)
Three upper-division electives in English 9
Total: 36

*College regulations require that a minimum of 18 credits be upper-division (300- or 400-level). Students who wish to pursue graduate work in English should gain a thorough background in British and American literature to attain a thorough

CURRENT

Specialty 2: Creative Writing
 This specialty is recommended for English majors who:
 1) are majoring in English principally because of their interest in the processes of literary creation;
 2) wish to contribute to the world's resources of poetry and fiction; or
 3) plan to do graduate work in writing.

Requirements:
 The minimum requirements for this specialty are 30 hours in liberal arts courses (designated by an A in the catalog) with the following distribution:

Any two of the following literature surveys: 6 hours
 ENL 202 British Literature I
 ENL 203 British Literature II
 ENL 204 American Literature I
 ENL 205 American Literature II

Four upper-division courses in literature: 12 hours
 (period courses like the British Renaissance, American Transcendentalism, etc., figure courses like Chaucer, Shakespeare, Whitman, Dickinson, etc., courses in genres like Modern American Poetry, Women in the Novel, etc.)

One of the following three-course sequences (note prerequisites): 9 hours

For fiction writers:
 ENL 301 Fiction Writers Workshop
 ENL 472 Critical Approaches to Literature
 ENL 491 Advanced Fiction Writers Workshop

For poetry writers:
 ENL 302 Poetry Writers Workshop
 ENL 472 Critical Approaches to Literature
 ENL 492 Advanced Poetry Writers Workshop

One English elective numbered 200 or higher Creative Writing track. (Students may, with the permission of the instructor, repeat ENL 491 or 492 for 3 additional hours of credit.) 3 hours

Specialty 3: Certification and Preprofessional Programs

This specialty is recommended for English majors who:
 1) are in teacher certification programs;
 2) plan to continue their education in professional studies like law, business administration, library science, medicine and education; or
 3) have career or personal goals which require high proficiency in accurate interpretation of texts, clarity in communication, and stylistic effectiveness in writing.

Requirements:
 The minimum requirements for this specialty are 30 hours* in liberal arts courses (designated by an A in the catalog) with the following distribution:
 ENL 202 British Literature I 3 hours

PROPOSED

understanding of the major literary periods and writers in both areas.

Option 2: Creative Writing
 (No change in text)

REQUIREMENTS:

The minimum requirements for this option are 36 credits in liberal arts courses (designated by an A in the catalog) with the following distribution:

ENL 201 Introduction to Literary Analysis 3 Credits
 ENL 210 Creative Writing (prerequisite to ENL 301 or 302)* 3
 ENL 401 The Writer's Craft 3
 ENL 472 Critical Approaches to Literature 3

Two of the following courses:
 ENL 301 Fiction Writers Workshop
 ENL 302 Poetry Writers Workshop
 ENL 305 Advanced Composition

One of the following courses (note prerequisites):
 ENL 491 Advanced Fiction Writers Workshop 6
 ENL 492 Advanced Poetry Writers Seminar 6
 ENL 493 The Creative Essay 3

(Students may, with the permission of the instructor, repeat ENL 491, 492, or 493 for three additional credits.)
 Four elective literature courses, at least two of which must be in literature before 1900. 12
 One additional elective course in English 3
 Total: 36

*Students waived from ENL 210 should take an additional elective course in English. At least three of the elective courses must be upper-division: 300-499. THE 361 Playwriting may be used as an elective in the Creative Writing option.

Option 3: Certification and Preprofessional Programs
 (No change in text.)

Requirements:

The minimum requirements for this option are 36 credits in liberal arts courses (designated by an A in the catalog) with the following distribution:

ENL 201 Introduction to Literary Analysis 3 Credits
 ENL 305 Advanced Composition 3
 ENL 472 Critical Approaches to Literature 3
 Two courses from among the following:

ENL 451 Linguistics
 ENL 453 History of the English Language
 ENL 455 Sociolinguistics
 ENL 481 English Grammar
 One course in British Literature before 1800* 6
 Total: 36

CURRENT

- ENL 203 British Literature II 3 hours
- ENL 204 American Literature I 3 hours
- ENL 205 American Literature II 3 hours
- ENL 305 Advanced Composition 3 hours
- ENL 313 or 314 Shakespeare after 1600 3 hours
- ENL 472 Critical Approaches to Literature 3 hours
- ENL 481 English Grammar 3 hours
- Two electives in upper-division literature courses 6 hours

*Students seeking New York State certification in secondary English must take 6 additional hours in upper-division English courses.

Students interested in primary and secondary teaching should plan their program to receive preparation in areas that they expect to teach. Primary teachers should have a good grasp of basic skills and literary genres. Secondary teachers should have a good grasp of British and American literature, at least one course in Shakespeare, and perhaps some formal course work in areas related to the individual student's special interest. Secondary schools recently have begun offering a wide variety of courses: ancient literature, the 19th century novel, the dramatic world of creative writing, film studies, and women in literature; preparation in such areas as these--or others--would be helpful to the prospective teacher. Finally, all students interested in either primary or secondary teaching should take the following courses that are designed to meet specific needs of prospective teachers: Children's Literature and the Blackboard Career Exploration Course.

MINOR IN ENGLISH Requirements

The requirements for a minor in English are 18 hours, 15 of which must be liberal arts (designated by an A in the catalog and schedule), with the following distribution:

- Any two of the following literature surveys:
 - ENL 202 British Literature I 6 hours
 - ENL 203 British Literature II
 - ENL 204 American Literature I
 - ENL 205 American Literature II
- One of the following courses (which emphasize writing):
 - ENL 305 Advanced Composition 3 hours
 - ENL 306 Technical Writing
 - ENL 307 Business Writing
 - ENL 308 Business Writing and Computers
 - ENL 472 Critical Approaches to Literature
- Two English electives numbered 100-499
 - One English elective numbered 190-499

Many variations are possible for students who want to combine courses in writing and literature with majors in business, pre-law, theatre, etc. Further information is available in the Department of English.

PROPOSED

- One course in British Literature after 1800s 3
- One course in American Literature before 1900* 3
- One course in American Literature after 1900* 3
- Three elective courses (at least two of them 100-level or above) drawn from among the following areas: 3
- Shakespeare 3
- Literature by/about Minorities/Third World 3
- Mythology 3
- World Literatures 3
- Children's Literature 3
- Creative Writing 3
- Literature for Adolescents 3
- The Bible 3

*For examples of these courses, see Option I: Literature (Retain next 12 lines of text. Delete footnote.) Total: 36

Minor in English
The English Department offers two options: a Minor emphasizing literature, and a Creative Writing Minor. The requirements for a Minor in English are 18 credits, at least 15 of which must be liberal arts (designated by an A in the catalog) and at least 9 of which must be upper-division (courses numbered 300 or above). The distributions for each option are shown below.

- Literature Minor Credits**
- ENL 101 Introduction to Literary Analysis 3
 - One course in British literature (ENL 202 or higher) 3
 - One course in American literature (ENL 204 or higher) 3
 - One writing course chosen from among the following: 3
 - ENL 210 Creative Writing
 - ENL 301 Fiction Writers Workshop
 - ENL 305 Advanced Composition
 - ENL 307 Poetry Writers Workshop
 - ENL 308 Technical Writing
 - ENL 307 Business Writing
 - ENL 308 Business Writing with Computers 3
 - Two upper-division electives in English 6
- Total: 18

- Creative Writing Minor Credits**
- ENL 101 Introduction to Literary Analysis 3
 - ENL 210 Creative Writing 3
 - ENL 403 The Writer's Craft 3
 - One course from among the following: 3
 - ENL 301 Fiction Writers Workshop
 - ENL 302 Poetry Writers Workshop
 - ENL 305 Advanced Composition
 - ENL 307 Poetry Writers Workshop
 - ENL 491 Advanced Fiction Writers Workshop
 - ENL 492 Advanced Poetry Writers Workshop
 - ENL 493 The Creative Essay 3
 - One upper-division course in literature 3
- Total: 18

*A student waived from ENL 210 should substitute a literature elective.

[From here on the text remains the same, except for adding "both a semester-long and a before 'year-long' in describing the Loughborough Program, until we get to the course descriptions.