

English

The English major at Guilford College focuses on the literatures of the English-speaking world, with an emphasis on British and American writers. An excellent major for any student seeking a broad liberal arts education, the English major involves study of that form of art through which humankind has constantly struggled to express most fully the central concerns of the human condition as understood in each age. With its emphasis on developing students' abilities to express their perceptions and analyses in dialogue and writing, the English major offers excellent preparation for work in a variety of professions.

Why Guilford College?

Consistently rated nationally by *The Princeton Review* as well as being one of the 40 colleges in *Colleges that Change Lives* by Loren Pope, Guilford College inspires each student to achieve excellence through an engaging community, rooted in Quaker values, which nurtures creativity and social responsibility.

What can a Guilford education offer you?

- An urban setting near other colleges & universities with an area student population of over 27,000 students
- A consortium agreement with University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Greensboro College, Bennett College, North Carolina A&T State University, Elon University and High Point University provides students with access to courses free of charge
- A college mission statement & core values based on, and consistent with, Quaker testimonies. The core values of Guilford are: Community, Diversity, Equality, Excellence, Integrity, Justice & Stewardship.
- A challenging academic program which emphasizes not only academic tracks and the learning process, but also the interconnection between curricular and co-curricular pursuits
- A diverse student population providing a stimulating peer environment
- Excellent study abroad programs in China, England, France, Germany, Ghana, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Netherlands, Scotland, Spain, and Wales

The academic program in English

The Bachelor of Arts degree is offered in English.
A minor is offered in English (literature track or writing track).

Required courses for the English major

The major in English consists of a minimum of 8 four credit courses (32 credit hours) including:

- ENG 200 Introduction to Literary Studies
- ENG 400 Capstone Seminar
- One 200-Level Literature course
- One 300-Level Literature course
- A minimum of four Emphasis courses, depending on the chosen track & at least one must be at the 300 level

Tracks

- **General** - for students who study English out of general interest and who wish to sharpen critical reading, thinking and writing skills
- **Education** - for education studies/ English double majors
- **Writing** - for students who wish to establish a significant emphasis on writing rather than pursuing a traditional literature major
- **Graduate School** - for those planning on attending graduate school. Students in this track take 40 hours (10 courses).

Internship Opportunities

Students may elect to complete an internship under the supervision of a faculty member in this department and receive credit for the experience. Such internships give majors the “hands-on” experience, which is so necessary in this field. English majors have completed internships:

- at a local publishing firm
- with independent filmmakers in San Francisco and Los Angeles
- at the Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington, D.C.
- in London with a media group (while attending Guilford’s study abroad program there)
- with community arts organizations in Greensboro, NC and Maine

Special Features

- With its emphasis on developing students’ abilities to express their perceptions and analyses in dialogue and writing, the English major offers excellent preparation for work in a variety of professions.
- Analytical and writing skills developed in the study of literature are precisely those required of lawyers and business executives.
- Students considering careers in business or law might choose to major in English and pursue a concentration in accounting, management, computing, history or political science.
- Students desiring careers in journalism, technical writing, television or advertising would do well to major in English and pursue the communications concentration.
- Students planning careers in secondary education are required to double major in education studies and English. For those not desiring a double major, an A.B. in English followed by an M.A. in teaching is a good alternative. Advisors from both education studies and English provide a developmental support program for prospective teachers of English, helping students in all aspects of their program and assuring that requirements are satisfied.
- Outstanding students are encouraged to work for departmental honors. The Leora Sherrill O’Callaghan Scholarship is given annually to a rising senior who has excelled in English.
- Guilford students have the opportunity to use their writing skills with work on *The Guilfordian*, *The Quaker*, and *The Greenleaf Review*.

Where do graduates go?

Recent English major graduates have enrolled in graduate studies programs in creative writing, mass media/communication studies (at Indiana University, fully funded), English (at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro), and Arabic language school. A number of graduates are teaching in public school systems. One has been appointed as the assistant supervisor for Reading Connections, a local literacy non-profit organization and another has taken a full-time teaching position working with special needs children at a school in Boston.

Faculty

Heather Hayton, Associate Professor, Chair; hhayton@guilford.edu

Jeff Jeske, Charles A. Dana Professor of English

Carolyn Beard Whitlow, Charles A. Dana Professor of English

James Hood, Associate Professor

Cynthia M. Nearman, Assistant Professor and Director of Writing

Diya Abdo, Assistant Professor

Traci Connor, Assistant Professor

Rod B. Spellman, Visiting Instructor

Kaylene B. Swenson, Visiting Instructor

**For additional information about English at Guilford College visit
www.guilford.edu/academics**

