Literary study provides content knowledge of literature from various time periods and cultures while honing skills of self-expression and reasoning. The study of literature increases insights into human behavior; emphasizes reading comprehension, critical thinking, and writing skills; elevates social and historical consciousness; fosters success in communication and interpersonal interchanges; and enhances creative abilities. The literature curriculum teaches ethical complexity, interpretative multiplicity, and the importance of empathy in human relations.

Businesses across all lines recognize and reward soft skills-training and value those employees who show aptitude in adapting to a changing and rapidly growing culture. Many professional schools benefit from applicants with a degree in English/Literature. Law schools historically have appreciated the skills our students bring. Medical, business, and professional schools are taking an increasing number of English degree holders, as well as implementing a more humanities-based curriculum that includes courses in literary studies as a means of achieving empathy and cultural-awareness training.

Literature students will...

- Develop key skills in navigating today’s fast-changing world: written and oral communication, digital and traditional research methods, textual analysis, and understanding of our global community.
- Interact with qualified, award winning faculty in a small-class environment.
- Gain skills necessary for a wide array of career paths.
- Gain professional experience by having access to English department resources including internationally renowned Center for Faulkner Studies, Southeast Missouri State University Press, Center for Writing Excellence, and student-run journals such as Literati: An Annual Journal of Literary Studies and Journey.
- Study narrative strategies, critical theory, historical and cultural context, and diverse literary genres.

Career Planning

Career preparation is part of the mission of Southeast. 100% of programs offer our students an internship, study-abroad program, clinical opportunity, student teaching or research internship.

The Office of Career Services in Academic Hall 057 can provide students with professional career counseling and coaching, resume critiques, practice interviews, job search strategies, career events, networking opportunities, and more.

Internships, Employment Opportunities, and Programs of Recent Graduates

- Public and private schools
- Libraries
- Ph.D. programs
- Law schools and other professional programs
- Non-profit organizations
- Health care industry
- Publishing and editing
- Local, state, and federal governments
- Parks and recreation
- Financial industries
- Technical and professional writing
- Human resources
- Marketing/Advertising

Special Options with English

Southeast offers a Master of Arts in English.

Transfer and Dual Credit Students

If you have dual credit or transfer credit, please visit our transfer course equivalencies guide at semo.edu/transfercredit.
English: Literature Option
Bachelor of Arts (BA)

This is a guide based on the 2018-2019 Undergraduate Bulletin and is subject to change. The time it takes to earn a degree will vary based on several factors such as dual enrollment, remediation, and summer enrollment. Students will meet with an academic advisor each semester and use Degree Works to monitor their individual progress.

**CURRICULUM CHECKLIST**

**English: Literature Option – 36 hours – Minor required**

**Writing – Choose 6 Hours From:**
- EN201 Writing About Literature (3)
- EN275 Introduction to Creative Writing (3)
- EN376 Advanced Composition (3)

**Surveys – Choose 9 Hours From:**
- LI260 English Literature I (3)
- LI261 English Literature II (3)
- LI270 American Literature I (3)
- LI271 American Literature II (3)

**World Survey – Choose 3 Hours From:**
- LI211 World Literature I (3)
- LI212 World Literature II (3)

**Language – Choose 3 Hours From:**
- EN486 Sociolinguistics (3)
- UI500 History of the English Language (3)
- UI501 Principles of Language (3)

**Literature Option**
- LI001 Literature Portfolio
- LI421 Cross-Cultural American Voices (3)
- LI655 Southern Literature (3)
- LI656 19th Century American Novel (3)
- LI670 Modern/Contemporary American Novel (3)
- LI671 Contemporary American Poetry (3)
- LI766 American Fiction of the 21st Century (3)
- LI876 American Literature II (3)

**American Literature – Choose 6 Hours From:**
- LI421 Cross-Cultural American Voices (3)
- LI655 Southern Literature (3)
- LI656 19th Century American Novel (3)
- LI670 Modern/Contemporary American Novel (3)
- LI671 Contemporary American Poetry (3)
- LI766 American Fiction of the 21st Century (3)

**World Literature – Choose 3 Hours From:**
- LI510 Literature and the Bible (3)
- UI332 Images of Women in Literature (3)

**Additional Requirements – 9 Hours Required**
- 9 Hours in One or Two Foreign Languages OR
- 6 Hours in One Foreign Language AND
  - 3 Hours from one of the following:
    - AN341 Introduction to Linguistic Anthropology (3)
    - EN376 Grammar of English (3)
    - EN486 Sociolinguistics (3)*
    - UI500 History of the English Language (3)*
    - UI501 Principles of Language (3)*
* If not taken elsewhere in the major

**University Studies Requirements** – some requirements may be fulfilled by coursework in major program
- Social and Behavioral Sciences – 3 hours
- Constitution requirement – 3 hours
- US History requirement – 3 hours
- Written Communication – 6 hours
- Oral Communication – 3 hours
- Natural Sciences – 7 hours (from two disciplines, one to include a lab)
- Mathematics – 3 hours
- Humanities & Fine Arts – 9 hours (from at least two disciplines)
- Additional requirements – 5 hours (to include UI100 for native students)

**SAMPLE FOUR-YEAR PLAN**

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**THIRD YEAR**

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Degree requirements for all students: a minimum of 120 credit hours, completion of University Studies program, completion of 39 senior division hours (300-599), Writing Proficiency Exam (WP003), and completion of the Measure of Academic Proficiency and Progress (MAPP) at the senior level. Refer to the Undergraduate Bulletin or Degree Works for additional graduation requirements for your program.