The Department of English and Journalism offers three post-baccalaureate certificates:

1. Literary Studies
2. Professional Writing
3. Teaching Writing

All combine current theoretical perspectives and up-to-date knowledge with practical applications, innovative pedagogical formats, and individualized experiences. The certificates facilitate both professional and personal growth in particular specializations of English studies.

Career Opportunities

Post-baccalaureate certificates in Literary Studies or Teaching Writing can enhance the qualifications of high school teachers and professionals seeking adjunct teaching positions in community colleges. Secondary school teachers in Illinois or Iowa may also earn credits toward salary increases awarded for graduate study. The certificate in Professional Writing is designed to help those working in, or pursuing careers in, a variety of fields requiring strong writing skills such as computer web design, desktop publishing, and technical writing. The certificate in English also offers options for students enrolled in the Master of Liberal Arts and Sciences program in which certificates can meet an elective requirement. For Gainful Employment Disclosure, visit wiu.edu/grad/gainfulemployment.

Distinctive Features

Students will work with a faculty supervisor to complete a 3 semester hour (sh) internship in the student’s field of choice or a 3-sh capstone project tailored to the student’s particular interests and goals. Courses may be counted toward a certificate and a Master of Arts in English. Students who wish to earn a certificate and MA simultaneously must notify their faculty mentor or the Director of Graduate Studies in English so they can receive proper advising.

Admission Requirements

An applicant for admission to post-baccalaureate certificate programs must hold a bachelor’s degree from an institution that is accredited by the appropriate U.S. Department of Education regional institutional accrediting agency. Application forms for admission are available from the School of Graduate Studies or online at wiu.edu/grad. Applicants must request the registrar of the college or university granting their highest degree to send a statement of degree or official transcript showing the degree and date it was conferred. Verification of the degree must be sent by the registrar directly to the School of Graduate Studies. Transcripts on file in the Office of the Registrar at WIU will be obtained by Graduate Office personnel.

Certificate Requirements

To earn a certificate in English, students must be admitted into the School of Graduate Studies and have a cumulative 3.0 GPA for all coursework required for completion of the certificate. **Transfer work or course substitutions are not allowed in certificate programs.** For more information on admission, academic, and completion requirements, please see the School of Graduate Studies website: wiu.edu/graduate_studies/catalog/post_bacc_certificates/index.php.
“I found the English courses challenging and accommodating, especially for students who seek degrees while working full time and managing households. The caliber of course design, seminar style of teaching, and diverse expertise of the professors provided a well-rounded experience. The certificate program has opened doors for me as a researcher, instructor, and writer.”

– Nan Norcross, post-baccalaureate certificate recipient
(emphasis teaching writing), Fall 2011

WIU.EDU/ENGLISH

English: Professional Writing
I. Core Courses (3 sh)
• ENG 622, Internship (3) -or-
• ENG 657, Professional Writing Certificate Capstone (3)
II. Electives (9 sh)
• ENG 480G, Writing for the Social Web (3)
• ENG 481G, Topics in Writing Studies (3)
• ENG 489G, Grant & Proposal Writing (3)
• ENG 570, History of Writing Studies (3)
• ENG 574, New Media Studies (3)
• ENG 582, Rhetoric and Composition (3)
• ENG 584, Research Methods in Writing Studies (3)
• ENG 589, Issues in Writing Studies (3)
TOTAL = 12 sh

English: Teaching Writing
I. Core Courses (3 sh)
• ENG 622, Internship (3) -or-
• ENG 658, Teaching Writing Certificate Capstone (3)
II. Electives (9 sh)
• ENG 480G, Writing for the Social Web (3)
• ENG 481G, Topics in Writing Studies (3)
• ENG 484G, Writing Center Studies (3)
• ENG 552, Pedagogical Issues in English Studies (3)
• ENG 570, History of Writing Studies (3)
• ENG 574, New Media Studies (3)
• ENG 580, Teaching Assistant Colloquium (3)
• ENG 582, Rhetoric and Composition (3)
• ENG 584, Research Methods in Writing Studies (3)
• ENG 589, Issues in Writing Studies (3)
TOTAL = 12 sh

Contact Information
For admissions process and general program information, contact the School of Graduate Studies, Western Illinois University, 1 University Circle, Macomb, IL 61455, (309) 298-1806, (877) WIU GRAD toll-free, Grad-Office@wiu.edu, wiu.edu/grad.

For specific program questions, contact Christopher Morrow, Associate Professor, Director of Graduate Studies in English, Department of English and Journalism, Western Illinois University, 1 University Circle, Macomb, IL 61455, (309) 298-1322, CL-Morrow@wiu.edu, wiu.edu/english.

Each emphasis area in the English post-baccalaureate certificate requires 9 sh of electives and a 3-sh capstone or internship as follows:

English: Literary Studies
I. Core Courses (3 sh)
• ENG 622, Internship (3) -or-
• ENG 653, Literary Studies Certificate Capstone (3)
II. Electives (9 sh)
• ENG 400G, Topics in Literature (1-3, repeatable for different topics)
• ENG 401G, Major Authors (1-3, repeatable for different topics)
• ENG 494G, Women and Film (3)
• ENG 530, Forms (3)
• ENG 532, Literature and Place (3)
• ENG 536, Critical and Theoretical Movements in Literary Studies (3)
• ENG 540, Literary Traditions and Influences (3)
• ENG 549, Issues in Literary Studies (3)
• ENG 550, Film Theory (3)
• ENG 554, Research Methods in Literary Studies (3)
• ENG 559, Issues in Disciplinary Studies (3)
TOTAL = 12 sh

English: Professional Writing
I. Core Courses (3 sh)
• ENG 622, Internship (3) -or-
• ENG 657, Professional Writing Certificate Capstone (3)
II. Electives (9 sh)
• ENG 480G, Writing for the Social Web (3)
• ENG 481G, Topics in Writing Studies (3)
• ENG 489G, Grant & Proposal Writing (3)
• ENG 570, History of Writing Studies (3)
• ENG 574, New Media Studies (3)
• ENG 582, Rhetoric and Composition (3)
• ENG 584, Research Methods in Writing Studies (3)
• ENG 589, Issues in Writing Studies (3)
TOTAL = 12 sh

English: Teaching Writing
I. Core Courses (3 sh)
• ENG 622, Internship (3) -or-
• ENG 658, Teaching Writing Certificate Capstone (3)
II. Electives (9 sh)
• ENG 480G, Writing for the Social Web (3)
• ENG 481G, Topics in Writing Studies (3)
• ENG 484G, Writing Center Studies (3)
• ENG 552, Pedagogical Issues in English Studies (3)
• ENG 570, History of Writing Studies (3)
• ENG 574, New Media Studies (3)
• ENG 580, Teaching Assistant Colloquium (3)
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