Bachelor of Arts with
MAJOR IN ENGLISH

OVERVIEW
Literature helps us to grasp what it means to be human, and to understand and engage with the lived experience of other humans in the world. The English Major at Macquarie explores the questions: What is literature for? How does it empower us? How do different forms and styles of writing through the ages influence how humans are represented, and what kinds of stories are told? We consider these issues through interlocking studies of the literary and visual texts of Britain, Australia, America, Canada, and global contemporary literature. Our program is specially designed to provide clear pathways to understanding literary movements and genres from the Middle Ages to the present day.

The English Major will develop your critical thinking as you learn to analyse texts drawn from diverse subject areas such as literary and genre fiction, poetry, drama, digital texts, film, television, online games, and visual art, and fields such as politics, philosophy, and history. You will gain an informed, ethical, cross-cultural understanding of human interactions in the world. You will develop written and verbal communication skills that, along with the critical and analytical skills acquired in this major, will help you to succeed at work.

Feed your love of literature and fire your imagination for life!

KEY FEATURES
• You read literary texts from the medieval period through to the present day, including novels, drama, and poetry, and engage with visual texts such as film, television, online games and graphic novels.
• You learn how to read critically, to research and analyse textual materials within their cultural contexts, to evaluate information, develop an argument, and present information to various audiences in context-appropriate styles and media.
• You develop communication skills, independent judgement, and the capacity for flexible, problem-solving thinking.
• The major in English provides a solid grounding for your employment in a wide range of education, publishing, communication and media-related industries.

SUITABLE FOR
Students with a love of reading and an interest in English, creative writing, the creative industries, social and cultural commentary, reading and literary studies.

PROFESSIONS
• Arts organisation administrator
• Book publisher
• Communications coordinator
• Copyeditor and proofreader
• Desktop publisher
• Game narrative editor
• Government and public service adviser
• Journalist
• Literary agent
• Media adviser
• Public relations specialist
• Reviewer
• Roles in marketing and advertising
• Social media coordinator
• Teacher
• Technical editor
• Web content editor
• Writer
ENGLISH MAJOR IN DETAIL

ESSENTIAL UNITS
ENGL1001 Literature: Medieval to Modern
ENGL1002: Literature: Modern and Contemporary

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<th>ELECTIVES: LITERARY MOVEMENTS</th>
<th>ELECTIVES: GENRES</th>
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<tr>
<td>ENGL2010 The Human Story: Heart, Mind and Body in Early Literature</td>
<td>ENGL2030 Literature and the Visual</td>
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<td>ENGL2020 Revolution, Evolution, Humanity: Literature and Change in the Long Nineteenth Century</td>
<td>ENGL2040 Historical Fiction and a Passion for the Past</td>
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<td>ENGL3010 Human to Posthuman: 20th Century Literature</td>
<td>ENGL3030 Popular Literature</td>
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<td>ENGL3020 Humanity and the World: Global Contemporary Literature</td>
<td>ENGL3040 Following Poetry from Epic to Instagram</td>
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<th>ELECTIVES: SPECIAL RESEARCH UNITS</th>
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<tr>
<td>ENGL3050 Critical Approaches to Literature</td>
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<td>ENGL3060 Pursuing Research in Literary Studies</td>
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ESSENTIAL 1000-LEVEL UNITS
These survey units are intended to introduce you to the history and range of English literature, and to highlight important literary movements and genres that will be further explored in the elective units below.

ELECTIVE UNITS: 2000- and 3000-level units
The elective units are divided into two streams arising from the expertise and research strength of the Department of English: (1) Literary Movements, and (2) Literary Genres. Each stream has been structured to provide a clear and logical path of progression so that you can build upon knowledge already learned. You can follow this structure for either or both streams, or you can choose any units that interest you within these streams.

STREAM 1: LITERARY MOVEMENTS
This stream continues investigating the questions: What is literature for? Why is it necessary? Why is it useful? Working chronologically through literary movements from the Middle Ages to the present day, units in this stream consider how the human experience has been represented in ways that were both ingenious and limited, ways that were challenged and extended by modernist, postmodernist, postcolonial and other global contemporary writers especially in the 20th and 21st centuries.

STREAM 2: GENRES
This stream helps you to understand and interpret fiction in its generic forms, whether these are forms of textual or visual organisation (e.g. poetry, novels, drama, film, television, graphic novels), or forms that range “high” or “literary” culture against the “popular”. You will gain a breadth and depth of knowledge about the formal textual and visual elements that constitute a genre; and the conventions, publishing and paratextual material that contribute to the development of genres.

SPECIAL RESEARCH UNITS
These units are designed to enable you to become a researcher, analyst and critic of literary texts. You will learn different critical approaches to analysing literature, including narratological, postcolonial, feminist, and cognitive. In creating your own specialised research project, you will develop your skills in research, analysis, editing and proofreading, project management, and context-appropriate forms of communication.