



Name:
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# UCB English Major Quick Sheet

## - Overview -

The major in English is designed to introduce students to the history of literature written in English, to acquaint them with a variety of historical periods and geographical and cultural regions of English language and writing, to create an awareness of theories of literary and cultural analysis, and to provide continued training in critical writing.

English majors begin their study by building foundational knowledge in English 45A, 45B, 45C, and a Shakespeare course; where students will explore different periods, genres, styles within the larger context of English literature. In addition, students will take a pre-1800 course to solidify their understanding literary history and how it speaks to both the moments of inheritance and originality of the English literary canon. Part of the intellectual work (and joy) of the English major is to imagine and create a coherent, progressive course of study, and students will also take six elective courses, wherein the students chooses courses that fit each major's individual study of English. The last course is the upper division research seminar - the capstone experience of the major - in which students draw upon the culmination of their studies to do substantial and original research and writing on a specific literary topic.

## - How to Declare -

To declare\* the English Major, you will need to:

1. Complete at least 30 units, including the L&S Reading and Composition requirement.
2. Complete two English courses: 1. Either 45A or 45B and 2. Either 45A, 45B, 45C, or Shakespeare.  
Example: "I've taken English 45A and Shakespeare; I can declare!"
3. Meet with the Undergraduate Major Adviser to declare the major.

\*It's a good idea to declare as soon as you decide on English - declared majors get priority for enrollment in English classes!

## - Requirements -

There are 12 courses which comprise the English Major:

- **Foundational Courses:**

- English 45A Literature in English: Through Milton
- English 45B Literature in English: Late 17th - Mid 19th Century
- English 45C Literature in English: Mid 19th - 20th Century
- A Shakespeare Course (17, 117A, 117B, 117F, 117J, or 117S. Note: 117T does not count.)

- **Core Courses:**

- A pre-1800 Course (e.g. 105, 110, 111, 112, 114A, 114B, 115A, 115B, 118, 119, 120, 125A, or 130A.)\*  
\*Be sure to check the schedule of classes on the website for all Pre-1800 course offerings each semester.
- A Research Seminar (190 or H195 A/B.)

- **Elective Courses:**

- 6 English Department Electives

- **Important things to note:**

- 7 of the 12 courses must be upper division.
- You may only use 2 summer courses towards the completion of the major.
- You may take up to 2 of your 6 electives Pass/Not Pass. All other courses must be taken for a grade.

## - Tips, Tricks, and Useful Information -

- The information on this page only refers to requirements for the English major. Students can review their University, Campus, and College requirements by running an Academic Progress Report (APR) on Cal Central.
- The information above is just a summary of the English Major at UC Berkeley. For complete information about the department, the major, the minor, departmental honors, advising hours, faculty major advisor office hours, and more, please visit our website at [english.berkeley.edu](http://english.berkeley.edu).