



English at Drexel

Specifically designed to engage students in critical thinking and applied writing skills, the English major offers a wide-ranging curriculum on British, American, and world literatures. It stresses the cultural, historical, and political contexts that shape and affect literary production. The Department of English and Philosophy also offers courses on periods and genres; creative writing; and the relationship between literature and the visual arts, science, and technology.

Distinctive Features

- The English Department at Drexel is home to the African Literature Association's *JALA Bulletin* and *BMa: The Sonia Sanchez Literary Review*. Students are encouraged to submit their work and can apply for editorial assistantships on these publications.
- *Maya*, Drexel's undergraduate literary magazine, provides students with opportunities to write for and edit a publication that addresses the Drexel community.
- Week of Writing (WoW) includes readings of poetry, fiction, and nonfiction; panel discussions on fiction and nonfiction; workshops; and a poetry slam. Prizes for writing and literary criticism are awarded by the department to freshmen and upperclassmen.
- *The Painted Bride Quarterly (PBQ)*, a community-based literary magazine housed at Drexel, features the work of regional authors and is nationally distributed in bookstores and libraries.
- Students may study in London for a term through the Study Abroad program.
- Devoted full-time faculty, all of whom are published scholars or creative writers, teach all elective courses open to English majors. They are available for independent study and advising.
- Philadelphia offers theater, art, music, and other cultural activities, which faculty often incorporate into the curriculum.

Potential Careers

Literary Agent. Studies publishing markets and identifies trends to help writers sell their work; represents authors in negotiating contracts with book publishers, magazines, movie producers, and other outlets; suggests book possibilities to publishers and matches them with suitable authors.

Writer. Harnesses the power of the word to create books, magazine and newspaper articles, advertisements, marketing copy, speeches, and other material that communicates facts, ideas, or emotions. Writers often specialize in a subject matter or genre — for example, novelist, poet, playwright, medical writer, technical writer, grant writer, lyricist, travel writer, sportswriter, speechwriter.

Reporter. Gathers news and other information. Interviews sources, investigates tips, and writes stories for print and electronic media.

Courses You'll Really Enjoy

Literature of Baseball. An examination of novels, short stories, and poetry about our “national pastime” that illumine American ideals and values, history, and culture from 1845 to the present. A study of how the game’s symbols and rituals, its history and mythology help us understand American belief systems and ideologies.

Post-Colonial Literature. A survey of non-Western literature produced before the modern era in Asia, Africa, and the Middle East, representing the more important periods and genres.

Romanticism to Modernism. A survey of Western literature of the 19th and 20th centuries, focusing on the major periods of Romanticism (Blake, Coleridge, and Keats), Realism (Balzac and Ibsen), and Modernism (Kafka, Borges, and Woolf).

The Mystery Story. A study of the mystery story, from its inception as a genre in the 19th century to the present, through short stories and novels.

Topics in Literature and Medicine. A variable-topics course that focuses on aspects of illness, healing, caregiving, aging, grief, and mortality as presented in narrative. Explores how literary construction and analysis affect understanding of these experiences. Topics include “Illness and Healing in Literature” and “The Physician in Literature and Film.”

Learn More: University Catalog

A list of required courses for the English major is available online at www.drexel.edu/catalog.

Accelerated Degree Options

Accelerated degree programs, such as the BS/MD, BS/PhD in Engineering, BS/JD, and BS/MBA, enable academically qualified students to earn both a bachelor’s and an advanced degree, graduating sooner than they would in traditional programs. Eligible students can be admitted to an accelerated degree program in one of two ways: apply as an incoming freshman through Undergraduate Admissions or apply to the Office of Graduate Studies after completing a minimum of 90 credits. To learn more about accelerated degree options, visit www.drexel.edu/em/ug/accelerated.

For More Information

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