The English major provides instruction in and opportunities for writing in all of its classes. The department also offers an honors program in which students work closely with a faculty member to complete a major critical or creative project. See Honors [p. ] in this section of the catalog.

Students interested in the English major should consult the academic advisor in the English undergraduate advising office.

**Learning Outcomes**

The goal is for students who graduate from the Department of English to demonstrate the skills of reflective reading, critical thinking, effective speaking, compelling writing, and engaged citizenship.

**Reflective Readers**

- Analyze literary and cultural texts through close reading.
- Gain broad knowledge of several fields of literature.
- Grasp formal elements of key literary genres.
- Learn to read comparatively to illuminate aesthetic, social, and cultural contributions of texts.

**Critical Thinkers**

- Approach texts with a spirit of critical inquiry and flexibility.
- Formulate productive questions.
- Use textual evidence to support individual interpretations.
- Draw upon several different critical approaches to literature in English.

**Effective Speakers**

- Express opinions about the texts they read through discussion and written assignments.
- Listen respectfully to others' opinions.
- Work in class—whether through active listening or discussion—to learn by synthesizing a range of texts, insights, and opinions.

**Compelling Writers**

- Express their ideas in clear, fluent, and lively prose.
- Organize their ideas effectively.
- Use textual evidence to illustrate and support their insights and arguments.
- Demonstrate the ability to write in different modes that are appropriate to particular contexts.
- Engage properly with relevant scholarship and creative work.
- Use research skills that include an understanding of methods, technology, and conventions.

**Engaged World Citizens**

- Communicate respect and understanding for the literatures and cultures of diverse historical periods, geographical regions, and cultures.
- Explore ethical issues raised by literature.
- Reflect on the ways that literature addresses issues of social justice.

- Use reading, speaking, and writing skills to engage with the ethical concerns raised by literature in their daily and professional lives.