Rationale for Revision of English Language Arts Major for Teacher Licensure

Department of English

Eastern Illinois University

This proposed ELA curriculum has been revised according to feedback from current students and alumni in order to prepare students to implement the new Common Core Standards (CC) and to better align the program with the updated standards of the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) and the Illinois Professional Teaching Standards (IL-PTS). Addressed in this revision were potential “gaps” in students’ learning experiences as ELA majors – areas of study not explicitly highlighted in our existing curriculum. Four of these areas were genre study, visual analysis, media literacy, and nonfiction. For more detailed information see these selected Common Core Standards for 6-12 Instruction (http://www.isbe.net/common_core/):

- Genre Study – CC.W.9a; CC.RL.9
- Visual Analysis – CC.R.7; CC.SL.2; CC.SL.5
- Media Literacy – CC.R.7; CC.R.9; CC.WHST.2;
- Nonfiction – CC.RI.10, CC.W.9b

Our candidates are expected not only to meet these standards while student teaching, but also to craft instructional tools that clearly respond to these goals in our capstone methods course (ENG 4801: “Integrating the Language Arts”). We determined that candidates need 1) exposure to the array of texts (print and visual, literary and informational) these standards incorporate, and 2) foundational instruction on how to analyze works in these genres and media prior to their capstone experience. The proposed new Genre Studies requirement, along with the revised and CAA-approved ENG 4742: “Studies in Genre,” is in place to assist in this preparation. The CAA-approved ENG 3008, “Digital Writing & Multimodal Texts,” also aims to address this current program gap, while also ensuring that candidates are prepared to design instructional material related to multimodal composition (a requirement highlighted by NCTE Standards I.2, II.1, II.3, IV.1).

Other approved changes to the English Core Curriculum address other areas of concern. Students’ content-area test results suggest that they have difficulty with broader historical contexts. The addition of ENG 2950 & 2960, “Transatlantic Literary History I & II,” will address this. The specifically transatlantic focus of these courses will ensure that students will graduate with course work in both British and American literature, areas in which they are expected to teach.

The revision of the ELA major also increases the number of writing courses ELA students will take and requires that students take ENG 3001, “Advanced Composition.” Currently, ENG 3001 provides students with exposure to writing in various genres (a necessary program component monitored by NCTE). Adding ENG 3008, “Digital Writing & Multimodal Texts,” as a requirement will further develop students’ research and writing skills. This additional course in multimodal composition would also be valuable to the many graduates of our ELA program who may eventually pursue graduate degrees in the area of Composition and Rhetoric.
Beyond these changes, the remainder of the curriculum remains similar to the existing structure with a focus on literary history (as evident in the two literary history courses and the two required Literary and Cultural Studies courses, pre and post-1800); on multicultural literature (two courses still required); on young adult literature (one course still required); on special topics (one course) focused on genre; and on an upper-division seminar (placed at the junior rather than senior level).

The proposed revision reduces the size of the ELA major from 58 credits to 55 credits, relieving some of the time burdens faced by teacher licensure candidates. The revision includes an additional recommended 1-credit course, ENG 4060, “English Studies Career Development,” which will benefit our candidates as they design online teaching portfolios, websites, and other materials necessary for a successful job search.

The proposed changes to the recently COTE-approved ELA Minor program simply reflect the changes proposed in the ELA Major curriculum.

APPROVALS

Date approved by the department or school: 19 March 2014

Date approved by the college curriculum committee: 15 October 2014

Date approved by the Honors Council (if this is an honors course):

Date approved by COTE:

Date approved by CAA: CGS:
**REVISED: English Language Arts Option Major for Teacher Licensure (B.A.)**

**Total Semester Hours required for the Degree: 123-129 semester hours**

The English Language Arts Licensure Option is for students who would like to major in English and gain Illinois state licensure at the secondary level to teach English language arts. Students must receive a "C" or better in all courses used toward graduation, regardless of where they are taken. This includes general education, professional education, major and minor course, all university required courses, and electives. Students must maintain a minimum cumulative and major GPA of 2.75 in order to continue in the program. For students also wanting to be eligible to teach middle school language arts, additional Middle Level Education courses are required.

**Core Requirements**

Please note that a GPA of 2.75, both cumulative and in the major, is required for departmental approval to student teach. Major GPA based on all English courses taken at EIU, excluding ENG 0990, 0995, 1000, and General Education courses other than 3099G and 3099G. A grade of C or better is required in each course that applies to the major. For the education course work required for this option, see “Teacher Licensure Programs.”

This option requires that students follow and meet the requirements for Admission, Retention and Graduation from Teacher Licensure programs as described in the “Teacher Licensure Programs” section of this catalog and as explained at the University Admission to Teacher Education Meeting which all students must attend. Additional information on Admission, Retention and Graduation for Teacher Licensure programs can be found on the College of Education & Professional Studies website at [www.eiu.edu/ceps/teached](http://www.eiu.edu/ceps/teached).

All students must pass the Illinois Licensure Test of Academic Proficiency or document a composite score of 22 or higher on the ACT plus Writing for selection into teacher education and should complete this requirement no later than their sophomore year.

Students must receive a “C” or better in all courses counted toward the English major and in all professional education courses and must maintain a minimum cumulative and major GPA of 2.75 in order to continue in the program.

Students must complete the professional education coursework following the Regular Secondary Education Professional Education Course Sequence. Information is available in the Teacher Licensure Program section of this catalog.

Students must pass the appropriate Assessment of Professional Teaching (APT) test before they can receive their teaching license from Illinois or any other state.

**English with Language Arts Licensure Option**

Standard High School Licensure with no minor required.

**Semester Hours required for the English with Language Arts Certificate Option: 58 semester hours**
Group 1 – **English Major Core Courses (16 credits).** All of:

- ENG 1105 - English Major Forum. Credits: 1
- ENG 2205 - Introduction to Literary Studies. Credits: 3
- ENG 2601 - Backgrounds of Western Literature. Credits: 3
- ENG 2901 - Structure of English. Credits: 3
- ENG 2950 – Transatlantic History I. Credits: 3
- ENG 2960 – Transatlantic History II: Credits: 3
- ENG 3300 – Seminar in English Studies. Credits: 3
- ENG 3401 - Methods of Teaching Composition in the Secondary School. Credits: 3
- ENG 3402 – Methods of Teaching Literature in the Secondary School. Credits: 3
- ENG 4801 - Integrating the English Language Arts. Credits: 3
- ENG 4903 – Young Adult Literature. Credits: 3

One additional course in writing, chosen from:

**English Language Arts Major (Total Semester Hours: 33)**

**Writing (6 credits)**

- Any 4000 level course in creative writing (note prerequisites). Credits: 3
- ENG 2760 – Introduction to Professional Writing. Credits: 3
- ENG 3001 - Advanced Composition. Credits: 3
- ENG 3008 – Digital Writing and Multimodal Texts. Credits: 3
- ENG 3002 – Research Writing for Literary Studies. Credits: 3
- ENG 3005 – Technical Communication. Credits: 3

**English Education (9 Credits)**

- ENG 3401 - Methods of Teaching Composition in the Secondary School. Credits: 3
- ENG 3402 – Methods of Teaching Literature in the Secondary School. Credits: 3
- ENG 4903 – Young Adult Literature. Credits: 3
- (Recommended, Not Required: MLA 4280 – Teaching Reading in the Middle/Secondary School)

**Literature and Culture before 1800 (3 credits)**

- ENG 2601 - Backgrounds of Western Literature. Credits: 3
- ENG 3601A - Studies in Major Writers Before 1800. Credits: 3
- ENG 3604A – Special Topics in Literature and Language Before 1800. Credits: 3
- ENG 3700 - American Literature and Culture 1450 to 1800. Credits: 3
- ENG 3800 - Medieval British Literature. Credits: 3
- ENG 3802 - Shakespeare. Credits: 3
- ENG 3803 - Renaissance & 17th C. British Literature. Credits: 3
- ENG 3804 - Milton. Credits: 3
- ENG 3805 – Restoration & 18th Century British. Credits: 3
- ENG 3892 – Shakespeare, Honors. Credits: 3
- ENG 3903A - Women, Literature, and Language, Before 1800. Credits: 3
Literature and Culture after 1800 (3 credits)

- ENG 3601B - Studies in Major Writers After 1800. Credits: 3
- ENG 3604B - Special Topics in Literature and Language after 1800. Credits: 3
- ENG 3606 - Modern Drama. Credits: 3
- ENG 3701 - American Literature: 1800 to Mid-19th Century. Credits: 3
- ENG 3702 - American Literature: Mid-19th Century to 1900. Credits: 3
- ENG 3703 - American Literature: 1900-1950. Credits: 3
- ENG 3704 - American Literature: 1950-present. Credits: 3
- ENG 3806 - British Romantic Literature. Credits: 3
- ENG 3807 - Victorian Literature. Credits: 3
- ENG 3808 - Modern British Literature. Credits: 3
- ENG 3809 - Contemporary British & Anglophone Literatures. Credits: 3
- ENG 3903B - Women, Literature, and Language, After 1800. Credits: 3

Genre Studies (3 credits)

- ENG 3606 - Modern Drama. Credits: 3
- ENG 3802/3892 - Shakespeare. Credits: 3
- ENG 4742 - Studies in Genre. Credits: 3 (Revised Course)
- ENG 3504 - Film & Literature. Credits: 3
- ENG 4904 - Studies in Film. Credits: 3

Multicultural and Non-Western Literatures (6 credits)

- ENG 3705 - American Multicultural Literature. Credits: 3
- ENG 2705 - African-American Literature. Credits: 3
- ENG 2850 - Postcolonial Literatures in English. Credits: 3
- ENG 3009 - Myth & Culture. Credits: 3
- ENG 3907 - Asian Literature. Credits: 3
- ENG 4750 - Studies in African-American Literature. Credits: 3
- ENG 4850 - Studies in Postcolonial & Third World Literatures. Credits: 3

Capstone Experiences (3 credits)

- ENG 4801 - Integrating the Language Arts. Credits: 3
- (Recommended, not required: ENG 4060 - English Studies Career Development. Credits: 3)

Group 2 – Focused Study in Multicultural Literatures (6 credits)

- ENG 3705 - American Multicultural Literatures. Credits: 3
One additional course, chosen from:

- Courses in Group 5 when so designated by the Department Chair in consultation with the instructor.

- ENG 2705 - African-American Literature. Credits: 3
- ENG 2850 - Postcolonial Literatures in English. Credits: 3
- ENG 3907 - Asian Literatures. Credits: 3
- ENG 4750 - Studies in African-American Literature. Credits: 3
- ENG 4850 - Studies in Third World Literatures. Credits: 3

Group 3 - Breadth in Historical Literary Studies (15 credits).

A. Literature before 1800. Two of:

- Courses in Group 5 when so designated by the Department Chair in consultation with the instructor.

- ENG 3604A - Special Topics in Literature and Language. Credits: 3
- ENG 3700 - American Literature: 1450 to 1800. Credits: 3
- ENG 3800 - Medieval British Literature. Credits: 3
- ENG 3803 - Renaissance and Seventeenth-Century British Literature. Credits: 3
- ENG 3805 - Restoration and Eighteenth-Century British Literature. Credits: 3

B. Nineteenth Century. One of:

- Courses in Group 5 when so designated by the Department Chair in consultation with the instructor.

- ENG 3604B - Special Topics in Literature and Language. Credits: 3
- ENG 3701 - American Literature: 1800 to Mid-19th Century. Credits: 3
- ENG 3702 - American Literature: Mid-19th Century to 1900. Credits: 3
- ENG 3806 - British Romantic Literature. Credits: 3
- ENG 3807 - Victorian Literature. Credits: 3

C. Twentieth Century and After. One of:

- Courses in Group 5 when so designated by the Department Chair in consultation with the instructor.

- ENG 3604D - Special Topics in Literature and Language. Credits: 3
- ENG 3703 - American Literature: 1900 to 1950. Credits: 3
- ENG 3704 - American Literature: 1950 to present. Credits: 3
- ENG 3808 - Modern British Literature. Credits: 3
- ENG 3809 - Contemporary British and Anglophone Literatures. Credits: 3
D. Major Author Study. One of:

- Courses in Group 5 when so designated by the Department Chair in consultation with the instructor.
  - ENG 3601 - Studies in Major Writers. Credits: 3
  - ENG 3801 - Chaucer. Credits: 3
  - ENG 3802 - Shakespeare. Credits: 3
  - ENG 3804 - Milton. Credits: 3

Group 4 - Capstone Courses (6 credits)

- ENG 4300 - Senior Seminar. Credits: 3
- OR ENG 4390 - Senior Seminar, Honors. Credits: 3
- ENG 4775 - Studies in Literary and Cultural Criticism and Theory. Credits: 3
- OR ENG 4950 - Literary History and Bibliography. Credits: 3

English Electives (6 credits)

Two additional courses in English, chosen from any of the above or from Group 5. General Education courses are excluded, except for ENG 2009G/ENG 2099G, ENG 2011G/ENG 2091G, and ENG 3009G/ENG 3099G. English majors (non-teacher licensure) are required to select 2 of the 5 elective courses at the 3000 level or above. Two courses in a single foreign language may be counted if numbered 2000 or above, not taught in English, and not offered for Gen Ed credit.

Group 5 English Electives

- ENG 2001 - Creative Writing: Nonfiction. Credits: 3
- ENG 2003 - Creative Writing: Poetry. Credits: 3
- ENG 2005 - Creative Writing: Drama. Credits: 3
- ENG 2007 - Creative Writing: Fiction. Credits: 3
- ENG 2009G - Literature and Human Values 1, 2, 3, 4. Credits: 3
- ENG 2011G - Literature, the Self and the World 1, 2, 3, Honors. Credits: 3
- ENG 2091G - Literature, the Self, and the World 1, 2, 3, Honors. Credits: 3
- ENG 2099G - Literature and Human Values 1, 2, 3, 4, Honors. Credits: 3
- ENG 2602 - World Literature since the Renaissance. Credits: 3
- ENG 2603 - Greek and Roman Mythology. Credits: 3
- ENG 2692 - World Literature since the Renaissance, Honors. Credits: 3
- ENG 2705 - African-American Literature. Credits: 3
- ENG 2760 - Introduction to Professional Writing. Credits: 3
- ENG 3005 - Technical Communication. Credits: 3
- ENG 3009G - Myth and Culture. Credits: 3
- ENG 3099G - Myth and Culture, Honors. Credits: 3
- ENG 3100G - Cultural Foundations I. Credits: 3
- ENG 3110G - Cultural Foundations II. Credits: 3
- ENG 3405 - Children's Literature. Credits: 3
- ENG 3406 - Literature for Pre-Adolescents. Credits: 3
- ENG 3504 - Film and Literature. Credits: 3
• ENG 3600 - The Bible as Literature. Credits: 3
• ENG 3604E - Special Topics in Literature and Language. Credits: 3
• ENG 3606 - Modern Drama. Credits: 3
• ENG 3706 - American Regional Literature. Credits: 3
• ENG 3901 - Language and Linguistics. Credits: 3
• ENG 4275 - Internship in Professional Writing. Credits: 4
• ENG 4400 - Independent Study. Credits: 3
• ENG 4750 - Studies in African-American Literature. Credits: 3
• ENG 4752 - Studies in Drama. Credits: 3
• ENG 4760 - Studies in Professional Writing. Credits: 3
• ENG 4761 - Creative Nonfiction Writing Credits: 3
• ENG 4762 - Poetry Writing. Credits: 3
• ENG 4763 - Fiction Writing. Credits: 3
• ENG 4764 - Play Writing. Credits: 3
• ENG 4901 - History of the English Language. Credits: 3
• ENG 4904 - Studies in Film. Credits: 3
• ENG 4905 - Studies in Youth Literature. Credits: 3
• ENG 4906 - Problems in the Teaching of English. Credits: 3

Professional Education Core (34 Credits)

• EDF 2555G - Education in a Diverse Society: The Multilingual/Multicultural Classroom. Credits: 3
• EDF 4450 - Independent Study. Credits: 2
• EDF 4550 - Critical Focus on Education. Credits: 3
  (EDF 4450 may be substituted for EDF 4550 if taken prior to Fall 2013)
• EDP 3331 - Theories of Learning and Development for Secondary Teachers. Credits: 3
• SED 2000 - Inquiry Into Teaching. Credits: 2
• SED 3330 - Instructional Tasks in the Secondary School. Credits: 4
• SED 4330 - Literacy, Assessment, and Differentiation in Secondary Schools. Credits: 3
• SPE 3500 - The Education of Individuals with Exceptional Learning Needs: Access to the General Curriculum. Credits: 3
• STG 4000 - Multicultural/Disabilities Practicum. Credits: 1
• STG 4001 - Student Teaching. Credits: 12-16. (Register for 12 semester hours)

Footnotes:

Concurrent or prior registration in ENG 2205 is strongly recommended for majors in all courses at the 2000-level or above.