ENGLISH AND COMPARATIVE LITERATURE WORKSHEET

For majors and minors declaring in 2026 and after

Name:_____ **UNI:**_____

CC____ GS____ SEAS____ **Major:**_____ **Minor:**_____

	Course Number	Title	Instructor	Semester taken	Codes (see below)
1.	ENGL 2000/2001	Approaches to Literary Study			n/a
2.					
3.					
4.					
5.					
6.					
7.					
8.					
9.					
10.					

DISTRIBUTION CODES (note that these *must* be fulfilled with ENGL/CLEN courses)

CHRONOLOGY		**GENRE**		**GEOGRAPHY and CULTURE**	
A1: Pre-1700 (1)		**B:** Poetry		**E:** Ethnicity/Race	
A1: Pre-1700 (2)		**C:** Prose		**F:** British/Irish	
A2: 1700-1900		**D:** Drama/Film/New Media		**G:** American	
A3: 1900-present				**H:** Global/Comparative	

CAPSTONE REQUIREMENT (K) (for majors only):

Option 1: Senior Essay _____

Option 2: 4000-level seminar (indicate which) _____

The English major consists of **TEN COURSES.** See the "Options and Restrictions" section below for what can and cannot count towards the major and what can and cannot fulfill distribution requirements.

- **REQUIRED COURSE: APPROACHES TO LITERARY STUDY (ENGL UN2000/2001)**

  This introductory course (a weekly lecture with a companion seminar) is the **only required** course for English majors. Though listed on transcripts as two courses, ENGL UN2000 and ENGL W2001 form a unit and **count as one 4-point course.**

- **DISTRIBUTION REQUIREMENTS:**

  Majors must fulfill the distribution requirements listed below with courses adhering to the rules outlined in the Options and Restrictions section below. **One course can fulfill multiple distribution requirements**, but that does not reduce the total number of required courses:

  Chronological distribution requirements:

  - **Two** courses dealing with literature pre-1700 (A1); only one of these two courses can focus on Shakespeare
  - One course on literature from 1700-1900 (A2)
  - One course on literature from 1900 to the present (A3)

  Genre distribution requirements:

  - One course focusing on poetry (B)
  - One course focusing on prose (C)
  - One course focusing on drama/film/new media (D)

  Geography and culture distribution requirements:

  - One course focused on ethnicity and race (E)
  - One course on British or Irish literature (F)
  - One course on American literature (G)
  - One course on Global/Comparative literature (H); must be **ENGL** or **CLEN**

  Capstone requirement (K):

  English majors must complete a capstone experience, either by writing a senior essay, or by taking any **4000-level seminar** offered by the English department, at any point in their studies. Students may, if they wish, write a senior essay *and* take multiple 4000-level seminars.

OPTIONS & RESTRICTIONS:

BARNARD ENGLISH COURSES: Columbia English majors may automatically count **two** Barnard English courses toward the major and towards the fulfillment of distribution requirements. Contact the DUS to determine exactly which distribution requirements a Barnard course fulfills and to request approval to count additional Barnard coursework towards your major.

CORE COURSES, such as University Writing and Lit Hum, **cannot count** toward the major.

GRADES: No courses with a grade of D or F will receive credit toward the major. **Only one** course taken with a grade of P can count toward the major and fulfill distribution requirements.

NON-ENGLISH COURSES: Up to **two** courses taken outside an English department that cover material related to literary or cultural studies can count toward the major. For example, creative writing workshops, courses on film, or literary and cultural studies courses offered in departments such as German, CSER, ISSG, or EALAC can count as one of the ten courses required for the English major. **However, these two "outside" courses cannot be used to fulfill distribution requirements**. Language proficiency courses cannot be counted towards the English major. Please contact the DUS with questions about specific courses.

SENIOR ESSAY: The Senior Essay is one option for completing the "capstone" requirement for the major. It is a work of advanced critical writing of ~8000-10,000 words, submitted in April of the senior year as part of consideration for departmental honors and prizes.

Majors who wish to write a Senior Essay can sign up for ENGL UN3795, "Senior Essay Research Methods," in the fall of their senior year, and then continue to receive guidance by taking ENGL UN3999 in the spring. Only ENGL UN3795 counts as one of the ten courses needed for the major, and neither course satisfies any distribution requirements.

STUDY ABROAD COURSES: Courses taken during study abroad can count towards the major and can fulfill distribution requirements if they appear on your Columbia transcript. The DUS must review the syllabi or reading lists for these courses to determine whether they count towards the major and which distribution requirements they fulfill, if any.

SUMMER COURSES: Up to **two** summer courses can count toward the major and can be used to fulfill distribution requirements.

TRANSFER CREDIT: Up to **three** courses taken outside Columbia but officially credited on your Columbia transcript can count toward the major and can fulfill distribution requirements. However, the DUS must approve all non-Columbia courses for major credit, and must review the syllabi or reading lists for these course in order to determine which distribution requirements they fulfill, if any.

DUAL-DEGREE PROGRAMS: Students from dual-degree programs are encouraged to consult with the DUS as soon as possible, since their major requirements differ from those listed below.

ADVISING

The Director of Undergraduate Studies (DUS) and the Committee for Undergraduate Education (CUE) are the department's dedicated academic advisors for all majors and concentrators. Make sure to stay in touch with the DUS, or any other member of CUE, as you move through the program. DUS and CUE office hours are posted on the department website, and you should feel free to drop in at any time with any questions or concerns.

CERTIFICATION

The department will certify you for graduation in your final semester. We recommend that at the end of your junior year you submit a completed worksheet to the DUS, who will advise you which requirements you have completed and which you need to fulfill.

At the beginning of the semester in which you plan to graduate, it is essential that you submit your completed worksheet to the DUS, who will use it to determine whether you have completed your major and can graduate.

STAYING INFORMED

Majors, minors, and anyone interested in the English department who wants to be added to the department listserv should write to enclundergraduatecoordinator@columbia.edu. The listserv is the primary source of departmental information and is used to send announcements about courses, registration, special events, fellowships, internships, etc.

MINOR REQUIREMENTS

Minors must take a total of **FIVE COURSES** in the English department**.**

One of the five courses must be **APPROACHES TO LITERARY STUDY (ENGL UN2000/2001)**. This introductory course (a weekly lecture with a companion seminar) is the only **required** course for English minors. Though listed on transcripts as 2 courses, ENGL UN2000 and ENGL W2001 form a unit and **count as one 4-point course.**