



English

The Department of English is a community of active scholars and writers dedicated to helping students form a deeper sense of themselves and the world. The Department celebrates the beauty of words and emphasizes the power of language as a path towards that goal. The program seeks to enhance students' creative, analytical, and practical writing skills, and students are offered courses that emphasize cultural, historical and theoretical approaches to literature, film, multimodal texts, and the creative process. The importance of creating and carefully understanding all forms of discourse is affirmed through a broad range of courses. The Department values well-crafted arguments, sophisticated analyses, elegant writing, and thoughtful engagement with research. Students are supported to hone their critical thinking and writing skills in ways both creative and practical.

WHY ENGLISH AT GONZAGA?

The Department of English is eager to welcome students into the community of scholars, united by a shared belief in the value of reading and writing well and thinking critically about the world. Passion for what we do is but one reason that studying English at Gonzaga is a unique experience for students. There are several others. First, the recently revised curriculum invites students to sample broadly across historical periods, genres, and national borders so as to create a major that is at once educative and personalized.

Second, the department culture is vibrant, robust, and most importantly, student-centered; both in and outside of the classroom, students are offered a myriad of opportunities to grow and learn. These opportunities include working on an oral history project in the local community; meeting with esteemed visiting writers to talk with them about their craft; and interning with faculty on a nationally-recognized literary website.

Finally, students will find faculty who are eager to mentor students, helping them seek out opportunities for intellectual and professional development at Gonzaga as well as advising them as they determine their future career paths.

DEGREE PROGRAMS

The **B.A. in English-Literature Concentration** focuses primarily on the study of literature and requires students to take classes across a range of historical periods and genres:

- Literature 1660 or before
- British Literature 1660-1914
- American Literature pre-1914
- Post 1914 Literature
- Non-Literature Broadening
- Senior Seminar

The **B.A. in English-Writing Concentration** requires students to sample classes from the literary periods above, but the rest of their curriculum consists of various writing courses of their choice. Elective courses include:

- Creative Nonfiction
- Fiction Writing
- Poetry Writing
- Professional and Technical Writing



THE PROGRAM

Gonzaga University's rigorous English curriculum stimulates personal and intellectual growth. Rooted in the Ignatian Pedagogical Paradigm, our program values Experience, Reflection, and Action. Faculty and students engage in the practice of critical inquiry in the careful use of language, and we take seriously the study of how writing both reflects and creates our society.

The Department of English recently restructured its major in order to bring our program more in line with current innovative practices in and approaches to studying language and literature. The new curriculum represents the diversity of faculty expertise as well as the Department's belief that students should have more flexibility within their curricular choices. Founded on solid introductory writing and literature courses and covering a variety of genres, time periods, and theoretical approaches to texts, **the English major now offers two areas of emphasis: a Literature Concentration and a Writing Concentration.**

Students in both concentrations take the same foundational courses: a Core Writing course, lower-division courses on literary form and literary history, and an upper-division course on literature before 1660. All English majors must also take a course with a multicultural designation. Once students decide which concentration they will pursue, they study the curriculum specific to each concentration. If so motivated, they can complete both concentrations.

THE MINOR

Students with other academic interests may double-major or fulfill minors in other fields. English majors often obtain teacher certification from the School of Education, complete a pre-law or pre-medicine track, or add an additional major such as history, journalism, or theatre arts. Students majoring in any field may minor in English to enhance their reading, writing, and critical thinking skills.

DISTINCTIVE OPPORTUNITIES

Outside of the classroom, the Department supports student contributions to Reflection, the campus literary magazine, and The Gonzaga Bulletin, GU's weekly newspaper. The English Department also hosts the Gonzaga University Visiting Writers Series, which brings writers of international significance to campus. Recent visitors have included three former U.S. Poet Laureates: Natasha Trethewey, Robert Hass, and Robert Pinsky. Other distinguished writers have included Jimmy Santiago Baca, Denis Johnson, Carolyn Forché, Bharati Mukherjee, Joy Harjo, Li-Young Lee, Jess Walter, and Art Spiegelman.

THE PEOPLE

Over the past 20 years, English faculty members have earned Fulbright Awards, grants from agencies such as the National Endowment for the Humanities and the National Endowment for the Arts, and several teaching and scholarship awards.

Faculty members consistently publish poetry, fiction, and literary criticism; present scholarly papers at regional and national conferences; participate in professional organizations; and write for local publications.

With their focus primarily on teaching, however, the English faculty at Gonzaga place a high priority on assisting students with classroom concerns and long-range career plans. All faculty members have posted office hours when students can set appointments or drop by with their questions or concerns.





OUTCOMES

Students who graduate from Gonzaga with a degree in English will be able to:

- Demonstrate knowledge of a diverse body of literature and other kinds of texts
- Analyze how texts, readers, and writers engage with historical, political, and cultural contexts
- Develop process-driven approaches to research and composition
- Produce clear, content-rich, rhetorically sophisticated writing appropriate to its contexts, purposes, and audiences
- Create texts characterized by imagination, originality, and insight

Recent Gonzaga English graduates have found employment in a variety of fields, which include:

Careers

- Advertising
- Armed Forces
- Copy Editing
- Government
- Higher Education
- Insurance
- Journalism
- Marketing
- Medicine
- Public Relations
- Publication Design
- Teaching
- Teaching ESL Abroad
- Technical Writing
- Video Production

Graduate Programs in English

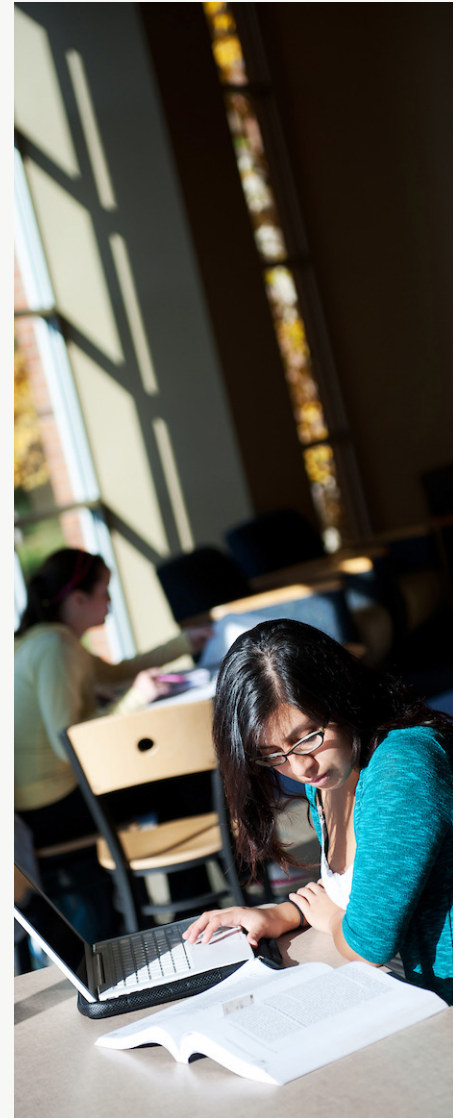
- Boston College
- Ohio State University
- Purdue University
- University of California - Davis
- University of California - Santa Barbara
- University of Chicago
- University of Colorado
- University of Glasgow
- University of Massachusetts
- University of North Carolina
- University of Virginia
- University of Washington
- University of Wisconsin
- Washington State University

Law Schools

- Georgetown University
- Lewis and Clark College
- Seattle University
- Temple University
- University of Hawai'i
- University of Miami
- University of San Diego
- University of Washington

Master of Fine Arts Programs

- Arizona State University
- Eastern Washington University
- Loyola Marymount University
- Naropa University
- University of Idaho
- University of Montana
- University of Nevada - Las Vegas



Faculty Contact

Ann Ciasullo, Ph.D.
Dept. Chair
ciasullo@gonzaga.edu

For more information:
gonzaga.edu/english