

# Advising Workbook for English Majors



Department of English

<http://english.nku.edu>



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## **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 four tracks including

- Creative Writing
- English Education
- Literature
- Writing Studies

For the Creative Writing, English Education, Literature or Writing Studies, the major in English consists of 51 semester hours: 27 hours in the core English courses plus completion of 24 hours in the option you have selected. The degree in English Education is a double major with a major in Secondary Education to earn a certification in teaching.

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 send this form electronically to the department chair. You also need to fill out a separate program certification form for your minor or focus.
- 3) After the form is complete, you can make an appointment with the English Department chair to review the form. Also meet with the chair in your minor department, if you have one. If you have a Focus, the English Department chair can sign the Program Certification form for you.

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

## 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?

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***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?

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### **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** (previous 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. As an English major, you will have an advising hold placed on your account each semester to encourage you to contact your advisor each semester.

## Creative Writing Track

REQUIREMENT	COURSE-TERM-GRADE
<b>Foreign Language Requirement</b> Foreign Language Courses (6 hours)	
<b>Core Courses: 27 credit hours</b>	
ENG 250 Introduction to English Studies (3 hours)	
ENG 200 Understanding Literature (3 hours)	
ENG 204 Introduction to Writing Studies (3 hours)	
ENG 202 Survey of British Literature I and ENG 203 Survey of British Literature II (6 hours) [OR] ENG 208 Survey of American Literature I and ENG 209 Survey of American Literature II (6 hours)	
ENG 231 Introduction to Creative Writing [OR] ENG 340 Business Writing (3 hours)	
ENG 350 Critical Theory [OR] ENG 351 Rhetorical Theories and Writing Practices (3 hours)	
ENG 307 Diverse Voices in English Studies (3 hours)	
ENG 323 Writers in Context [OR] ENG 335 Craft of Creative Writers	
<b>Creative Writing Track: 24 credit hours</b>	
Creative Writing Group A courses (9 hours) ENG 332 Poetry Writing; ENG 334 Fiction Writing; ENG 336 Creative Nonfiction;	
Creative Writing Group B courses (6 hours) ENG 431 Screenwriting; ENG 432 Novel Writing; ENG 357 Biographical Writing; ENG 358 Writing in Creative Genres; ENG 371 Traditional Grammar	
Creative Writing Group C courses (6 hours) ENG 430 Advanced Poetry, 433 Novel Writing II; ENG 434 Advanced Fiction; ENG 436 Advanced Creative Nonfiction; ENG 584 Literary Editing and Publishing; ENG 542 Teaching and Practice of Creative Writing	
Creative Writing Capstone (3 hours) ENG 450	

## English Education Track

REQUIREMENT	COURSE-TERM-GRADE
<b>Foreign Language Requirement</b> Foreign Language Courses (6 hours)	
<b>Core Courses: 27 credit hours</b>	
ENG 250 Introduction to English Studies (3 hours)	
ENG 200 Understanding Literature (3 hours)	
ENG 204 Introduction to Writing Studies (3 hours)	
ENG 202 Survey of British Literature I and ENG 203 Survey of British Literature II (6 hours) [OR] ENG 208 Survey of American Literature I and ENG 209 Survey of American Literature II (6 hours)	
ENG 231 Introduction to Creative Writing [OR] ENG 340 Business Writing (3 hours)	
ENG 350 Critical Theory [OR] ENG 351 Rhetorical Theories and Writing Practices (3 hours)	
ENG 307 Diverse Voices in English Studies (3 hours)	
ENG 323 Writers in Context [OR] ENG 335 Craft of Creative Writers	
<b>English Education Track: 24 credit hours</b>	
English Education Group A courses (6 hours) (English Education students must take ENG 202 and ENG 203 in the core of the major to fulfill certification requirements); ENG 208 or ENG 217; ENG 209 or ENG 218	
Literature Group B courses (6 hours) ENG 206 or ENG 207 <b>AND</b> ENG 308 or ENG 309	
Literature Group C courses (9 hours) ENG 381 or ENG 382 <b>AND</b> ENG 535 ENG 537	
English Education Elective (3 hours)	
English Education Students' Capstone Experience is their Clinical Teaching semester	

## Literature Track

REQUIREMENT	COURSE-TERM-GRADE
<b>Foreign Language Requirement</b> Foreign Language Courses (6 hours)	
<b>Core Courses: 27 credit hours</b>	
ENG 250 Introduction to English Studies (3 hours)	
ENG 200 Understanding Literature (3 hours)	
ENG 204 Introduction to Writing Studies (3 hours)	
ENG 202 Survey of British Literature I and ENG 203 Survey of British Literature II (6 hours) [OR] ENG 208 Survey of American Literature I and ENG 209 Survey of American Literature II (6 hours)	
ENG 231 Introduction to Creative Writing [OR] ENG 340 Business Writing (3 hours)	
ENG 350 Critical Theory [OR] ENG 351 Rhetorical Theories and Writing Practices (3 hours)	
ENG 307 Diverse Voices in English Studies (3 hours)	
ENG 323 Writers in Context [OR] ENG 335 Craft of Creative Writers	
<b>Literature Track: 24 credit hours</b>	
Literature Group A courses (6 hours) ENG 202; ENG 203; ENG 206; ENG 207; ENG 208; ENG 209; ENG 217; ENG 218 (Students must select two survey courses that they did not use to fulfill core requirements.)	
Literature Group B courses (6 hours) ENG 308; ENG 309; ENG 401; ENG 402; ENG 403; ENG 404; ENG 411; ENG 412; ENG 414; ENG 418; ENG 420; ENG 421; ENG 422; ENG 425	
Literature Group C courses (9 hours) ENG 300; ENG 301; ENG 304; ENG 305; ENG 306; ENG 322; ENG 324; ENG 326; ENG 355; ENG 365; ENG 368; ENG 380; ENG 384; ENG 451; ENG 452; ENG 453; ENG 455; ENG 456; ENG 461; ENG 462; ENG 467; ENG 470; ENG 472; ENG 473; ENG 474; ENG 475; ENG 477	
Literature Capstone (3 hours) ENG 450; ENG 494; ENG 496	



<b>Writing Studies Track</b>	
<b>REQUIREMENT</b>	<b>COURSE-TERM-GRADE</b>
<b>Foreign Language Requirement</b> Foreign Language Courses (6 hours)	
<b>Core Courses: 27 credit hours</b>	
ENG 250 Introduction to English Studies (3 hours)	
ENG 200 Understanding Literature (3 hours)	
ENG 204 Introduction to Writing Studies (3 hours)	
ENG 202 Survey of British Literature I and ENG 203 Survey of British Literature II (6 hours) [OR] ENG 208 Survey of American Literature I and ENG 209 Survey of American Literature II (6 hours)	
ENG 231 Introduction to Creative Writing [OR] ENG 340 Business Writing (3 hours)	
ENG 350 Critical Theory [OR] ENG 351 Rhetorical Theories and Writing Practices (3 hours)	
ENG 307 Diverse Voices in English Studies (3 hours)	
ENG 323 Writers in Context [OR] ENG 335 Craft of Creative Writers	
<b>Writing Studies Track: 24 credit hours</b>	
Writing Studies Group A courses (12 hours) ENG 205 Contemporary Issues in Writing Studies; ENG 331 Persuasive Writing; ENG 338 Writing for Social Change; ENG 340 (if not taken in Core)Business Writing; ENG 347 Technical Writing; ENG 348 Professional Editing in the Workplace; ENG 349 Web Writing for the Professions; ENG 371 Traditional Grammar; ENG 381 Introduction to Linguistics; ENG 394 (if approved by dept. chair as Writing Studies) Topics; ENG 496 (if not taken in Group C) Internship; ENG 497 Projects: Writing; ENG 544 Research/Methods for Professional Writing; ENG 546 Grant Writing; ENG 556 Composition Theories	
Writing Capstone (3 hours) ENG 450; ENG 496	
Writing Studies Group B courses (3 hours) INF 128 Principles of Informatics BIS 101 Computer Literacy and Informatics ARTV 101 Adobe Creative Cloud: Visual Design Basics	

<p>Writing Studies Group C courses (6 hours)</p>	
<p>Writing Studies inherently involves connections to other fields; therefore, the courses in this group are intended to enable students to enhance these transdisciplinary connections.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The courses taken to fulfill this requirement must be <i>in addition to</i> those taken to fulfill the core, Group A, the capstone, an area of focus, or a minor.</li> <li>• ENG courses counted towards general education requirements cannot be used to fulfill this requirement.</li> <li>• Courses on the lists below taken as part of a double major outside of ENG <i>can</i> be counted towards both majors</li> </ul>	
<p>Select 6 credit hours from <u>any combination</u> of courses from any of the following. (The categories are for organizational purposes only.)</p>	
<p><u>English courses</u></p>	
<p>Any additional 300, 400, or 500-level ENG course not used to fulfill any other requirement, including general education requirements.</p>	
<p><u>Professional writing-related courses</u></p>	
<p>CMST 403 Health Communication</p>	
<p>ENTP 305 Introduction to Entrepreneurship</p>	
<p>JOU 220 News Writing</p>	
<p>JOU 321 Digital Publishing</p>	
<p>JUS 210 Legal Research</p>	
<p>MGT 300 Behavior in Organizations: Understanding Organizational Life</p>	
<p>MGT 306 Project Management</p>	
<p>MKT 205 Principles of Marketing</p>	
<p>MKT 308 Integrated Marketing Communication</p>	
<p>MKT 370 Social and Digital Marketing</p>	
<p>SPB 309 Sports Public Relations</p>	
<p>STA 205 or STA 212 Intro to Statistical Methods or Statistics for Business Applications</p>	
<p><u>Rhetoric/Composition-related courses</u></p>	
<p>PHI 306 Philosophy and Science</p>	
<p>PHI 375 Ethical Theory</p>	
<p>PSC 312 Modern Ideologies</p>	
<p>PSC 373 Contemporary Political Theory</p>	
<p>SOC 334 Contemporary Sociological Theory</p>	
<p>SOC 360 Technology and Social Change</p>	
<p>SOC 425 Political Sociology</p>	
<p>WGS 310 Gender in the Workplace</p>	
<p>WGS 317 Gender and Communication</p>	