



HIGHLIGHTS

The English Major is structured to balance literary and historical breadth with chances to pursue your special interests. Introductory courses ask you to think historically about the evolution of literary form, while seminars allow you to dig deeply into a literary moment or theoretical approach.

Introduction to the Major

Learn universal skills that can transfer to almost any profession. Develop sensitivity to cultural values and the ability to analyze effectively and persuasively.

The English Department is a close-knit community of students and faculty who are passionate about the written word. By studying English literature at Clark, you will gain knowledge of important authors and their work. You will also develop a sense of literary history, sensitivity to cultural values, and proficiency in diverse critical methods. The tools and experience you gain as an English major will prepare you for a wide variety of career paths.

CORE COURSES

Students navigating through the major enhance their ability to read closely using critical and theoretical approaches. Students will conduct research, engage in relevant scholarship, develop a command of critical analytical skills at each level of the program, write, present oral presentations, and learn to work effectively on team projects.

- Gateway course: Text, the World, and the Critic
- Historical sequences: Pre- and Post-1850
- Genre courses (two courses)
- Period requirements (four courses)
- Theory (one course)
- Capstone requirement (one course)

“Reading and studying literature are acts of generosity, because when we read, we inhabit the lives of others— whether we identify with them or not.”

— BETSY HUANG, ASSOCIATE PROVOST
AND DEAN OF THE COLLEGE



DESIGN YOUR JOURNEY



Explore and navigate Clark curriculum



Connect and engage with communities



Discover and pursue your passions



Develop professional skills



Reflect, design and plan

YEAR 1

YEAR 2



□ **Explore the English Department**

Take a First-Year Intensive (FYI) or 100-level course in English or Creative Writing. Browse the course catalog to learn more about course offerings.



□ **Identify potential Program of Liberal Studies (PLS) courses**

You are required to take eight PLS courses over four years. Talk with your adviser to start identifying courses that match your interests and goals.



□ **Learn about campus resources**

Make an appointment with the Writing Center, visit Anderson House, and go to the Clark library and check out some books. Visit the Career Lab in ASEC.



□ **Get connected**

Attend department and alumni events. Follow us on Facebook and Instagram. Sign on to Handshake to learn about events and opportunities.



□ **Explore off campus**

Get involved through the Community Engagement and Volunteering office.



□ **Getting from here to there**

Try out new interests through clubs like Clark Writes or The Scarlet. Be sure to add any new activities to your resume.



□ **Reflect on what sparks your interest**

What interests have you discovered? Use Handshake to search for a summer job, internship, or part-time volunteer opportunity to build skills and explore these interests further.



□ **Dig into your major and define your interests**

Identify faculty members who share your interests and consider asking one to become your adviser.



□ **Declare your major**

In Year 2, you should declare your major and decide if you will double-major in another area of study.



□ **Start networking**

Create a ClarkCONNECT profile to connect with alumni and learn about what they do. Consider joining the Alumni Job Shadow Program.



□ **Stay engaged**

Take part in department events like Chowder Fest, Spring Fling, and Wassail.



□ **Pursue another point of view**

Make an appointment with the Study Abroad Office to learn about options.



□ **Take a Problems of Practice (PoP) course and stretch yourself**

Develop an understanding of others and meet new people. Get to know staff and faculty in the department. Ask questions. Share what you enjoy.



□ **Pre-flight check**

Use Handshake to find opportunities and visit a career adviser in the Career Connections Center.



□ **Look back and look ahead**

What new interests have you discovered? What career options do you want to test out? What questions do you still need to answer to determine your professional path?

WHAT CAN I DO WITH MY MAJOR?

JOBS & EMPLOYERS

English graduates work in public relations and marketing, education, book publishing, print and digital media, business, government, law, library science, and more.

GRADUATE PROGRAMS

Clark English alumni pursue graduate study at Rutgers, Tufts, American University, Northwestern, Case Western Reserve, Simmons, the University of London, and more.

YEAR 3

YEAR 4



Become a researcher

Take your first seminar in the English Department. Take a theory course.



Plan for senior year and beyond

Where do you need to build confidence or clarity? Skills or experience? Meet with a career adviser in the Career Connections Center for help with grad school and getting ready for your career.



Engage and strengthen your networks — both on campus and off

Use ClarkCONNECT to connect with alumni. Present at ClarkFEST.



Get out of here

Study abroad with our partner programs in England at the University of East Anglia, Advanced Studies in English, or the London Internship Program.



Test-fly your career

Apply to a job as an office assistant or volunteer for the Department as a Peer Mentor or on the DEI Committee. Use Handshake to search for internships and meet with a career adviser for additional resources.



Get ready for next year

What are the skills you need to gain during senior year to be successful after graduation? Plan for your capstone project or Honors thesis. Talk with faculty about the job search or grad school applications. Identify faculty who know you well and will serve as references or write letters of recommendation.



No regrets!

What's on your Clark undergraduate bucket list? Write about your interests and experiences. Develop new goals and plans!



Pull it together with your capstone

Take the senior capstone course. Review your coursework to make sure you will complete all degree requirements.



What's next?

Consider applying to the accelerated degree program (ADP) to obtain a B.A. and master's in five years. Research careers and organizations that interest you. Have your resume and cover letter reviewed at the Career Lab.



Connect with alumni

Work through the Alumni office to meet with Clark graduates and learn from their career journeys.



Share what you have learned

Present your research at ClarkFEST. Attend or present at an academic conference. Work as a Peer Learning Assistant (PLA).



Get ready to launch

Update your professional documents and profiles. Learn how to demonstrate qualities such as leadership, teamwork, problem-solving, and initiative. Continue building needed skills through jobs, internships, clubs, a capstone, etc. Schedule a mock interview through the Career Connections Center.



The big questions

Reflect on your intellectual growth and how you have changed. What have you learned that you value? What are you good at? Are there traits in others you want to nurture in yourself? How can you combine these in the future?



AMPLIFY YOUR MAJOR!

Gain knowledge and skills that transfer to a wide range of fields. Find Your Voice!

Whether your interests lie in the medieval or the postmodern, in topics such as popular culture, gender and sexuality studies, American studies, or book history, Clark's English major gives you the opportunity to work closely with faculty members in a department with an international reputation.

CONNECT WITH US!

Anderson House
12 Hawthorne Street
Worcester, MA 01610

clarku.edu/departments/english

Advising

We are here to support your academic journey.

In your first year at Clark, you will be assigned an adviser to help you select your courses and programs. Once you declare your major, English faculty will advise you.

CLARK
UNIVERSITY



Challenge Convention.
Change Our World.

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