

**Department of English  
Eastern Illinois University****Proposal to Create a Minor in English Language Arts****Proposal**

The proposed program change is to offer an additional departmental minor in English Language Arts. This proposed minor would draw key elements from the English Language Arts major but would allow for additional course work specifically tailored to fit the needs of teacher certification candidates from outside the department, as well as the requirements set forth by the Illinois State Board of Education. This minor is designed specifically for those teacher candidates who wish to add an endorsement to another Secondary or Type-10 (K-12) Certificate.

**Rationale**

Effective February 1, 2012, teacher certification candidates who would like to receive an additional secondary endorsement on their teaching certificate must complete a minimum of 24 semester hours in the subject-area (with at least 12 of these semester hours being at the upper division level). They must also successfully pass the state content area test in the additional field they wish to be certified in.

In the present economic climate, teaching posts are not overly abundant and the state currently has a surplus of teachers entering the field. It is becoming increasingly important for teacher candidates to become certified in more than one area to increase their marketability. Since Language Arts remains one of the few subject areas that are taught at every grade level, English remains a very attractive second area of concentration for students in other fields (math, social studies, foreign language, etc.). As Eastern Illinois University remains heavily invested in teacher education, the English department might be able to capitalize on this fact and present this new minor to teacher certification students in other departments as a very smart, teachable minor to take on.

A precedent exists for minors such as this one among competing universities and within our college as well. For example, Illinois State University currently has a minor in English Education that is quite similar to the one proposed here. Also, other departments on campus (e.g. Foreign Language) offer minors in teacher certification. This proposed minor has been designed in a way that capitalizes on the strengths of more structured teacher certification minors (such as the one in place at ISU), while allowing for the flexibility available in other models (such as the one in place in the Foreign Language department).

The course requirements for this proposed minor consist of 24 credit hours, six more than the existing English minor. The proposed English Education minor would be comprised of 3 credits of Advanced Writing, 12 credits of Literary Studies, 3 credits of English Pedagogy, and would allow for 6 additional credit hours devoted to English electives. This literature-centered minor would complement the existing English minor and the two writing-centered minors.

Beyond fulfilling a current need in the student population, this proposed minor would also be an ideal recruiting tool. We would expect to see a steady increase in minors over the next few years contributing to the overall growth of our department.

## Proposed English Language Arts Minor

**Total Hours: 24**

Completion of a teacher certification minor does not guarantee that the individual will be granted an endorsement to teach in that field. Individuals must meet all requirements (including state tests) as set forth by the Illinois State Board of Education to be granted an endorsement in a second teaching field. NOTE: Additional subject specific secondary endorsements can only be added to a Secondary Certificate or Type 10 (K-12) Certificate. Subject-specific secondary endorsements cannot be added to the Early Childhood, Elementary or Middle Level Certificates.

- ENG 2205 - Introduction to Literary Studies. Credits: 3

**One course (3 credits total) chosen from the following:**

- Any 4000-level course in creative writing (note prerequisites). Credits: 3
- ENG 2760 – Introduction to Professional Writing. Credits: 3
- ENG 3001 – Advanced Composition. Credits: 3
- ENG 3002 – Research Writing for Literary Studies. Credits: 3
- ENG 3005 – Technical Communication. Credits: 3

**One course (3 credits total) chosen from the following:**

- ENG 2705 – African-American Literature. Credits: 3
- ENG 2850 – Postcolonial Literatures in English. Credits: 3
- ENG 3705 – American Multicultural Literature. Credits: 3
- ENG 3907 – Asian Literatures. Credits: 3
- ENG 4750 – Studies in African-American Literature. Credits: 3
- ENG 4850 – Studies in Third World Literatures. Credits: 3

**One course (3 credits total) chosen from the following:**

- ENG 3406 – Literature for Pre-Adolescents. Credits: 3
- ENG 4903 – Young Adult Literature. Credits: 3

**One course (3 credits total) chosen from the following:**

- ENG 3604A – Special Topics. Credits: 3
- ENG 3700 – American Literature: 1450-1800. Credits: 3
- ENG 3800 – Medieval British Literature. Credits: 3
- ENG 3803 – Renaissance & 17<sup>th</sup> Century British. Credits: 3
- ENG 3805 – Restoration & 19<sup>th</sup> Century. Credits: 3
- ENG 3604B – Special Topics. Credits: 3
- ENG 3701 – American Literature: 1800-1850. Credits: 3
- ENG 3702 – American Literature: 1805-1900. Credits: 3
- ENG 3806 – British Romantic Literature. Credits: 3
- ENG 3807 – Victorian Literature. Credits: 3
- ENG 3604D – Special Topics. Credits: 3
- ENG 3703 – American Literature: 1900-1950. Credits: 3
- ENG 3704 – American Literature: 1950 to present. Credits: 3
- ENG 3808 – Modern British Literature. Credits: 3
- ENG 3809 – Contemporary British & Anglophone Literatures. Credits : 3

**One course (3 credits total) chosen from the following:**

- ENG 3401 – Methods of Teaching Composition in the Secondary School. Credits: 3
- ENG 3402 – Methods of Teaching Literature in the Secondary School. Credits: 3

### **Electives in English, 6 semester hours**

Six semester hours of electives (normally two courses) in English selected in consultation with an English advisor, at least one of which must be at the 3000-level or above. These may not include any of the following:

- ENG 0990 – English as a Second Language I. Credits: 4
- ENG 0995 – English as a Second Language II. Credits: 4
- ENG 1000 – Fundamental English. Credits: 2
- ENG 1001G – Composition and Language. Credits: 3
- ENG 1002G – Composition and Literature. Credits: 3
- ENG 1091G – Composition and Language, Honors. Credits: 3
- ENG 1092 – Composition and Literature, Honors. Credits: 3

Note: Per the Illinois State Board of Education, at least 12 of the credit hours completed toward a minor in teacher certification must be upper-division course work (3000-level courses or higher). Students must receive a "C" or better in all courses counted toward the English minor and must maintain a minimum cumulative and major GPA of 2.75 in order to continue in the program.

Approvals:

Date approved by the department or school: 9/21/11

Date approved by the college curriculum committee: 10/19/11

Date approved by the Honors Council (if this is an honors course): NA

Date approved by CAA: COTE: