

## FAQ

I am a first year student. Which English classes can I take?

Many students take Introduction to Writing and English Studies (ENGL 1705) in their first year but there are other classes that you can take in your first year that will allow you to explore literature. Our courses in Popular Culture and Literature (ENGL 2676 and 2677) include studies of Children's Literature, Detective Fiction, Hockey Literature and Science Fiction.

How do I declare a major or minor in English?

If you are thinking about becoming an English major, come and talk with us so that we can advise you on which program combination would best suit your interests. Once we have talked you through the options, you can tell the Registrar directly what you chose to do.

Where can I get help with writing my essays?

Your professor is available to advise you on any of the essays and research papers they assign you and you should go and visit them during office hours. If your professor recommends further work on your writing, you can also make an appointment to review your written assignments with peer tutors at the Centre for Academic Excellence.

I'm primarily interested in writing my own stories and/or making my own films. Are there courses or opportunities in the department for me?

We offer several classes in filmmaking (including the theory and practice of making documentaries) and creative writing (including oral storytelling traditions and short fiction). You can design your degree so that it includes significant hands-on creative practice. You can also gain valuable experience working on the department's literary journal, *Sulphur*, as a writer, literary editor or managing editor.

What does it mean to study rhetoric?

Rhetoric is the study of how various texts, films and images inform, persuade and inspire people. Our department is one of the very few in Canada where you can specialize in the study of rhetoric, from the classical Greek and Latin foundations of rhetoric to the analysis of contemporary scientific communication. Studying rhetoric with us is excellent preparation for a wide range of careers in professional communication.

What is an honours essay and how do I apply to write one?

At the end of your third year you can apply to work on an independent research project or honours essay during your fourth year. If your proposal is approved, during your fourth year you will meet regularly with your supervisor and produce a 10,000 word undergraduate thesis on the topic of

your choice. Full details of how to apply for and write an honours essay can be found [here](#). Examples of honours essays can be found [here](#).

I'm really enjoying my English classes. Can I go on to graduate studies at Laurentian?

In partnership with Laurentian's HUMA program, you can study for an MA with a disciplinary focus in English. Many of the professors in the English department teach and supervise theses in HUMA. You can find more information about the possibilities of graduate study in English at Laurentian [here](#).