

Advising Workbook for English Majors



Department of English

<http://english.nku.edu>



Summer 2015

Purpose of this Booklet

As your English Department professors, we wrote “The Advising Workbook for English Majors” to help you, the student majoring in English, understand the path to graduation. While you are assigned an advisor to assist you with the decisions required along the way, the responsibility for meeting departmental and university requirements rests with you. Therefore, we have compiled information that we believe will be helpful as you navigate your way through the English major.

This and other important information is available on the department website, <http://english.nku.edu>, where you can also learn about such important opportunities as the following:

- Study Abroad, including scholarship availability,
- Co-op and internships,
- Career development, and
- Graduate studies in English, both at NKU and elsewhere.

Mission of the NKU Department of English

The English Department values critical and creative thinking, innovative research and writing, and ethical engagement in our communities. Students and faculty explore writing in inventive, transdisciplinary ways and foster an understanding of the ways in which literature and writing are created, studied, and understood in their historical, cultural, and political contexts. Our graduates are prepared for the evolving landscape of twenty-first century careers with skills in writing, reading, communication, research, synthesis, analysis, and reflection.

What can an English major do for you? In today’s dynamic economy, you will need a diverse set of skills and experiences, a flexible and adaptable outlook, and the ability to think creatively—all of which the major in English provides. The major in English helps prepare you for careers in many professional areas in the private and public sectors, including business, law, government, public relations, education, business, and non-profit agencies.

The skills that you develop in research, communication, comprehension, and analysis will prepare you for careers in a multitude of fields. NKU’s English program emphasizes written communication skills, intellectual development, and humanistic values, which enable you to identify and pursue personal, career, and civic goals.

The English Major at a Glance

The NKU English Department offers you three tracks for majoring in English plus a major in English with Secondary Teaching Certification:

- Literature,
- Creative Writing,
- Writing Studies,
- English with Secondary Teaching Certification.

For the Literature, Creative Writing, or Writing Studies emphasis, the major in English consists of 42 semester hours: 18 hours in the core English courses plus completion of 24 hours in the option you have selected. The degree in English with Secondary Teaching Certification has special degree requirements.

Additionally, all English majors must complete the foreign language requirement.

Academic Minor or a FOCUS

Be sure to plan for either an academic minor or a focus in a discipline other than English. Requirements and guidelines for minors are described in the *NKU Undergraduate Catalog* under the listings for different departments. A focus consists of 12 upper-division (300 and above) hours in an area outside of your major.

Planning for Graduation

One semester before graduation, all NKU students must file paperwork certifying completion of all degree requirements. For summer or fall graduation, your deadline is April 22nd of the preceding spring. For spring graduation, your deadline is October 22nd of the preceding fall. Therefore, as an English major, in the semester before you plan to graduate, follow these steps:

- 1) Apply for graduation in MyNKU.
- 2) Fill out a **Program Certification** form completely and email it to the chair of the department. You also need to fill out a separate program certification form for your minor or focus.
- 3) Make an appointment with the English Department chair. Also meet with the chair in your minor department, if you have one. If you have an area of concentration, the English Department chair can sign the Program Certification form for you.
- 4) After the certification meetings, take all of the completed forms to the Registrar's Office, along with payment.

The certification and graduation process is fully described in the *NKU Undergraduate Catalog*.

Language Requirement for English Majors

The study of a foreign language provides you with greater knowledge of grammar and an appreciation for the ways in which languages work. The two options to meet this requirement are:

- 1) Intermediate-level proficiency in a language previously spoken or used to satisfy the NKU entrance requirement. You can demonstrate intermediate-level proficiency by either completing the 201 and 202 courses in the language studied in high school or by attaining an acceptable score in the [CLEP](#) test in that language.
- 2) Novice-level proficiency in a second foreign language. You can demonstrate novice-level proficiency by completing two semesters of a language not previously studied or spoken.

To take the foreign language placement exam, go to <http://worldlanglit.nku.edu>, and click Advising, where you will find Placement Information.

Advising is the Key To Your English Degree

*Welcome to the English major!
We want you to be successful. Please follow our advice below.*

Update this workbook every semester with the courses you have completed.

Go through the Advising Checklist (next page) often to review your progress.

Learn how to use MyNKU. Here, you can search for courses and place them in your registration cart while you make your final decisions. After meeting with your advisor, you can register or make changes in your registration. You should regularly ask your advisor to check your Degree Audit in MyNKU to ensure that you are making progress.

Stay in touch with your advisor. Make regular appointments, and be on time. If you must cancel, please call or e-mail your advisor in advance. Scheduling these meetings is your responsibility.

Before you meet with your advisor, think about the courses you might like to register for, search for them in MyNKU, and put them into your registration cart. Your advisor and you can review your selections together and discuss how they fit into your major requirements.

If a class you would like to take is full, try to find another class. But you may also wish to monitor that full class over the next few days or weeks to see if someone drops. If you wish to try to enter a full class, you must contact the class's professor, who is the only person who can approve such a request. (Neither your advisor nor the staff members in the English Department main office can approve an override.) If the professor approves, she/he must contact the staff members in the main office, who will then register you for the class.

If you have a hold, check to see what kind of hold it is. A "bursar's hold" or "parking hold" or "library hold" means you have a balance to be paid at one of those offices. If you have an "advising hold," contact your advisor. If you are in your first year in a new major at NKU, the MyNKU system may give you an advising hold automatically as a way of encouraging you to meet with your advisor.

Advising Checklist
NKU Department of English

English Major: Go through these questions every semester when you register for classes. Adhering to this checklist will help you to have a smooth path to graduation. These and other requirements are explained under Academic Requirements in the *NKU Undergraduate Catalog*. Remember that keeping up with your requirements is your responsibility.

- Are you working on a minor, or a focus, or are you in English-Education?
- Are you making progress to complete 120 credit hours overall?
- Are you making sure that 45 hours of those 120 credit hours are 300-400 level courses?
- Are you maintaining an overall GPA of 2.0+ AND a C or better in all of your English courses?
- Are you completing all requirements for the major?
- Are you completing all General Education requirements?

Transfer students, you have an additional question:

- Are at least 25% of your 120 credit hours in courses that you have completed here at NKU?

English-Secondary Education Majors, you have two additional questions:

- Have you met with your advisor in the College of Education as well as your advisor in English?
- Have you met both the English & Education requirements for admission into ENG 385 & ENG 387? (Have you been admitted to the Teacher Education Program? Have you either completed Professional Semester #1, or do you plan to take Professional Semester #1 at the same time as ENG 385/387?)

Literature Track

REQUIREMENT	COURSE-TERM-GRADE
Foreign Language Requirement Foreign Language Courses (6 hours)	
Core Courses: 18 credit hours	
ENG 250 Introduction to English Studies (3 hours)	
Choose 2 (two) sequences of the following 3 sequences (12 hours):	
Sequence #1: ENG 202 & ENG 203 (<i>British Literature I & II</i>)	
Sequence #2: Either ENG 208 & ENG 209 (<i>American Literature I & II</i>) Or ENG 217 & ENG 218 (<i>African American Lit I & II</i>)	
Sequence #3: ENG 204 (<i>Introduction to Writing Studies</i>) AND Either ENG 205 (<i>Contemporary Issues in Writing Studies</i>) Or ENG 231 (<i>Introduction to Creative Writing</i>)	
ENG 450 Capstone in English Studies (3 hours)	
Literature Track: 24 credit hours	
ENG 350 Critical Theory (3 hours)	
Pre-1800 Traditions (3 hours)	
Pre-1900 Traditions (3 hours)	
Post-1900 Traditions (3 hours)	
Genres (3 hours)	
Identities (3 hours)	
Two Electives in English at 300 level, 400 level, or 500 level (6 hours)	

Traditions courses focus on periods, texts, and approaches that are central to the conventional canon of literature in English. They emphasize the centrality of historical literary periods in English Studies today. These courses will familiarize you with British and American traditions in literature.

Genres courses focus on analysis of genre, such as the novel, poetry, drama, and film.

Identities courses focus on literary and/or theoretical texts that examine regional, immigrant, cultural, postcolonial, racial, gender, sexual, class, or disabled identities.

Check the NKU catalog for course descriptions showing which category each course fits into.

Creative Writing Track

REQUIREMENT	COURSE-TERM-GRADE
Foreign Language Requirement Foreign Language Courses (6 hours)	
Core Courses: 18 credit hours	
ENG 250 Introduction to English Studies (3 hours)	
Choose 2 (two) sequences of the following 3 sequences (12 hours):	
Sequence #1: ENG 202 & ENG 203 (<i>British Literature I & II</i>)	
Sequence #2: Either ENG 208 & ENG 209 (<i>American Literature I & II</i>) Or ENG 217 & ENG 218 (<i>African American Lit I & II</i>)	
Sequence #3: ENG 204 (<i>Introduction to Writing Studies</i>) AND Either ENG 205 (<i>Contemporary Issues in Writing Studies</i>) Or ENG 231 (<i>Introduction to Creative Writing</i>)	
ENG 450 Capstone in English Studies (3 hours)	
Creative Writing Track: 24 credit hours	
Select two of three ENG 332 (<i>Fiction Writing</i>) OR ENG 334 (<i>Poetry Writing</i>) <i>Or</i> ENG 336 Creative Nonfiction (6 hours)	
Any Identities, or Genres, or Post-1900 Traditions literature course (3 hrs)	
Creative Writing Courses in at least 2 genres at 300-400 Level (9 hrs): <i>Fiction Writing</i> ENG 332 Fiction Writing ENG 432-433 Novel Writing I & II <i>Poetry Writing</i> ENG 334 Poetry Writing ENG 430 Advanced Poetry Writing <i>Nonfiction Writing</i> ENG 336 Creative Nonfiction ENG 357 Biography Writing <i>Dramatic Writing</i> ENG 358 Playwriting ENG 431 Screenwriting ENG 358 Writing in Creative Genres	
Two Electives in English at 300, 400, or 500 level (6 hours)	

Creative Writing courses are designated in their course descriptions in the catalog with the words "Creative Writing." Introduction to Creative Writing (ENG 231) is a pre-requisite to upper-level creative writing courses.

Writing Studies Track

REQUIREMENT	COURSE-TERM-GRADE
Foreign Language Requirement Foreign Language Courses (6 hours)	
Core Courses: 18 credit hours	
ENG 250 Introduction to English Studies (3 hours)	
Choose 2 (two) sequences of the following 3 sequences (12 hours):	
Sequence #1: ENG 202 & ENG 203 (<i>British Literature I & II</i>)	
Sequence #2: Either ENG 208 & ENG 209 (<i>American Literature I & II</i>) Or ENG 217 & ENG 218 (<i>African American Lit I & II</i>)	
Sequence #3: ENG 204 (<i>Introduction to Writing Studies</i>) AND Either ENG 205 (<i>Contemporary Issues in Writing Studies</i>) Or ENG 231 (<i>Introduction to Creative Writing</i>)	
ENG 450 Capstone in English Studies (3 hours)	
Writing Studies Track: 24 credit hours	
ENG 351 (<i>Rhetorical Theories & Writing Practices</i>) (3 hours)	
Writing Studies courses (15 hours): ENG 331 Persuasive Writing ENG 338 Writing for Social Change ENG 340 Business Writing ENG 347 Technical Writing ENG 348 Professional Editing in the Workplace ENG 349 Web Writing for the Professions ENG 359 Writing in Workplace Genres ENG 371 Traditional Grammar ENG 381 Introduction to Linguistics ENG 496 Internship ENG 497 Internship: Writing Pedagogy ENG 544 Research Methods for Professional Writing ENG 546 Grant Writing	
Two Electives in English at 300 level, 400 level, or 500 level (6 hours)	

Writing Studies courses are designated in course descriptions in the catalog with the words “Writing Studies.” Writing Studies courses emphasize rhetorical techniques in writing, professional writing, and editing.



**Teacher Education Program Curriculum Contract
English Education (8-12)**

Cat. 2012-13

Professional Education Courses		Grade of 'C' or higher required in all Professional Education Courses. 'C-' or lower not accepted. Minimum GPA of 2.75 required in Professional Education Courses upon completion.		
	Course	Credit	Grade	Quality Pts.
Orientation Course (must be taken before applying to the Teacher Ed. program)				
Orientation to the Education Profession	EDU 104	1	_____	_____
Foundations Courses (may be taken before applying to the Teacher Ed. program)				
Human Growth and Development	EDU 300	3	_____	_____
Introduction to Education	EDU 305	2	_____	_____
Children with Exceptionalities in the Schools	EDS 360	2	_____	_____
Admission Semester (must also enroll in any of the above EDU/EDS courses that have not been successfully completed by this point.)				
! EDU 104				! PFST Reading (176)
! Minimum earned semester hours (45)				! PFST Writing (174)
! Minimum GPA (2.75)				! PFST Math (174)
Admission Practicum for Secondary Grades	EDU 311	2	_____	_____
Instructional Technology	EDU 313	2	_____	_____
Professional Semester I				
!! Minimum earned semester hours (60)!				!! Minimum GPA (2.75) !
! Creativity: Completion of any course under Culture & Creativity with a grade of 'C' or better				! Collaboration: Completion of the Admission Practicum with a grade of 'P'
! Communication: Completion of CMST 101 with a grade of 'B' or better.				! Critical Thinking: Completion of any course from Scientific & Quantitative Inquiry OR any course from Self & Society: Individual and Society with a grade of 'C' or better.
! Completion of Written Communication II with a grade of 'B' or better (or pass the writing sample evaluation in place of min. grade, not for credit.)				
Classroom Climate Management: Secondary Schools	EDU 319	1	_____	_____
Plan. & Imp. Instruction for Students w/ Exceptionalities: Secondary	EDS 324	2	_____	_____
Fundamentals of Secondary Education	EDU 324	2	_____	_____
Secondary Practicum I	EDU 393	2	_____	_____
Teaching Methods Courses to be taken with either Pro I or Pro II, whichever occurs during fall semester				
Teaching of English I	ENG 385	3	_____	_____
Teaching of English II	ENG 387	3	_____	_____
Reading Course to be taken with either Pro I or Pro II				
Reading in the Junior and Senior High School	EDU 530	3	_____	_____
Professional Semester II				
Educational Assessment: Secondary Schools	EDU 325	2	_____	_____
Secondary Practicum II	EDU 396	2	_____	_____
Student Teaching (No other courses may be taken concurrently.)				
Student Teaching in the Secondary School	EDU 496	12	_____	_____

Teaching Field

Minimum GPA of 2.75 required in Teaching Field courses upon completion.
 Minimum grade of 'C' for all Teaching Field courses.

Core Courses in English

Introduction to Literature (or equivalent)		ENG 200	3	_____	_____
Survey of British Literature I		ENG 202	3	_____	_____
Survey of British Literature II		ENG 203	3	_____	_____
American Literature		ENG ____	3	_____	_____
American Literature		ENG ____	3	_____	_____
World Literature (choose one):	ENG 206, 207, 215 or 315 (or course in literature of a non-English speaking country)	ENG ____	3	_____	_____
Shakespeare Course (choose one):	ENG 308 or 309	ENG ____	3	_____	_____
British Literature – Traditions Pre-1700		ENG ____	3	_____	_____
British Literature – Traditions Pre-1900 or Post-1900		ENG ____	3	_____	_____
Intro to Linguistics (fall semester only, odd-numbered years) or	ENG 381 or 382	ENG ____	3	_____	_____
History of English Language (fall semester only, even-numbered years)		ENG ____	3	_____	_____
Electives in English (9 semester hours)		ENG ____	3	_____	_____
		ENG ____	3	_____	_____
		ENG ____	3	_____	_____

Core Courses in Other Disciplines

Foreign Language Course	_____	3	_____	_____
Foreign Language Course	_____	3	_____	_____

Foreign Language requirement can be satisfied by:

- Completing a two-course sequence of 100-level courses in a foreign language not previously spoken or studied in high school.
- Completing a two-course sequence of 200-level courses in a foreign language that the student has spoken or previously studied in high school.