

Undergraduate Handbook



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English Department

University of Massachusetts Boston
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DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH
ENGLISH MAJOR UNDERGRADUATE HANDBOOK
Updated September 1, 2016

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I. WELCOME TO THE ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

Welcome to the English Department! If you have declared an English major or minor, or are considering one, please read this booklet so that you can make the most of what we have to offer.

English majors investigate the ways in which literature and writing express the human condition, shape emotional life, and expose social issues. Those with a passion for language and creative expression love the courses and community offered by the English Department at UMass Boston.

The English Department prides itself on its thought-provoking seminars, discussions, and lectures. Classes are typically small, discussion-based forums in which a variety of assignments help students to become better thinkers, writers, and speakers. English students engage in a process of intellectual exploration that encourages them to get to know their professors and work with them side-by-side.

In addition to providing access to other worlds of experience, and opportunities for self-discovery, the English Major offers valuable professional development. Hundreds of UMass Boston students choose the English Major as one of the best, and most recognized, forms of pre-professional training, as it cultivates abilities that are sought after in many careers: skills in reading, writing, language, and critical thinking; the ability to recognize underlying principles; and the ability to analyze situations and human motives. English majors commonly go on to work in teaching, publishing, advertising, or public relations, but as the professions of alumni from the English Major at UMB demonstrate, the range of career paths available to English majors is unlimited.

We encourage you to read our other booklet, *The English Major Careers Handbook*, to learn about the successful careers of alumni, to find out about new and exciting career options for English majors, and to take advantage of the individualized career advising offered by the English Department.

English courses encourage you to explore:

- **Provocative Themes**, as seen in our course *“Terrorism and the Novel”*
- **Important Literary Periods**, as seen in our course *“The Harlem Renaissance”*
- **Great Writers**, as seen in our course *“Virginia Woolf”*
- **Major Literary Forms**, as seen in our course *“The Short Novel”*
- **Exciting Literary Art**, as seen in our course *“Reading the Graphic: Texts & Images”*

English courses develop your skills in:

- **Professional Writing**, as seen in our course *“Writing for Print and Online Media”*
- **Creative Writing**, as seen in our course *“Advanced Fiction Workshop”*
- **Language Usage**, as seen in our course *“The History of the English Language”*
- **Critical Thinking**, as seen in our course *“Reading Sexualities: Queer Theory”*

Overall, the English classroom encourages students to deepen their skills in critical thinking, interpretation, and communication. English students learn to connect the word to the world—recreating the word, the world, and themselves in the process.

For questions about the English major or minor, contact the **English Undergraduate Program Director**, Professor Len von Morzé, leonard.vonmorze@umb.edu.

II. THE ENGLISH MAJOR AND MINOR

1. THE ENGLISH MAJOR: REQUIREMENTS

English Major Course Requirements

1. Students majoring in English must take **eleven** courses (33 credits) above the 100 level.
2. For all English courses above the 100 level, ENGL 101 is a prerequisite.
3. All English majors must take the following **three** 200 level foundational courses:
 - **ENGL 200: Introduction to Literary Studies**
 - **ENGL 201: Five British Authors**
 - **ENGL 202: Six American Authors**

Majors must complete at least **one** of these three courses before taking advanced-level courses, and must **complete all three in order to graduate**.

4. At least **seven** of the required courses must be at the 300/400 level. (**One** of the eleven required courses can be at the 200 level.)
 - **Pre-1660 (*) Requirement:** Majors must take at least one advanced course in which the majority of the literature studied was written before 1660.
 - **1660-1900 (**) Requirement:** Majors must take at least one advanced course in which the majority of the literature studied was written between 1660 and 1900.
 - **Transnational (TN) Requirement:** Majors must take at least one advanced course that offers a transnational, comparative, cross-cultural, or postcolonial perspective on literature. This requirement recognizes that English studies in the twentieth-century is a global phenomenon and that the English language is a medium of expression in numerous countries.

IMPORTANT: One course can fulfill multiple requirements. For example, ENGL 360: Arthurian Literature (*TN) fulfills both the pre-1660 (*) requirement and the transnational (TN) requirement.

5. **Capstone:** The capstone is undertaken after a student has completed at least 90 credits. The capstone is a chance for students to demonstrate the ability to use the knowledge, concepts, and methods acquired in the Major in an innovative project that may involve **research** in literature or language, a **portfolio** of creative work, an **internship**, or the Teacher Licensure Program **practicum**. Any of the courses listed in the **460-499 series** meet this requirement. **A student can take more than one capstone.**

Note: Students must plan their course of study in consultation with their English Department advisor. Majors with an internship approved by the English Department's internship supervisor may count their internship as a capstone experience if they enroll in either ENGL 475 or 476.

Grade Requirements:

- To count toward the English Major, courses must receive a minimum grade of C-
- Courses taken as Pass/Fail do not count toward the English Major

Residency Requirements:

- **Six** courses must be completed "in residence" at UMass Boston
- **Up to five** courses taken before matriculation at UMass Boston can be transferred toward the major: if you are a transfer student, please contact the Director of the Major for an evaluation of your previous coursework

2. THE ENGLISH MINOR: REQUIREMENTS

The Minor in English is designed for students majoring in a field other than English who would like to engage in a focused study of literature. Successful completion of the minor is recorded on the student's official university transcript.

English Minor Course Requirements

1. Students minoring in English must take a total of **six courses** (18 credits).
2. For all English courses above the 100 level, **ENGL 101** is a prerequisite.
3. **One** 200 level foundational English course from the following list:
 - a. **ENGL 200:** Introduction to Literary Studies
 - b. **ENGL 201:** Five British Authors
 - c. **ENGL 202:** Six American Authors
4. At least **four** English courses at the 300 or 400 level.
5. **One** additional English course at the 200, 300, or 400 level.

Grade Requirements:

- To count toward the English Major, courses must receive a minimum grade of C-.
- Courses taken as Pass/Fail do not count toward the English Minor. If you want a course to count toward a major requirement, it must be taken for a letter grade.

Residency Requirements:

- There is no residency requirement for the English minor. An unlimited number of college English courses from other institutions may be transferred into the minor provided that they have UMass Boston equivalents. Please contact the English Undergraduate Program Director for more information.

II. SPECIALIZED CONCENTRATIONS AND MINORS: (See Section III of this Handbook)

The English Department also offers three specialized Minors in the fields of Creative Writing, Professional & New Media Writing, and Irish Studies. Students who major in English can complete Concentrations in these areas by fulfilling the same requirements as those of the minor. The minor allows non-majors to engage in a focused study of English; a concentration allows English majors to add coherence and depth to their programs of study. Successful completion of a minor or concentration is recorded on the student's official university transcript.

4. THE ENGLISH PROGRAM: POLICIES

The English Program enforces several policies concerning the courses we offer, the structure of the English Major/Minor, and the academic behavior expected by the university.

Further questions concerning English transfer credits, the interpretation of policies, or the evaluation of transcripts for graduating English majors should be directed to the Director of the Undergraduate English Major.

English Course Prerequisites:

For all English courses above the 100 level, ENGL 101 is a prerequisite. Information is available from the Department regarding the circumstances under which students may be exempt from taking ENGL 101 or 102. You can find information about the prerequisites for specific English courses in the Undergraduate Programs Catalog and Wisner. In general, ENGL 200, 201, and 202 is a prerequisite for all 300 and 400 level English courses. A student who is strongly motivated to take a course for which he or she has not satisfied the prerequisites should contact the instructor for advice and permission.

Courses which count towards the English Major:

In addition to the English courses outlined in the Course Requirements sections of this Handbook, the following courses count towards the English Major:

- THRART 250, 251, 351 (through the Department of Theatre Arts)
- One semester of Independent Study, which must be approved by the Chair of the Department. In Section IV of this Handbook, see the "Independent Study" listing.

Courses which do NOT count toward the English Major:

- Literature in translation courses offered by the foreign language departments
- Courses taken as Pass/Fail
- Courses in which the student receives a grade below C-
- Courses below the 200 level

Transfer credit toward the English Major:

No more than **five** English courses taken elsewhere may count towards the English Major at UMass Boston. Sophomore-level courses taken elsewhere do not substitute for advanced-level major courses. English Major prerequisites may be waived or modified for transfer students who have completed equivalent or comparable courses elsewhere. To have transcripts from other institutions evaluated, transfer students should contact the Director of the Undergraduate English Major.

Cross-listed courses within the English Major:

English course numbers followed by an “L” are cross-listed with another department or program. The department/program with which a course is cross-listed is indicated by the parenthesis in the course title. For example “ENGL 350L (ASAMST 350L)” is cross-listed with the Program in Asian-American Studies. As indicated by the ENGL number, these courses are taught by faculty in the English Department and are offered as part of the English Major.

The Director of the Undergraduate English Major

The Director of the Undergraduate English Major offers guidance on the completion of the English Major. The responsibilities of the Director of the Undergraduate English Major include:

- Interpreting and processing transfer English credits
- Advising transfer students on how to get started in the English Major at UMass Boston
- Enacting English Major policies
- Directing the English Department’s Senior Honors Program (see details in Section V)
- Conducting ENGL 457, the 1-credit “Careers for English Majors” course
- Teaching ENGL 458, the 1-credit “Literature in Public Spaces” events reviewing course
- Overseeing the final evaluation of transcripts for all graduating seniors in English

Students interested in pursuing a Senior Honors thesis should read Section V of this Handbook and should contact the Director of the Undergraduate English Major for further information as early in their undergraduate career as possible.

5. THE ENGLISH MAJOR: ADVISING

Before the course registration period for each semester, a pre-registration note is sent to each English major’s UMB e-mail address. In that e-mail the English Department’s advising procedures are outlined as follows:

1. Every English major must meet with a faculty advisor prior to course registration. Before the registration period, the English Department will post the names of all English faculty advisors along with their special office hours for advising and office locations. This list will be posted on

the advising wiki: <http://english-advising.wikispaces.umb.edu/>. To find the name of your faculty advisor, please check WISER. On the wiki, locate your advisor's schedule, then sign-up for a time slot.

2. If you are unable to meet with your advisor during the pre-registration period, you should make an appointment to meet during your advisor's regular office hours. If your advisor does not have a time that works for you, please sign up on the wiki with an advisor who has an available time slot.
3. Please bring a hard copy of your audit to your advising appointment.
4. Before meeting with your advisor, you should review the current requirements for the English Major, the English Minor, and departmental Concentrations, Minors, and Programs. These requirements are listed in this Handbook and on flyers available outside the English Department Main Office.
5. You should also preview the Course Description Booklet created by the English Department for each semester's course offerings. The Course Description Booklet provides the most up-to-date descriptions and an excellent preview of courses. Course descriptions are also available outside the English Department main office and on the English Department website: https://www.umb.edu/academics/course_catalog.
6. Your advisor will remove your advising hold at the end of the meeting with her or him.
7. All students also have College of Liberal Arts professional advisors. These advisors are assigned by last name. As these professional advisors are not trained as academics, they will not be able to help with any questions relating to your academic program. However, they can help with issues related to academic probation, financial aid, and career planning. See <https://www.umb.edu/academics/cla/claadvising> to identify the name of your advisor and to learn more about this program.

Special instructions for transfer students:

When you were admitted to UMass Boston, the Admissions Office decided which of the courses you took elsewhere would count toward graduation. Only the English Department, however, can decide which of those courses count for **Major** credit.

If you think that you have transfer credits that may count toward the English Major, call the English Department (617-287-6700) to make an appointment with the Director of the Undergraduate Major. Please bring your transcript and a copy of your transfer credit evaluation to your appointment.

6. THE ENGLISH MAJOR: LIST OF ADVANCED COURSES WITH MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

Please note: Not all of these catalog courses can be offered every year, and you should not count on any particular course below being offered during your time at UMass Boston. Requirement designations (*, **, TN) are noted below. An “L” designates a course that has been cross-listed with another department. A * in parentheses refers to a course on literature before 1660; **, to literature 1660–1900; and TN, to a course on literature considered from a transnational approach. Capstones are numbered 460 to 499. Further information about these requirement designations may be found on page 3 above (see II. THE ENGLISH MAJOR AND MINOR).

1. THE ENGLISH MAJOR: REQUIREMENTS

300 Intermediate Creative Writing Workshop	356 African-American Novel
301 Advanced Poetry Workshop	357 African-American Women Writers
302 Advanced Fiction Workshop	360 Arthurian Literature (*TN)
306 Advanced Nonfiction Writing	361 Modern & Contemporary Women Poets
307 Writing for Print and Online Media	363 Modern American Poetry
308 Professional Editing	364 Post–1945 American Poetry
310 Literature and Journalism	365 British Novel and the Nineteenth Century (**)
319 English Epic Poetry (*)	366 Women & Men in Nineteenth-Century Literature (**)
320 Memoir and Autobiography (**TN)	368 Modern American Fiction
321 Biography (TN)	369 Post–1945 American Fiction
322 The Rise of the Novel (**)	370 Reading Sexualities: Queer Theory
324 Short Story	371 Adolescent in Literature
326 Stage and Page: Drama Before 1642 (*)	L372 American Women Writers and American Culture
327 Stage and Page: Drama, 1660–1900 (**)	373 Working-Class Literature
328 Stage and Page: Drama, 1900–Today (TN)	374 Literature and Society, 1760–1850 (**)
329 Narrative in Novel & Film (TN)	375 Literature of the American Civil War (**)
331 Satire (*TN)	376 Literature and the Political Imagination (TN)
332 Comedy (**TN)	377 Literature of the Americas (TN)
334 Science Fiction (TN)	379 Special Topics in English and American Literature I
335 Children’s Literature	380 Special Topics in English and American Literature II
337 Short Novel	381 Geoffrey Chaucer (*)
340 Literature and Visual Media	382 William Shakespeare’s Early Works (*)
343 Literature, Culture, and Environment	383 William Shakespeare’s Later Works (*)
345 Literature of the American South	385 John Milton (*)
348 Native American Literature	386 Virginia Woolf
L350 Asian-American Literary Voices (TN)	387 Charles Dickens (**)
351 Early African-American Literature (**)	
L352 The Harlem Renaissance	
353 Multiethnic American Literature	
354 Black Presence in American Literature	
355 African-American Poetry	

- 391 James Joyce
- 394 Transnational Readings of Two Authors (TN)
- 395 Comparative Study of Two British or Two American Authors
- 396 Jane Austen (**)
- 401 The Medieval Period (*)
- 402 The Renaissance in England (*)
- 403 The Eighteenth Century: Satire to Sensibility (**)
- 405 British Romanticism (**)
- 406 The Victorian Age (**)
- 407 Colonial American Literature (**)
- 408 American Romanticism (**)
- 409 American Realism (**)
- 410 The Modern Period (TN)
- 411 Postcolonial Literary Studies (TN)
- 412 Contemporary British Fiction and Film (TN)
- 415 Irish Literature
- 417 The Irish Short Story
- 418 The Modern Irish Novel
- 419 Recent Irish Writing
- 430 Literature of the Atlantic (**TN)
- 431 Transatlantic Romanticism (**TN)
- 437 Reading the Gothic: Transatlantic Terrors (TN)
- 438 Reading the Graphic: Texts and Images
- 440 History of the English Language (**)
- 442 Contemporary English
- 443 Language and Literature
- 446 Poetry and Poetics
- 448 Perspectives on Literacy
- 449 Contemporary Issues in the Teaching of English
- 455 Independent Study I
- 456 Independent Study II
- 457 Colloquium: Career Development for Majors (1 credit)
- 458 Colloquium: Literature in Public Spaces (1 credit)
- 459 Seminar for Tutors
- 461 Advanced Studies in Drama
- 462 Advanced Studies in Poetry
- 463 Advanced Studies in Prose
- 464 Advanced Studies in Language and Literary Theory
- 465 Advanced Studies in Literature and Society
- 466 Advanced Special Topics
- L470 New England Literature and Culture (**)
- L471 The City in American Literature and Culture
- 475 English Internship
- 476 Technical Writing Internship
- 477 English Internship II
- 480 History of the Book (**)
- 483 Origins of U.S. Literature: Declaring Independence (**TN)
- 484 Nineteenth-Century Literature and Material Culture (**)
- 488 Literatures of the Middle East
- 489 Terrorism and the Novel (TN)
- 490 The Pre-modern and Postmodern Novel (**TN)
- 496 Creative Writing Honors Seminar
- 497 Creative Writing Honors Thesis
- 498 English Honors Seminar
- 499 English Honors Thesis

University of Massachusetts Boston
**THE UNDERGRADUATE ENGLISH MAJOR
 REQUIREMENTS CHECKLIST**

for English Majors declared ON OR AFTER February 3, 2015

Minimum Number of Courses Required: 11.

All 11 courses must be taken for a LETTER GRADE of C- or better.

LOWER-LEVEL COURSE REQUIREMENT: 200-level English Foundation Courses (3 courses).

- _____ 1. English 200: Introduction to Literary Studies
 _____ 2. English 201: Five British Authors
 _____ 3. English 202 (was 206): Six American Authors

Taking 200, 201, OR 202 is a pre-requisite for enrolling in any of #4 - #9 below. (English 203 will give you access to upper-level Professional and New Media Writing courses *only*.)

UPPER-LEVEL COURSE REQUIREMENT: Take EIGHT electives, of which SEVEN must be at the upper level (300s OR 400s).

These courses will also be used to satisfy English sub-requirements by taking at least one each from following:

- * English 300/400-level featuring literature written before 1660;
- ** English 300/400-level featuring literature written between 1660 and 1900;
- TN English 300/400-level offering a transnational perspective;
- capstone Course numbered 460 or above requiring a long research paper.

Course numbers here

Circle sub-requirement (*, **, TN – you must take at least one of each. Some English courses will not meet any sub-requirement. Other courses will meet one or more one sub-requirement(s).

- | | | | | |
|-----------|--------------------------------|--|----|----|
| _____ 4. | 300/400-Level Elective: | * | ** | TN |
| _____ 5. | 300/400-Level Elective: | * | ** | TN |
| _____ 6. | 300/400-Level Elective: | * | ** | TN |
| _____ 7. | 300/400-Level Elective: | * | ** | TN |
| _____ 8. | 300/400-Level Elective: | * | ** | TN |
| _____ 9. | Capstone (460-499): | * | ** | TN |
| _____ 10. | 200, 300, <i>OR</i> 400-Level: | 200-299 courses will not count for *, **, or TN. | | |

- _____ 11. any English course 100-299 courses will not count for *, **, or TN.
except 101, 102, 180G-
189G, 457, 458

NOTES:

Capstone Courses: A student can take more than one capstone.

Residency Requirement for Transfer Students: At least six courses must be taken at UMB.

Special Opportunities: See the English Department for information on concentrations in Creative Writing, Professional and New Media Writing, Irish Studies, Senior Honors in English, and Teacher Licensure.

University of Massachusetts Boston
**THE UNDERGRADUATE ENGLISH MAJOR
 REQUIREMENTS CHECKLIST**

for English Majors declared BETWEEN August 31, 2007 and February 2, 2015

Minimum Number of Courses Required: 11.

All 11 courses must be taken for a LETTER GRADE of C- or better.

LOWER-LEVEL COURSE REQUIREMENT: 200-level English Foundation Courses (3 courses).

- _____ 1. English 200: Introduction to Literary Studies
 _____ 2. English 201: Five British Authors
 _____ 3. English 202 (was 206): Six American Authors

Taking 200, 201, OR 202 is a pre-requisite for enrolling in any of #4 - #10 below. (English 203 will give you access to upper-level Professional and New Media Writing courses *only*.)

UPPER-LEVEL COURSE REQUIREMENT: Take EIGHT electives, of which SEVEN must be at the upper level (300s OR 400s).

These courses will also be used to satisfy English sub-requirements by taking at least one each from following:

- * English 300/400-level featuring literature written before 1660;
- ** English 300/400-level featuring literature written between 1660 and 1900;
- TN English 300/400-level offering a transnational perspective;
- capstone Course numbered 460 or above requiring a long research paper.

Course numbers here

Circle sub-requirement (, **, TN – you must take at least one of each. Some English courses will not meet any sub-requirement. Other courses will meet one or more one sub-requirement(s).*

_____ 4.	300/400-Level Elective:	*	**	TN
_____ 5.	300/400-Level Elective:	*	**	TN
_____ 6.	300/400-Level Elective:	*	**	TN
_____ 7.	300/400-Level Elective:	*	**	TN
_____ 8.	300/400-Level Elective:	*	**	TN
_____ 9.	300/400-Level Elective:	*	**	TN
_____ 10.	Capstone (460-499):	*	**	TN

- _____ 11. 200, 300, or 400-Level 200-299 courses will not count for *, **, or TN.
Elective *except* 457, 458

NOTES:

If you declared within the dates above, 100-level courses will not count toward the major.

Capstone Courses: A student can take more than one capstone.

Residency Requirement for Transfer Students: At least six courses must be taken at UMB.

Special Opportunities: See the English Department for information on concentrations in Creative Writing, Professional and New Media Writing, Irish Studies, Senior Honors in English, and Teacher Licensure.

University of Massachusetts Boston
**THE UNDERGRADUATE ENGLISH MINOR
 REQUIREMENTS CHECKLIST**

All 6 courses must be taken for a LETTER GRADE of C- or better.

LOWER-LEVEL COURSE REQUIREMENT

Take any ONE of the following courses:

___ English 200: Introduction to Literary Studies

___ English 201: Five British Authors

___ English 202 (was 206): Six American Authors

Students must successfully complete ONE of the above courses before enrolling in 300- or 400-level courses. (English 203 is an optional gateway for Professional & New Media Writing courses *only*.)

UPPER-LEVEL COURSE REQUIREMENT

Take any FOUR courses numbered between 300 and 499, with the exception of the one-credit courses 457 and 458.

Elective #1: _____

Elective #2: _____

Elective #3: _____

Elective #4: _____

UNRESTRICTED ELECTIVE REQUIREMENT

Take ANY course in English, 103 or above.

Unrestricted Elective Course _____

Residency Requirement: There is NO residency requirement for transfer students. Minors who have completed English courses at other universities before coming to UMB may have them counted toward the minor, with permission of the English Undergraduate Program Director. An unlimited number of courses may be transferred into the minor.

III. ENGLISH CONCENTRATIONS, MINORS, AND PROGRAMS

1. CREATIVE WRITING

The Creative Writing Concentration/Minor is designed for students with special interest in writing poetry, fiction, creative nonfiction, or drama.

The minor in Creative Writing is designed for students majoring in a field other than English. The concentration in Creative Writing requires the same set of courses and is awarded to students who are majoring in English. All English courses in the concentration may also count toward the English Major. Successful completion of the concentration/minor is recorded on the student's official university transcript.

Course Requirements for a Concentration/Minor in Creative Writing:

1. The Creative Writing concentration/minor requires a total of **seven** courses, with at least **four** in Creative Writing.
2. TWO advanced workshops, from the following list:
 - ENGL 301: Advanced Poetry Workshop (may be taken 3 times for credit; enrollment requires permission of the instructor)
 - ENGL 302: Advanced Fiction Workshop (may be taken 3 times for credit; enrollment requires permission of the instructor)
 - ENGL 306: Advanced Nonfiction Writing
 - ENGL 496: Creative Writing Honors I (open only to seniors admitted to Honors in Creative Writing; counts as advanced workshop)
3. TWO creative writing courses from the 200-, 300-, or 400-level, from the following list:
 - ENGL 210: Intro to Creative Writing
 - ENGL 211: Creative Writing: Poetry
 - ENGL 212: Creative Writing: Fiction
 - ENGL 300: Intermediate Creative Writing Workshop
 - ENGL 301: Advanced Poetry Workshop
 - ENGL 302: Advanced Fiction Workshop
 - ENGL 303: Advanced Special Topics in Creative Writing
 - ENGL 306: Advanced Nonfiction Writing
 - ENGL 496: Creative Writing Honors I
 - ENGL 497: Creative Writing Honors II (open only to students who have completed ENGL 496)

- ThrArt 251: Playwriting I
- ThrArt 275: Intro to Screen and TV Writing
- ThrArt 351: Playwriting II

Note: ENGL 455/456: Independent Study can count for credit towards this requirement only with permission of the Director of Creative Writing. Other writing-intensive courses at the 300- or 400-level may qualify as electives, at the discretion of the Director of Creative Writing.

4. THREE courses in English, American or Transnational Literature. These three courses also fulfill English Major requirements.
 - ONE must be ENGL 200, 201, or 202
 - TWO must be 300- or 400-level ENGL courses, excluding ENGL 300–302, 306–308, 457, 459, 475–477, and 496–499

Advising from the Director of Creative Writing:

Students must plan their course of study in consultation with the Director of Creative Writing. Non-English majors pursuing a minor in Creative Writing will need assistance with negotiating English course prerequisites and planning an appropriate sequence of Creative Writing courses.

Consideration for Honors in Creative Writing:

A small number of seniors are selected each year to pursue Honors in Creative Writing. This two-semester program allows the student to create a work of poetry and/or fiction. The program connects each senior student to a faculty member thesis advisor for one-on-one mentoring.

Policies for the Creative Writing Concentration/Minor:

- Grade requirement: Courses must receive a minimum grade of C- (C minus)
- Pass/Fail restriction: Courses can NOT be taken Pass/Fail
- Residency Requirements: **six** courses must be completed in residence at UMass Boston
- **One** creative writing course can be transferred in with permission of the Director of Creative Writing

Director of the Creative Writing Concentration:

Professors Patrick Barron and Daniel Remein: Patrick.Barron@umb.edu;
Daniel.Remein@umb.edu

2. PROFESSIONAL & NEW MEDIA WRITING

Professional & New Media Writing provides a bridge between liberal arts coursework and the writing you will do in the workplace. A concentration/minor in Professional & New Media Writing entails focused coursework in writing, editing, and working across media, helping you to practice and master a wide range of communications that are vital to any career path.

Internship:

Professional & New Media Writing gives you hands-on, on-the-job experience in writing and editing. The program requires **six** courses—three “core” professional writing courses, two electives, and an internship course. For the internship, you will take English 475 (or 477) and do a **10 to 20-hour internship**; internships may include work in journalism, television and radio broadcasting, public relations, advertising, or business communication. Recent interns have worked at the *Boston Globe*, *The Improper Bostonian*, and 826 Boston.

Recognition:

The minor in Professional & New Media Writing is designed for students majoring in a field other than English. The concentration requires the same set of courses and is designed for students majoring in English. All English courses in the Professional & New Media Writing concentration may also count toward the English Major. Successful completion of the concentration/minor is recorded on the student’s official university transcript.

Admission:

Professional & New Media Writing is selective and by permission of the Director of Professional & New Media Writing. Admission requires the submission of two writing samples and the successful completion of Freshman and Sophomore level writing courses. Samples may be creative, academic, or journalistic writing. Please contact ProfWriting@umb.edu for more information on the application process.

Course Requirements for a Concentration/Minor in Professional & New Media Writing:

1. Three “core” professional writing courses.
 - ENGL 306: Advanced Nonfiction Writing*
 - ENGL 307: Journalism & Media Writing (previously Writing for the Print & Online Media)
 - ENGL 308: Professional Editing
 - ENGL 309: Multimedia Authoring

*ENGL 306 may be taken twice, each with a different instructor; the second time counts as an elective.

2. Two writing electives from the following list. Only one elective may be at the 200 level.

- ENGL 203: Writing: Craft/Context/Design
- ENGL 216: Reading & Writing Journalism
- ENGL 300: Intermediate Creative Writing Workshop
- ENGL 301: Advanced Poetry Workshop (may be taken 3 times for credit)
- ENGL 302: Advanced Fiction Workshop (may be taken 3 times for credit)
- ENGL 311: How to Write Like a Film Critic
- ENGL 312: Digital Culture & Composition
- ENGL 440: History of the English Language
- THRART 275: Introduction to Screen & Television Writing
- COMM 365: News Media & Political Power

Other writing-intensive courses at the 300 or 400 level may qualify as electives, at the discretion of the Director of Professional & New Media Writing.

3. One Professional Writing Internship and accompanying seminar.

- ENGL 475: English Internship (3 or 6 credit internships available)

4. Advising from the Director of Professional & New Media Writing.

Students must plan their course of study and internship in consultation with the Director of Professional & New Media Writing. Non-English Majors pursuing a Minor in Professional Writing will need assistance with negotiating English course prerequisites and planning an appropriate sequence of upper-level English courses.

Grade Requirements for the Professional & New Media Writing Concentration/Minor:

- Courses must receive a 'minimum' grade of C- (C minus)
- Courses can NOT be taken as pass/fail

Residency Requirements for the Professional & New Media Writing Concentration/Minor:

- Five courses must be completed "in residence" at UMass Boston
- One courses can be transferred in from another institution towards the minor with permission of the Director of the Undergraduate Major

Director of Prof. & New Media Writing: Professor Matthew Davis, matthew.davis@umb.edu

Website: www.umb.edu/profwriting

3. IRISH STUDIES

The concentration/minor in Irish Studies is designed to provide students with the opportunity to engage in the interdisciplinary study of Irish and Irish-American culture, primarily through literature and history. **Six courses** are required for completion of the concentration/minor in Irish Studies. Course offerings cover major aspects of Irish culture from ancient times to the present.

The minor in Irish Studies is designed for students majoring in a field other than English. The concentration in Irish Studies requires the same set of courses and is awarded to students who are majoring in English. All English courses in the concentration may also count toward the English Major. Successful completion of the concentration/minor is recorded on the student's official university transcript.

Course Requirements for a Concentration/Minor in Irish Studies:

1. **Six** courses may be chosen from the following list:

- AMST 405: The Immigrant Experience: Aliens and Anglo-Saxons in American Society, 1830-1930*
- ENGL 377L/AMST 377L: Irish-American Literature and Culture
- ENGL 391: James Joyce
- ENGL 392: William Butler Yeats
- ENGL 415: Irish Literature
- ENGL 417: Irish Short Story
- ENGL 418: Modern Irish Novel
- ENGL 419: Recent Irish Literature
- ENGL 461: Advanced Studies in Drama*
- ENGL 462: Advanced Studies in Poetry*
- ENGL 463: Advanced Studies in Prose
- ENGL 465: Advanced Studies in Literature and Society
- ENGL 466: Advanced Studies in Special Topics*
- ENGL 478, 479: Independent Study I and II*
- HIST C230: Nationalism in the Modern World*
- HIST 339: Irish History, 1688 to Present
- HIST 395: History of Boston*

** These courses may count towards the Minor/Concentration when approved by the Director of Irish Studies. A substantial portion of the student's work in the course must be on an Irish topic.*

2. Students must plan their course of study in consultation with the Director of Irish Studies to ensure a broad exposure to the field of Irish Studies. Non-English majors who are pursuing a Minor in Irish Studies will need assistance with negotiating English course prerequisites and planning an appropriate sequence of upper-level English courses.

Director of Irish Studies: Professor Thomas O'Grady, thomas.ogrady@umb.edu

4. UNDERGRADUATE TEACHER LICENSURE PROGRAM IN ENGLISH

This section of the Handbook explains the requirements for **Initial Licensure** in teaching. English majors who wish to teach English in middle (5-8) or secondary school (8-12) may earn an initial teacher license through the following program of study.

Licensure Requirements:

Any English major who wishes to pursue initial licensure must:

1. Complete the program course prerequisites: PSYCH 100/101 Introductory Psychology and PSYCH 242 Adolescence.
2. Declare a Secondary Education minor in the College of Education & Human Development (CEHD). Forms are available in the CEHD Office of Student Services (W-1-050).
3. Create an Educator Licensure and Recruitment (ELAR) account with the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE). Go to <https://gateway.edu.state.ma.us/elar/userregistration/RegistrationPageControl.ser>.
4. Schedule an initial meeting with the English Department licensure advisor, Alex Mueller (alex.mueller@umb.edu), in order to plan a program of study in English.

Course Requirements:

1. **Secondary Education Minor Course Requirements:** English majors pursuing initial licensure must complete the following CEHD Secondary Education minor courses:
 - EDC G 241 Introduction to Urban Education
 - EDC G 230 Inclusion
 - EDC G 406 Sociocultural Perspectives
 - EDC G 410 Technology and Education
 - EDC G 460 Curriculum Design
 - EDC G 466/467 Methods
2. **English Major Course Requirements:** English majors must complete the following additional English courses to qualify for initial licensure.
 - One language-focused course (generally offered in Fall semesters)
 - ENGL 440 History of the English Language
 - ENGL 449 Contemporary Issues in Teaching English
 - One literacy-focused course (generally offered in Spring semesters).
 - ENGL 448 Perspectives on Literacy

The English major capstone requirement may be met by student teaching (practicum) and completion of the student teaching portfolio. English major students pursuing initial licensure

must still complete the required number of English courses for the English major (student teaching does not count as an English course).

3. Licensure Program Course Requirements: Students who have completed the Secondary Education minor requirements are eligible to apply for the licensure program of study. Applications are available in the CEHD Office of Student Services (W-1-050). This program of study is composed of courses EDC G 650 RETELL and EDC G 498 Practicum (Student Teaching) that require the following field experiences:

- Pre-practicum (observation): Students must complete at least 75 supervised pre-practicum field hours in a middle or high school. Pre-practicum placements will be arranged through CEHD.
- Practicum (student teaching): The practicum consists of one semester of supervised student teaching in a classroom setting corresponding to the area of licensure (a minimum of 300 hours). It is concurrent with a practicum seminar. Practicum/student teaching placements will be arranged through CEHD. Students must successfully complete all required state examinations (see below) before student teaching (practicum).

Required examinations:

The Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) require all candidates for initial license to pass the Massachusetts Test for Educator Licensure (MTEL). The test for the Secondary/Middle school teaching licensure consists of two exams:

1. Communication and Literacy, which is the reading and writing test
2. English, which tests the candidate's specific subject matter competency

Information about upcoming MTEL administrations and registration materials are available from 1-866-565-4894 or via the MTEL website: www.mtel.nesinc.com. The MTEL Test Information Booklet is available at: http://www.mtel.nesinc.com/MA8_SG_opener.asp.

Contact Information:

- English Department Advisor: Professor Alex Mueller alex.mueller@umb.edu 617-287-6723 (W-6-3)
- CEHD Associate Director of Student Services: Kevin Ziomek Kevin.ziomek@umb.edu 617-287-7233 (W-1-51)
- CEHD Licensure Officer: Aimee D'Avignon aimee.davignon@umb.edu 617-287-7492
- Pre-Practicum Placements: Danielle Wheeler danielle.wheeler@umb.edu 617-287-7604
- Massachusetts Department of Education: 781-338-3000 www.doe.mass.edu
- MTEL: www.mtel.nesinc.com

Please check on the bulletin board outside the English Department to make sure that you have the most updated version of this flyer. DESE regulations change frequently.

IV. INTERNSHIPS AND SPECIAL COURSES

1. ENGLISH 457: CAREERS FOR ENGLISH MAJORS

This course is a 1-credit elective course for English majors that focuses on identifying objectives and developing strategies for the post-graduation job search.

Course requirements consist of the following:

Attending 2 job-search workshops and viewing the other 2 workshops online, writing a resume and cover letter, conducting a mock job interview, and producing several very short and informal writing assignments. Students who complete all assignments receive an “A” for the course. The pre-requisite is ENGL 200 or 201 or 202; generally many of the students in the workshop are seniors, but juniors and sophomores may also take the course.

The course requires four workshops. These will be scheduled in coordination with the staff presenter from Career Services and by polling the enrolled students.

Notes:

English 457 may be taken only once for credit.

Questions about this course should be directed to the Director of the English Major.

2. ENGLISH 458: LITERATURE IN PUBLIC SPACES

This course is a 1-credit elective course in the art of reviewing literary events in the community. Literary study should not end when you leave the classroom or the university. It has a thriving public life. This course offers you the opportunity to engage with the public life of literature by giving you practice and feedback in the writing of reviews. This practice is public in two senses: you will write about community events in which literary art is a central focus, and you will develop your voices in the public art of reviewing.

English 458 asks students to attend and review five literary events. The course does not meet on campus, and no attendance other than going to the events is required. The Boston area abounds in opportunities, but students who are outside the Boston area may also take the course. All enrolled students will need to check your UMB e-mail to do the work for the course.

This course invites students to experience aspects of literature and literary culture not always included in regular English courses. You will attend at least five extra-curricular events (whether on-campus or off-campus) during the semester—including film screenings, poetry readings, lectures, theater performances, reading groups, and workshops—and will write a short review about each event. One review must be e-mailed to the course instructor every three weeks.

English 458 may be taken twice for credit.

3. ENGLISH 459: SEMINAR FOR TUTORS

ENGL 459: Seminar for Tutors trains students to become composition tutors connected to English Composition courses. The course features readings, writings, and discussions on the theoretical and practical issues one encounters in working as a composition tutor. A nucleus of presentations, lecture, workshops, and readings cover the transactional and substantive aspects of teaching writing, particularly remediation. All elements of the course combine to provide an intellectual framework for reflection, articulation, and synthesis of what is learned in the work experience of a tutor.

Students are accepted into the seminar with the permission of the instructor based on writing samples, faculty recommendations, and interviews.

4. ENGL 455 and ENGL 456: INDEPENDENT STUDY

Independent Study courses offer students the opportunity to work with a supervising instructor in designing and pursuing a course of study that is not ordinarily available in the standard course offerings. In many cases, the Independent Study's focus will extend work undertaken in a prior course. The focus may relate to the student's pursuit of a concentration within the English Major.

An Independent Study course must be approved by the Director of the Undergraduate English Major (or, for a creative writing project, the Director of Creative Writing). The student must submit a written prospectus for the course, signed by the supervising instructor, no later than the first week of classes. Students may register for one to three credits of Independent Study in a given semester, and may apply a total of up to three Independent Study credits toward the English Major. A copy of the final project for the course must be submitted to the English Department for its files.

Note: Faculty members are not required to direct an Independent Study course. Acceptance of an Independent Study proposal depends on the student's ability to find an instructor willing to direct the project.

5. ENGLISH 475: ENGLISH INTERNSHIP

ENGL 475: English Internship is a tutorial course for students with approved internships that involve substantial writing in professional settings. Students may intern in journalism, television and radio broadcasting, public relations, advertising, publishing, or various scientific fields, including biomedical research and computer technology. Interns meet every other week with a faculty internship director to discuss the writing they have produced during their internship. The writing instruction features a break-down of the steps involved in researching and composing, the time spent, the extent of the intern's contribution, and an analysis of what was learned in the process. Course requirements typically include a journal, readings, an end-of-

term portfolio, a summary essay, and may include an oral presentation to a class or student group.

Students receive **three hours' credit** for a minimum of ten hours on site and 25 pages of writing. Occasionally, more than three hours' credit is approved for greater time and writing.

ENGL 475 satisfies the English Major capstone and the Professional & New Media Writing Concentration/Minor requirements. Students may apply to enroll in ENGL 475 if they meet these requirements:

- Completed a minimum of 60 credits towards graduation with a GPA of 3.0 or higher
- Received a grade of B or higher in at least one 200 level English course
- Demonstrates an above average proficiency in writing

Both English majors and non-majors are eligible. Enrollment in ENGL 475 is subject to the approval of the Director of Professional & New Media Writing.

V. SENIOR HONORS PROGRAMS

1. SENIOR HONORS PROGRAM IN ENGLISH

The Senior Honors in English is a two-semester program for senior English majors with an outstanding academic record—minimally, a cumulative GPA of 3.5 in the major. (Juniors planning to graduate in December of the following academic year may also be eligible.) Participation in the program, which is usually limited to fewer than a dozen students, is determined by a selection committee chaired by the Director of the Undergraduate English Major.

Applications to the program are invited during the Spring and Fall pre-registration period. The application includes a paragraph from the applicant describing, in as much detail as possible, a probable research topic.

Applicants to the program will be notified of their status by letter during the early summer prior to their Senior year. Those accepted into the program will enroll in ENGL 498: Honors Seminar for the Fall semester. In consultation with the English Honors Program Director, each student will select a faculty advisor for a year-long research and writing project—generally a 25-40 page thesis engaging with a literary, cultural, or pedagogical issue. During the Fall semester, students will undertake in the Honors Seminar primary research toward the thesis; this research will result in a formal prospectus, an annotated bibliography, and a preliminary draft of the thesis. Successful completion of the requirements of the Honors Seminar entitles the student to enroll in the second semester of Honors work. (Only the first semester of Honors work [3 credits] may be counted toward the 11 required courses for the English Major.)

During the Spring semester, Honors students work under the direct supervision of their project advisor. **The completed thesis is due in early April or early November.** The student will receive degree credit for the entire year's work, but Honors in English will be awarded only to those students who have written a paper of highest distinction as judged by a panel of faculty readers. Students awarded Honors will be recognized by the College of Arts and Sciences at its Honors Convocation in late May/early June.

2. SENIOR HONORS PROGRAM IN CREATIVE WRITING

The Senior Honors Program in Creative Writing is a two-semester program for a small number of Seniors with strong academic records and a promising portfolio of prior work in Creative Writing. Participation in the program is determined by a selection committee chaired by the Director of the Creative Writing Program. **Applications to the program are invited during the spring pre-registration period.**

Requirements for admission:

- Overall 3.0 GPA
- GPA of 3.75 in Creative Writing classes
- Completion of at least two courses in Creative Writing
- Recommendation by a Creative Writing instructor
- Application and sample of creative writing work

Students selected for the program will enroll as special honors students within one of the Advanced Creative Writing Workshops (either English 301 or English 302); the official course number for Creative Writing Honors I is ENGL 496. Students are also expected to meet periodically as a group outside of their workshops as part of a special Honors tutorial led by an MFA student. (Only the first semester of Honors work [3 credits] may be counted toward the 11 required courses for the English Major.) Successful completion of English 496 entitles the student to enroll in ENGL 497 in the second semester and to work with a personal faculty advisor to complete an Honors thesis. An Honors thesis may take the form of a collection of poems, a collection of short stories or of short plays, a full-length play, or a novel excerpt.

The completed thesis (ordinarily 25-35 pages of writing) is due in early April. The student will receive degree credit for the entire year's work, but Honors in Creative Writing will be awarded only to those students who produce writing of highest distinction as judged by a panel of faculty readers. Students awarded Honors will be recognized by the College of Arts and Sciences at its Honors Convocation in late May/early June.

VI. ANNUAL ENGLISH PRIZES AND SCHOLARSHIPS

A wide range of prizes and scholarships are available only to English majors. Nearly all of these awards is given out every year.

1. PRIZES AWARDED TO GRADUATING MAJORS AND MINORS (AWARDED EVERY YEAR)

DEPARTMENTAL BOOK PRIZES

The Director of the Undergraduate English Major, in consultation with the English Department's Prize Committee, awards Book Prizes to graduating seniors whose performance in a variety of courses in the English Major has been consistently outstanding.

ALFRED FERGUSON PRIZE

The Alfred R. Ferguson Prize is awarded to the junior or senior English major for outstanding work in American literature. Nominations are made by English faculty, and include a summary of the student's course work in this field together with one (or more) papers of at least 10 pages.

JAMES WILLIAM FAY PRIZE

A \$500 prize for the best capstone essay in English and Anglophone literature. Essays must have been written in the current semester, or during either of the two preceding semesters, and should demonstrate an integration of intellectual engagement and scholarly research mobilized around a deepened understanding of the creative spirit. The prize is for students who apply to graduate in the spring of the current year for capstone essays written in the current or two preceding semesters.

FRANCIS RUSSELL HART PRIZE

A \$500 prize to a graduating English major who has combined outstanding work in English studies with a record of mentoring other students. Nominating letters by at least two faculty members are required.

MARCIA KEACH PRIZE FOR POETRY

The Marcia Keach Prize recognizes excellence in poetry writing. Students, typically graduating seniors in Creative Writing, are nominated by the creative writing faculty.

CHET FREDERIC PRIZE FOR FICTION

The Chet Frederick recognizes excellence in fiction writing. Students, typically graduating seniors in creative writing, are nominated by the creative writing faculty.

ACADEMY OF AMERICAN POETS PRIZE

The Academy of American Poets Prize is open to all undergraduate and graduate students. Students submit up to three typed pages of poems for consideration. The submission deadline is typically in March. Please contact the director of creative writing for more information.

2. CREATIVE WRITING SCHOLARSHIPS (AWARDED EVERY YEAR)

MARY DOYLE CURRAN SCHOLARSHIP

The Mary Doyle Curran Scholarship is open to all undergraduate and graduate students enrolled at least half time who are interested in creative writing and are in need of financial

assistance. The submission deadline is typically in December. Please contact the director of creative writing for more information.

BRIAN RATTIGAN SCHOLARSHIP

The Brian Rattigan Scholarship is open to all undergraduate and graduate students enrolled at least half time who have demonstrated creative achievement. The submission deadline is typically in December. Please contact the director of creative writing for more information.

3. PRIZES AWARDED FOR STUDY ABROAD (AWARDED EVERY OTHER YEAR)**PETER BROOKS BUTLER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

Through the generosity of Mrs. E. Mauran Beals and Mrs. Jane B. Butler, the English Department has established the Peter Brooks Butler Memorial Scholarship. Awarded every other year, the scholarship provides funds for one student to attend summer school at Oxford University. The next competition year will be 2018.

Selection is based on the following criteria:

- Recipient must be a full-time student at UMass Boston
- Recipient must be an English major in their Sophomore or Junior year
- Recipient must show promising talent in Creative Writing and/or Renaissance literature

Applicants for the scholarship must submit the following materials:

- The most up-to-date, unofficial transcript, with current courses added
- A Personal Statement of interests and goals relating to a summer in Oxford
- Three letters of recommendation, at least two of which must be from faculty
- Writing sample (minimum of 12 pages, maximum of 20) representing outstanding work in critical writing, preferably focusing on the Renaissance, or a brief statement about a personal interest in the Renaissance field.

VII. EXTRACURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES

1. SIGMA TAU DELTA HONORS SOCIETY

The English Department houses Sigma Tau Delta, chapter Alpha Nu, sponsored by the International Honors Society for English Majors. Open to undergraduate and graduate English majors, Sigma Tau Delta confers distinction for high achievement in English language and literature. Members have special opportunities for publication, internships, conference presentations, and other venues to foster interest in literature across campus. Sigma Tau Delta also hosts a variety of creative, intellectual, and charitable activities, such as open-mic poetry nights, film screenings, student/faculty symposia, "where are they now?" alumni events, bake and book sales, and food/toy drives around the holidays.

Sigma Tau Delta is officially recognized by the Student Activities Office and the Graduate Student Assembly. The Chapter has a president, vice-president, treasurer, secretary, and webmaster.

For more information on the society and how to apply, go to www.english.org/sigmatd

Sigma Tau Delta Faculty Advisor: Prof. Hugh Charles O'Connell, hugh.oconnell@umb.edu

2. LITERARY THEORY READING GROUP

The Literary Theory Reading Group hosts a roundtable discussion meant to encourage students to explore wider intellectual debates and theoretical issues within literary studies. Made up of undergraduate and graduate students and attended by faculty members, the group meets several times each semester. All are welcome and encouraged to contribute to the discussions.

Each year, the group takes on a new overarching theme around which readings are selected and discussed. For example, during a recent academic year, the Literary Theory Group asked "Whither the Human?", a question organized around readings that investigated the re-centering of subjectivity into non-human entities, like machines, "things," and animals. Additional topics have included the relationship between politics and literature, literary utopias, and rogue voting machines. But no matter the topic, the mission statement remains the same: "The Literary Theory Reading Group: fighting fascism, one close-reading at a time."

3. MEDIEVAL READING GROUP

For the mediievally-inclined or the mediievally-curious! Led by our medievalist faculty, this student group meets on a monthly basis to talk about medieval literature and culture. Recent topics include "The Heart of Beowulf" and "Speaking Animals."

4. WRITER'S COMMUNITY

This student-led group organizes weekly meetings held in the English Department Commons. Students come together to discuss all forms of writing and to support each other as they improve their creative and analytical writing skills.

5. WRITING FOR STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

The Watermark

The Watermark has been publishing the art work and writing of students at UMass Boston for twelve years. Entirely student run, *The Watermark* offers students a chance to see their work art in print, and a chance to gain knowledge in the publication field. Students may volunteer as editors or readers, as well as submit work for publication.

Email ~ thewatermarkjournal@gmail.com

The Mass Media

The Mass Media is an entirely UMB student-run newspaper that features interesting discussions, debates, people, and events on campus. Opportunities in reporting, editing, layout and design, photography, and graphics are available for interested students. Paid positions may be available for students with prior, applicable experience.

Website ~ www.umassmedia.com

LUX

LUX is the student-managed magazine published by UMass Boston's University Honors Program. The magazine's title is the Latin word for "light" or "luminescence." True to its name, *LUX* provides readers with thought-provoking articles on complex and contemporary issues. It features student artists and activists whose work exemplifies innovative links between the theoretical and the practical. Also included are interviews of faculty from all disciplines whose scholarship and research engage urgent questions of the global community and enrich the intellectual life of the campus. Though the chief editors of *LUX* are typically members of the Honors Program, the contributors are students from the wider campus community. *LUX* is always on the lookout for enthusiastic writers, photographers, and graphic designers. The magazine is published twice a year.

Website ~ www.honors.umb.edu

VIII. AFFILIATED DEPARTMENTS, PROGRAMS, AND CENTERS

1. UNIVERSITY HONORS PROGRAM

The University Honors Program meets the needs of students who thrive on intellectual challenge by offering special interdisciplinary academic opportunities outside the English Major. Honors students are curious, ambitious, reflective, and independent-minded.

The University Honors Program offers enriched courses that venture deeply into theory and its application. Honors students are encouraged to work at increasingly rigorous levels of performance, and to apply their knowledge outside of the classroom. Academic advising is a high priority, and the Program seeks to connect its students to opportunities for scholarships, internships, and service activities. Honors students share a common study area, meet guest experts, and participate in special events hosted by the Honors Program every semester.

Outstanding performance is acknowledged through award of the Robert H. Spaethling Prize. Seniors who have completed the Honors Program are recognized at their College's Honors Convocation, and the designation "Honors Program Scholar" is affixed to final transcripts.

Website www.umb.edu/academics/honors

2. AFRICANA STUDIES

Africana Studies documents and disseminates a specialized body of knowledge about Africa, the West Indies, and the United States. They focus on the experiences of the African diaspora – the global dispersion of peoples of African descent – its literature, culture, society, and contributions worldwide. Students are prepared for careers relevant to the development of the African world community and to the rectification of world-wide social ills created by racism.

Website www.umb.edu/academics/cla/africana

3. AMERICAN STUDIES

American Studies invites students to explore the rich diversity of the United States, its peoples and cultures. Students develop the kinds of broad historic and intercultural perspectives that help them understand their own experiences, as well as those of Americans past and present. American Studies investigates literature, history, music, and film; as well as belief systems and institutions, like religion, family, politics and government. This interdisciplinary program prepares students for careers in teaching, law, government, communication, and business.

Website www.umb.edu/academics/cla/american

4. ASIAN-AMERICAN STUDIES

Asian-American Studies offers culturally-responsive instruction in the classroom with holistic practices of mentoring, community-building, service-learning, and advocacy. This program addresses the social and academic needs of students, as well as the critical needs of local Asian-American communities. Featured in the *Chronicle of Higher Education* and highlighted by the Association of American Colleges & Universities as a national model, the program offers more Asian-American Studies courses, faculty, and community linkages than any other university in New England. Alumni of the program include teachers, social workers, health care providers, business entrepreneurs, and leaders of local Asian-American community organizations.

Website www.umb.edu/asamst

5. COMMUNICATION STUDIES

Communication Studies is an interdisciplinary field that emphasizes the contexts and techniques of communication. The Communication Studies Program offers a Minor in Communication Studies. The sequence of six courses required for this minor is outlined in the Undergraduate Programs Catalog.

Website <https://www.umb.edu/academics/cla/communication>

6. WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES

Women's and Gender Studies is an interdisciplinary field that critically examines the role of women and gender in societies around the world. Students analyze the history and perspectives of women of different cultures and nationalities, and investigate women's artistic, intellectual, and political accomplishments.

This program is inspired by feminist movements for social justice locally, nationally and globally. Students are provided with the tools to analyze and articulate relationships among systems of structural inequality, including those based on sex/gender, race/ethnicity, class, sexuality, religion and nation. The program aims to stimulate students' personal and intellectual growth, political engagement, and social action. Women's and Gender Studies also works to facilitate intellectual, curricular, and programmatic exchanges and innovations on campus and beyond.

Website www.umb.edu/academics/cla/women

7. CENTER ON MEDIA AND SOCIETY

The Center on Media and Society at the University of Massachusetts Boston was created in 2004 as a resource for the University, the community, and the professional worlds of journalism and politics. As part of the McCormack Graduate School of Policy Studies, the Center complements and enhances academic courses and research. It also serves an important role in the University's public mission, contributing to the diverse communities from which its students come, the greater New England area, and to the practice of journalism around the world. The Center supports the highest standards of professional and academic practice, and encourages engagement in civic life.

Website <https://www.umb.edu/cms>

8. CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF HUMANITIES, CULTURE, AND SOCIETY

The Research Center for Urban Cultural History (RCUCH) focuses on the multi-disciplinary study of cities as dynamic sites where cultures are generated, renegotiated, and transmitted. The Center's educational, scholarly, and outreach activities are directed toward achieving a flexible, comprehensive, and innovative approach to urban cultural history in a global context.

Located in a city richly endowed with intellectual resources and housed in a university with an exceptionally diverse student body, RCUCH is able to initiate and facilitate scholarly and teaching projects that explore the connections between cities in the U.S. and around the world, encompassing both contemporary and historical topics. The Center's principal focus is on interdisciplinary and collaborative research and teaching in urban cultural history. This field focuses on the specificity of the urban setting and its environs; spatial definition; demographic and economic shifts; temporal change; cultural exchange and transformation; and discursive networks created by the production of meaning between groups and populations.

Website www.umb.edu/chcs

9. WILLIAM MONROE TROTTER INSTITUTE

The William Monroe Trotter Institute was founded at UMass Boston in 1984 to address the needs and concerns of the Black community and communities of color in Boston and Massachusetts through research, technical assistance, and public service. Many forms of technical assistance are provided to community groups, organizations, and public agencies. The Institute sponsors public forums as a means of disseminating research and involving the community in the discussion of public policy and other issues impacting Blacks locally and nationally.

The Institute publishes the *Trotter Review*, a journal of articles addressing current Black studies, race, and race relations in the United States and abroad. The Institute also publishes research reports and occasional papers on a broad range of topics in the areas of education, employment and training, public health, economic and community development, as well as race relations.

Research and other Institute activities are facilitated by research and faculty associates. The Trotter Institute has conducted research for foundations across the nation, and also works with international organizations.

Website www.trotter.umb.edu

10. THE WILLIAM JOINER CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF WAR AND SOCIAL CONSEQUENCES

The William Joiner Center is named after William (Bill) Joiner, an African American veteran who served as the University's first-ever Director of Veterans Affairs, until his untimely death from liver cancer associated with his exposure to Agent Orange while serving in the military. The Center promotes research, curriculum development, public events, and educational, cultural, and humanitarian exchanges which foster greater understanding and innovative means of addressing the consequences of war. In response to 21st century unrest, the Center has begun to focus on the consequences of the Global War on Terrorism, particularly as manifested in the conflict in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Website www.joinercenter.umb.edu/home