



## Bachelor of Arts, 4-Year Major in English

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### Program Planning Guide 2026/2027

#### Program Overview

The English program at St. Mary's University offers students the opportunity to develop a rich and broad understanding of literary texts, contexts, and interpretations. The program stresses critical thinking, incisive consideration of texts (oral and written), and clear communication through a synthesis of creative, critical, and theoretical methods. At St. Mary's, the English degree programs allow students to approach texts within an interdisciplinary environment fostering a spirit of open inquiry. Courses in the English program offer all students the opportunity to experience literature and complement all courses of study. A degree program in English offers students a chance to immerse themselves in a rigorous study of literature and literary forms.

The **four-year Bachelor of Arts with a major in English** offers an intensive grounding to students in the discipline of English Literature through the study of key literary periods and genres. Students learn to relate texts to their cultural, political, religious, philosophical, and literary contexts. Through critical readings, analysis and discussion, both within and without the classroom, students are encouraged to engage in dialogue, to evaluate theoretical and methodological positions and to develop their own critical voices. The four-year program concludes with a course of independent research in the field of English Literature, culminating in a major essay in which students synthesize their creative, critical, and theoretical learning.

The program reflects the commitment of St. Mary's University to a liberal education as valuable for its own sake since it provides individuals the opportunity to discover and eventually realize their human potential. In addition to providing personal fulfillment, the program prepares students to think critically and communicate clearly. Such skills are in keen demand for a variety of careers including the fields of journalism, research, politics, publishing, education, library and information science, social work, pastoral care, fundraising, government service, advertising, and public relations. The four-year Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in English also prepares students for graduate studies in English.

#### Admission

New students may apply directly to the program when they apply for admission. Current students may be admitted to the program by submitting a *Change of Program Form* to the Enrolment Services Office for processing.

#### Program Requirements

Students are strongly recommended to meet with an academic advisor on a regular basis throughout the program. It is the student's responsibility to ensure they have met the requirements for graduation.

This planning guide is designed to help students keep track of their progress in meeting degree requirements. Course descriptions may be found in the St. Mary's University calendar.

**A. Liberal Arts Core (18 credits)**

- \_\_\_\_\_ ENGL 200A: Studies in Literature: Middle Ages to 1660 (3 credits)
- \_\_\_\_\_ ENGL 200B: Studies in Literature: 1660 to the Present (3 credits)
- \_\_\_\_\_ HIST 200A: History of Ideas: Antiquity to the Reformation (3 credits)
- \_\_\_\_\_ HIST 200B: History of Ideas: Scientific Revolution to 20th Century (3 credits)
- \_\_\_\_\_ PHIL 351: Ethics (3 credits)
- \_\_\_\_\_ RLGS 205: Reading Biblical Texts (3 credits)

**B. Special Requirements (12 credits)**

- / \_\_\_\_\_ 6 credits in a language other than English at the University level  
(**SPAN 201/203 & FREN 209/211 do not satisfy this requirement**)
- / \_\_\_\_\_ 6 credits in Natural & Mathematical Sciences  
(ASTR, BCEM, BIOL, CHEM, CPSC 215, HMKN 205, MATH, PHYS, SCIE, STAT)

**C. English Requirements (42 credits)**

- / \_\_\_\_\_ 6 credits in Medieval/Early Modern Literature (ENGL 303, 305, 309, 313, 315, ENGL 335, 381.1, 381.11)
- / \_\_\_\_\_ 6 credits in 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> Century Literature (ENGL 311, 317, 331, 337, 339, 381.4, ENGL 381.5, 381.9, 381.12, 397.2, 397.3)
- / \_\_\_\_\_ 6 credits in 20<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup> Century Literature (ENGL 325, 327, 333, 334.1, 334.2, 343, ENGL 347, 349, 379, 381.3, 381.6, 381.8, 381.10)
- / / \_\_\_\_\_ 9 credits in Cultural Studies & Non Period Specific Literature  
(CLAS 321, 323; ENGL 329, 334.1, 334.2, 341, 351, 353, 355, 357, 359, 361, ENGL 363, 372, 381.12, 383, 391, 392, 394.1, 394.2, 397.4, 397.6, 397.7, 397.8)
- \_\_\_\_\_ LING 301: *History and Structure of the English Language* (3 credits)
- \_\_\_\_\_ ENGL 467: *Introduction to Literary Theory & Criticism* (3 credits)  
(to be taken in the third or final year of the program)
- \_\_\_\_\_ ENGL 469: *Modern & Contemporary Literary Theory & Criticism* (3 credits)  
(to be taken in the third or final year of the program)
- \_\_\_\_\_ ENGL 465: *Advanced Literary Research Methods* (3 credits)  
(to be taken in the final year of the program)
- \_\_\_\_\_ ENGL 401: *Senior Seminar* (3 credits)  
(to be taken in the final year of the program)

**120-Credit Degree****Junior/Senior Requirements**

**72 credits** must be taken at the **300- or 400-level**.

**Directed Studies**

Students are allowed a **maximum of 9.0 credits hours** of directed studies in their degree program

**Program Standing**

In order to remain in the program, you must maintain a cumulative **GPA of 2.0**, a cumulative **GPA of 2.3** in senior English courses.

You may have no more than one D or D+ in senior English courses. Students who do not meet these requirements may not graduate.

**Residence Requirement**

All students must complete at least **60 credits** at St. Mary's University. A minimum of 24 credits in English, including **ENGL 401** and **ENGL 465** must be completed at StMU.

**Graduation**

In final year of study, an *Application to Graduate* must be submitted by October 1.

This guide is for your convenience only and should not replace the St. Mary's University Calendar, which is the final authority regarding degree program requirements and academic regulations.

**D. Minor Program Requirements (18 credits)** \*If not pursuing a minor, take 18 credits of electives.

- At least 9 credits of a minor must be taken at the 300 or 400 level
- At least 9 credits of a minor must be completed at St. Mary's University

**Minor** (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ (3 credits)  
 \_\_\_\_\_ (3 credits)

**E. Electives (30 credits)** \*be attentive to Jr./Sr. requirements

\_\_\_\_\_ elective: \_\_\_\_\_ (3 credits)  
 \_\_\_\_\_ elective: \_\_\_\_\_ (3 credits)