

## Bachelor of Humanities in English

The English major has three options: the General Option which allows students to focus on the study of literature; the Creative Writing Option, which allows for students to learn the craft of composing original creative writing; and the Secondary Education Option which prepares students to earn certification to teach high school English in Pennsylvania. All options offer students the opportunity to study literature in an interdisciplinary context where the relationships among literature and art, history, music, philosophy, media, and American Studies can be investigated. The major offers courses in American, British, and world literatures, emphasizing their cultural and historical contexts, as well as teaching students to interpret them from a variety of critical perspectives. Small classes in both creative and expository writing encourage students to develop their writing skills by working closely with faculty. The English program has [several organizations](#) that offer students involvement in the discipline outside the classroom. This program has been recognized by the [National Council of Teachers of English \(NCTE\)](#) and the Secondary Education Option earned National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) approval.

Penn State Harrisburg also offers Secondary Education bachelor's degree options in [Social Studies](#) and [Mathematics](#).

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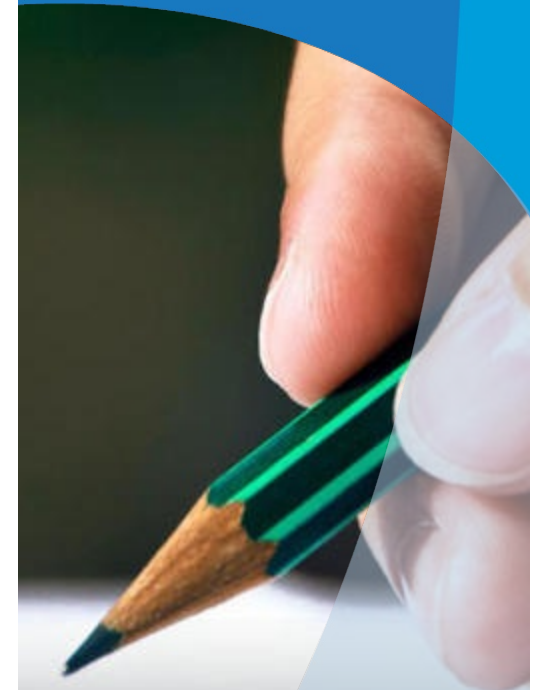
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**PennState**  
Harrisburg

**School of Humanities**



**Bachelor of Humanities in  
English**

## Curriculum

### General English Option

With its emphases on interpretive skills, creativity, and writing, the General English Option provides a foundation for careers in such fields as publishing, public relations, communication, government and law, as well as a strong basis for graduate education.

### Creative Writing Option

Emphasizing original works of fiction, poetry, creative nonfiction, and hybrid genres, the Creative Writing Option provides aspiring authors with a literary foundation in the craft of writing and revising original work, as well as practical skills in editing and publishing in traditional and new media formats.

### Secondary Education Option

The Secondary Education Option prepares students to meet the requirements, as established by the [Pennsylvania Department of Education](#), to be certified for the Instructional I Certificate in Communication/English. The following requirements for entry to the Secondary Education Option are in addition to those for entrance to the ENGL major: (1) Students must have a cumulative grade-point average to meet or exceed the state's required minimum GPA of 3.0. (2) In addition the students must have a grade of "C" or better in six credits of college-level mathematics (MATH or STAT prefixes), three credits of college-level English literature, and three credits of English composition.

Visit for complete details.

## Testimonials

Since graduating from Penn State Harrisburg with a degree in English and creative writing, I have moved to Philadelphia and now attend Arcadia University. My bachelor's degree and experience working on Penn State Harrisburg's literary magazine, *From the Fallout Shelter*, helped me to get the position as fiction editor for Arcadia's literary magazine, *Marathon*. With the help of Penn State Harrisburg's amazing English and School of Humanities, I am getting ready to travel to Edinburgh in the summer for my next graduate residency and completing my first novella.



**Britny Brooks**  
graduate student, MFA program  
in Creative Writing and the MA  
program in English, Arcadia  
University

## Courses

For a B. HUM. degree in English, a minimum of 120 credits is required.

For the B. HUM. degree in English with Secondary Education Option, a minimum of 123 credits is required.

In addition to [General Education requirements](#) (45 credits), this major requires the following:

### FIRST-YEAR SEMINAR:

(Included in ELECTIVES or GENERAL EDUCATION course selection)

### UNITED STATES CULTURES AND INTERNATIONAL CULTURES:

(Included in ELECTIVES, GENERAL EDUCATION course selection, or REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MAJOR)

### WRITING ACROSS THE CURRICULUM:

(Included in ELECTIVES, GENERAL EDUCATION course selection, or REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MAJOR)

**ELECTIVES:** 0-18 credits

**BACHELOR OF HUMANITIES DEGREE REQUIREMENTS:** 18 credits

(See description of Bachelor of Humanities Degree Requirements in Bulletin.)

**REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MAJOR:** 45-65 credits

(This includes 6-15 of General Education courses: General English Option, 6 credits of General Education Arts (GA) and/or Social and Behavioral Science (GS) courses; Secondary Education Option, 6 credits of General Education Quantification (GQ) courses, 3 credits of General Education Social Sciences (GS) courses, and 6 credits of General Humanities (GH) courses.

*At least 15 credits of Prescribed, Additional, and/or Supporting courses must be taken at the 400 level.*

**COMMON REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MAJOR (ALL OPTIONS):** 21 credits

**PRESCRIBED COURSES** (6 credits)

ENGL 200W(3) (Sem: 5-6)

ENGL 444(3) (Sem: 7-8)

Visit for complete details.

## Undergraduate Admissions Requirements

Minimum high school course requirements for admission to baccalaureate (four-year) degree programs are listed below. Keep in mind that specific programs may have additional requirements or recommendations.

### English

Four units, including one unit each in composition and literature, are required.

### Social Studies/Art/Humanities

Three units in any combination of social studies, arts, and humanities are required.

### World Language

Two units in a single world language other than English are required. However, a student may be admitted with fewer than two units in a world language other than English, but must correct this deficiency by the time s/he earns 60 credits or graduates from Penn State, whichever comes first. This deficiency may be corrected by passing one three- or four-credit college level world language course or by demonstrating proficiency equivalent to two units of high school world language study.

Either a third unit in the same language or an additional unit in a second world language other than English is recommended.

### Science

Three units of science are required. Preparation in chemistry and physics is recommended but not required for our Science and Engineering/Engineering Technology programs

### Math

Three units of mathematics are required (four are recommended), selected from any combination of algebra, geometry, and trigonometry. Some programs have additional mathematics requirements. Our Business, Engineering/Engineering Technology, and Science programs require one-half unit of trigonometry or higher level math within the required three units

Penn State requires proof of graduation or a GED for admission to four-year degree programs.

\*In most high school curricula, one unit = one year.

Visit Undergraduate Admissions: Admissions Requirements for more information (<http://goo.gl/eVGAMB>)