“Literature always anticipates life. It does not copy it but moulds it to its purpose.”
– Oscar Wilde

The mission of the Department of English is to engage students with the opportunity to apply their ideas and critical thinking skills in real-world situations. The department’s four degree programs aim to foster creative and intellectually rigorous thinking, clear and original written expression of ideas, in-depth knowledge of cultural and literary traditions, and exploration of a variety of subject matter through reading and writing. The Department of English offers students innovative and personalized instruction as the basis for lifelong learning and literary citizenship.
Majoring and Minoring in Creative Writing or English

The Department of English at Chapman University encourages students to read widely and deeply, to write boldly and thoughtfully, and to engage in interdisciplinary scholarship and creative activity. Coursework ranges across literature, rhetoric, and cultural studies; creative writing; and journalism. Our English students and faculty explore and create the stories that shape our worlds. Undergraduate students may pursue a BFA in Creative Writing or a BA in English: either in literature, rhetoric, and cultural studies or in journalism.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:
- Join Sigma Tau Delta our English Honors Society
- Write for Chapman publications: The Panther, Calliope, and ChapBook
- Take a travel course with a professor to such places as Germany, England, Ireland, or France

WORK WITH DISTINCTIVE ENGLISH CENTERS & INSTITUTES:
- Chapman Writing Center
- John Fowles Center for Creative Writing
- Tabula Poetica

CORE COURSES IN ENGLISH BA:
- Introduction to Literary Theory and Criticism
- Foundations of Rhetorical Studies
- Literature I, II & III (antiquity to the present)

CORE COURSES IN CREATIVE WRITING BFA:
- Introduction to Creative Writing
- Literature III (1800 CE-present)
- Introduction to Literary Theory and Criticism

MINOR REQUIREMENTS:
- Minor in English 18 UNITS TOTAL
- Minor in Rhetoric and Cultural Studies 21 UNITS TOTAL
- Minor in Journalism or Visual Journalism 25 UNITS TOTAL

Learn More

For more information on how to apply, please contact the Office of Admissions at admit@chapman.edu or (714) 997-6611.

To visit the English website, please scan the QR code:

Contact or visit us:
Phone: (714) 997-6750
Office: Smith Hall 204