

Metrics: Report: ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

I. Program Overview

A. Department profile (faculty, students, curriculum)

“The English curriculum responds both to the British and American literary tradition and challenges to that tradition from historically underrepresented groups. . . . Courses are offered in all periods of British and American literature, Irish literature, postcolonial literature, African American, Native American & Southern literature, Trauma Studies, Gender Studies, Cultural Studies”

The English Department is well established at Emory, where teaching and research by 38 nationally recognized faculty members inform the work of 70 graduate students and approximately 200 undergraduate English majors. Both research and teaching are stressed, and a number of the faculty have named chairs and/or teaching awards. Many faculty members have joint appointments with other departments and programs, such as African American Studies, Classical Studies, Creative Writing, Comparative Literature, the Graduate Institute for the Liberal Arts, Theater Studies, and Women’s Studies. One senior faculty member is also Director of the Center for Humanistic Inquiry, while another is also Director of the Graduate Institute for the Liberal Arts. A third English faculty member is Director of Asian Studies. Throughout the year, the department sponsors or co-sponsors visiting lecturers and readings of works in progress. The Creative Writing Program often invites distinguished writers to the campus.

English majors must take a total of 10 courses (40 semester hours) in English, which must include English 205; 7 advanced-level courses (300- or 400-level) as follows: 2 courses in British Literature before 1660 (one may be English 255); 2 courses in British literature after 1660 (one may be English 256); 2 courses in American literature (one may be English 250 or 251); and any 300- level or 400-level English courses. In addition, two more courses are to be chosen from departmental offerings with some exceptions.

The department also offers an English/Creative Writing Major, the B.A./M.A. Program; the English Major/Teaching Credential in conjunction with the Division of Educational Studies; the Joint Major in Classics and English; the Joint Major in History and English; and the English Minor. The honors program is open to students with a 3.5 cumulative average at the end of their junior years. Students may take ENG 495RWR, Honors Thesis, for variable credit up to 8 hours. The department offers a summer abroad program in British Studies.

Every first-year student, except those who place out by earning a score of 4 or 5 on the English AP test (Literature or Composition), must complete Eng 101, Expository Writing; Eng 181, Writing about literature; or Comparative Literature

110 in order to satisfy the Freshman Writing Requirement. All freshmen must also take a freshman seminar in the department of their choice (i.e., Eng 190S).

The English Ph.D. program is designed to prepare students for scholarly research and teaching. The emphasis is on British and American literature, but the changing nature of literature in English is also emphasized. Certificate Programs with the Ph.D. are offered in Comparative Literature and Women's Studies.

B. Coordination/Cooperation/Collaborative Relationships

Just as many Department of English courses are cross-listed with other departments and programs such as African American Studies, American Studies, Comparative Literature, French and Italian, the Graduate Institute of the Liberal Arts, History, Interdisciplinary Studies in Culture and Society, Linguistics, Theater Studies, and Women's Studies, so subject liaisons have many opportunities for collaboration.

II. Description of Material Collected

A. Scope of the Collection

We collect in all areas of British and American Literature that support teaching and research at Emory. In addition, we also attempt to acquire materials in some areas that may not be currently stressed, but are being studied and are essential for a research library, such as current Commonwealth and postcolonial literature, and literature of the diasporas. We collect English literary history and criticism; the history of English literature, by period and by form; and the literature from the Anglo-Saxon period to the present. Most of the collection is in the English language, though appropriate critical works in other languages are acquired as well. Though we strive to collect the best modern critical editions of works from all periods and current criticism, retrospective material is of key importance, and we try to fill gaps in our holdings from established antiquarian dealers. Our British literature collection is particularly strong in nineteenth- and twentieth-century literature.

In American literature, we collect criticism and history and American literature from the colonial period to the present. Again, we are particularly strong in nineteenth- and twentieth-century literature.

B. Formats and Publication Types

Monographs are heavily collected, both as single volumes and sets. Our approval plans and profiles are immensely important in the acquisition of scholarly volumes in a timely manner. We also acquire monographs from selecting on an approval

vendor's site, from catalogs, and from vendor contact. We rarely collect text books, unless one is particularly requested or the purchase is necessary in order to support electronic reserves. The majority of journals in the British and American literature fields are in print only, so it is essential to collect the most important of those needed. We purchase and/or subscribe to both article—i.e., MLA International Bibliography—and primary material databases such as Early English Books Online and Eighteenth Century Collections Online. We regularly purchase microforms, with an emphasis on collections of primary documents. Videos and DVD are used in literature, primarily for poetry readings and for dramatic productions.