

**CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY,
BAKERSFIELD**

**THE ENGLISH MAJOR IN
LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE
(EMLL)**

A HANDBOOK

2025-2026



CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY
BAKERSFIELD
Department of English

Emerso

GENERAL OVERVIEW

The English Major in Language and Literature (EMLL) is designed to provide a comprehensive and humanistic approach to the study of the English language, the British, American, and other literary traditions, creative writing, and critical approaches to literature. The program blends breadth, flexibility, and focus, with an emphasis on major authors, genres, periods, special topics, and linguistics.

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PROGRAM GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

LINGUISTICS

Linguistic Description: Students will be able to describe the grammar of English.

COMPOSITION

Writing Conventions: Students will be able to compose texts that conform to the conventions of a particular genre as well as the rules of standard written English.

Expository Writing: Students will be able to compose expository essays that demonstrate cohesion and clarity.

LITERATURE

Literary Analysis: Students will be able to analyze literary texts using evidence from the primary texts themselves.

Applying Critical Theory: Students will be able to apply specific critical approaches to literary works.

Researching Criticism: Students will be able to survey the existing criticism on any literary text.

Creative Writing: Students will be able to compose poetry, fiction, or drama.

GETTING INTO THE EMLL PROGRAM

TRANSFERRING FROM A COMMUNITY COLLEGE

The following schools offer the Associate Degree for Transfer (ADT) in English. Please visit their websites to learn more about their programs:

[Bakersfield College](#)

[Cerro Coso Community College](#)

[Porterville College](#)

[Taft College](#)

APPLICATION PROCEDURES AND POLICIES

All CSU applications must be submitted online at www.calstate.edu/apply. Visitors to this site can find specific information for the application procedures for Freshman, Transfer, Graduate, and International students, as well as for those seeking a Teacher Credential. This site also contains a link to Application Dates and Deadlines, as well as a link to the CSU Applicant Help Center for additional resources.

Detailed information on Application Procedures and Policies can also be found at <https://catalog.csub.edu/policies-procedures/admissions-requirements-procedures-policies/>.

Requirements for admission to CSU Bakersfield are in accordance with Title 5, Chapter 1, Subchapter 3 of the California Code of Regulations. Complete information is available at www.calstate.edu.

FRESHMAN APPLICATION CHECKLIST

When you're ready to begin your application to the CSU, be sure to have these items on hand:

- ☐ **Unofficial transcripts (both high school and college transcripts, if applicable):** You'll be asked to enter all the courses you've completed on your CSU application; those that are currently in progress; and any you plan to take. Transcripts will be requested by campuses as needed.
- ☐ **Your Social Security number**, if you have one.
- ☐ **Your citizenship status**
- ☐ **Credit card or PayPal account:** Application fees are due at time of submission.
- ☐ **Annual income:** Your parents' if you are a dependent; your income if you are independent.
- ☐ **Educational Program, Work and Extracurricular Participation information:** You will need to provide the years you participated in college preparation programs and your average number of hours per week of work and/or participation in extracurricular activities.
- ☐ **Information needed to apply to EOP (if applying):** See the Apply to Educational Opportunity Program (EOP) website for information about materials needed to complete the optional EOP application.
- ☐ **Test scores:** Optional; if you have taken or plan to take the ACT, SAT, AP, IB exams, you may include the information on the application. Reporting test scores is not required. SAT and ACT scores will not be used for determining who gets admitted into the CSU. If you are accepted, the campus will use official test scores for placement into mathematics and English courses.
- ☐ **California statewide student ID:** Optional; every K-12 student in a California public school is assigned an ID number. The number should be printed on your transcript.

TRANSFER STUDENT APPLICATION CHECKLIST

When you're ready to begin the application to the CSU, be sure to have these items on hand:

- ☐ **Unofficial Transcripts:** You'll be asked to enter all the courses you've completed on your CSU application; those that are currently in progress; and any you plan to take. Transcripts will be requested by campuses as needed.
- ☐ **Your Social Security number**, if you have one.
- ☐ **Your citizenship status**
- ☐ **A method of payment:** You can pay the application fee by credit card.
- ☐ **Annual income:** Your parents' if you are a dependent; your income if you are independent.
- ☐ **CCCID and Campus ID:** Optional; every California Community College student is assigned a CCCID and a campus-specific ID number. These numbers should be printed on your transcript.
- ☐ **Your parents' employment background and two recommendations:** Applies only if you're applying to EOP.

GETTING THROUGH THE EMLL PROGRAM

ADVISING

The faculty and staff in the Department of English are ready to advise and mentor you as you pursue your degree with us. We can help you choose your required classes and electives, discuss your academic interests, and work with you as you consider your future career. You can talk to any professor you like. Just contact them after class or through email, and they will make time for you.

As you plan your schedule each semester, the first place to start is the College of Arts & Humanities Student Center. Each term, make an appointment through the link below. The advisors will review the courses being offered, assist as you set up your schedule, update your concentration outline, and help you when it comes time to apply for graduation. They work closely with the department chair to make sure you are moving toward graduation in a timely fashion.

For complete information on the College of Art & Humanities Student Center, including hours of operation and contact information, visit www.csub.edu/ah/studentcenter. To make an appointment to see a College of Arts & Humanities Student Center Advisor, visit www.csub.edu/ah/making-appointment. For specific advising related to the English Major in Language and Literature (EMLL), contact Dr. Emerson Case at ecase@csub.edu.

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE BA IN ENGLISH: ENGLISH MAJOR IN LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS (47 UNITS)

First-Year Seminar (FYS); Lower Division Area A: Foundational Skills; Lower Division Area B: Natural Sciences; Lower Division Area C: Arts and Humanities; Lower Division Area D: Social and Behavioral Sciences; Lower Division Area E: Student Enrichment and Lifelong Learning (SELF)¹; Lower Division Area F: Ethnic Studies; American Institutions: Government and History; Junior Year Diversity & Reflection (JYRD); Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement (GWAR)¹; Upper Division Thematic Area B and D; General Education Capstone¹.

¹The SELF requirement may double count with Areas B, C, or D. Students are waived from UDC area of their program. Capstone may be satisfied within the senior seminar.

EMLL PROGRAM CORE REQUIREMENTS (58 UNITS)

LOWER-DIVISION REQUIREMENTS (22 units)

1. ENGL 1109; ENGL 1208 (or the equivalent); ENGL 2000
2. Select two courses: ENGL 2208, 2210, 2220

3. Select two courses: ENGL 2308, 2310, 2408
4. Select one Elective course: (may count toward Optional Emphasis; see below). Any lower-division literature, linguistics, or creative writing course.

UPPER-DIVISION REQUIREMENTS (36 units)

1. ENGL 3000
2. ENGL 3610 or ENGL 4650
3. Select one Literature before 1800 course: ENGL 3330, 3320, 3350
4. Select one Major Writer before 1800 course: ENGL 3310, 3330, 3340
5. Select one Gender and/or Ethnicity course: ENGL 3220, 3230, 3248, 3250, 3410
6. Select one Major American Authors course: ENGL 3200, 3210
7. Select two Elective courses that focus on literature after 1800: ENGL 3200, 3210, 3220, 3230, 3250, 3268, 3360, 3370, 4410, 4420, 4708, 4710 (depending on topic – See Department Chair)
8. Select three Elective upper-division courses in: literature, linguistics, creative writing, or film studies that are not counted toward other core requirements may be taken as electives, including ENGL 4708 and 4710, which may be repeated for different content
9. Senior Seminar: ENGL 4908
10. (Optional Practicum): ENGL 4800

EMLL OPTIONAL SPECIALIZATION (9 units)

You may choose to count one lower-division and two-upper division electives toward the optional emphasis. ENGL 4708 and/or 4710 may also count toward the optional emphasis when course content is deemed appropriate by the department chair.

1. **World Literature Specialization:** ENGL 2408, 3400, 3440, 3420, 3268, 3430, and ENGL 4708 and/or 4710 when course content is appropriate
2. **Children's Literature Specialization:** ENGL 4410, 4420, 4430, and 4400
3. **Ethnic Literature Specialization:** ENGL 2220, 3220, 3230, 3248, 3250, and ENGL 4708 and/or 4710 when course content is appropriate
4. **Creative Writing Specialization:** ENGL 2100, 4100, (ENGL 4100 may be repeated for different course content)
5. **Linguistics Specialization:** ENGL 3610, 3650, 4600, 4610, 4620, 4630, 4648, 4650, 4660
6. **Film Studies Specialization:** ENGL 2518, 3410, 3518
7. **Contract Specialization:** A topic of your choice, to be developed in consultation with an advisor. Examples include medieval literature, early American literature, poetry and poetics, and narrative studies. Dependent on the availability of appropriate courses.

PROGRAM MAP AND COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

For Program Map information for the English Major with Credential Emphasis (EMLL), visit the following webpage:

- [Program Map for the English Major in Language and Linguistics \(EMLL\)](#)

For a copy of English Course Descriptions, visit the following webpage:

- [2024-2025 Academic Catalog Course Descriptions](#)

MINORS

The English Department offers the following minors:

Minor in English Literature

The minimum requirements for a minor in English Literature are four (4) courses in English literature totaling 12 semester units, at the 2000 level or above, at least three of which must be upper division. Courses that satisfy the GWAR, or courses in Linguistics or Children's Literature, do not count towards the minor in English Literature.

Minor in Linguistics

The minor in Linguistics is especially useful for elementary and secondary teachers and for those interested in ESL instruction. It consists of four three-unit courses: ENGL 3610 and three additional upper-division linguistics courses.

Minor in Children's Literature

The minor in Children's Literature indicates the completion of specialized study in children's and young adult literature. The following four courses totaling 12 semester units are required: ENGL 4410, 4420, 4430, and 4440.

FINISHING THE EMLL PROGRAM

APPLYING FOR GRADUATION

All students must apply online for graduation, which will initiate the graduation evaluation process. As an undergraduate student, once you have completed 84 semester units, a link to apply online for graduation will be available on your MyCSUB Student Center. In addition, you will receive an email notification that you may be eligible to apply for graduation.

Before applying for graduation, you should review your academic requirements with your academic advisor. You should confirm that you are within two semesters of completing all remaining graduation requirements.

Detailed information on application deadlines and online application procedures, as well as graduation checklists, can be found at www.csub.edu/registrar/graduation.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

English Club: Students majoring or minoring in English are welcome to meet in an informal setting to discuss literature, language, classes, and all other aspects of campus life. Meetings are generally held every other Friday afternoon.

Sigma Tau Delta: The English Department is home to the Xi Tau Chapter of Sigma Tau Delta, an international honor society for English majors and minors. Juniors, seniors, and graduate students are encouraged to apply.

PUBLICATIONS

Calliope: *Calliope* is an academic journal produced annually that publishes literary criticism, scholarship, and book reviews written by students at CSUB. The editorial team is faculty advised but composed of students, who learn publishing practices and oversee every step of review, layout, and production.

Orpheus: *Orpheus* is a literary journal published annually to encourage creative writing and artistic thinking among the students of CSUB. The editorial team is faculty advised, but composed of a student body, which oversees every step of production.

HONORS AND AWARDS

Sigma Tau Delta Creative Writing Awards: The Sigma Tau Delta Creative Writing Awards are presented annually to honor the creative work of CSUB students.

The Li'i Pearl Outstanding Student in English Award: *The Pearl Prize* honors a student who has made a special contribution to the department, the school, the university, and/or the community at large and who serves as a "proud representative" of the department.

EVENTS

The California Writers Series: Each year the English Department sponsors two or more readings by poets and fiction writers living and working in California.

The Lectures in Language and Linguistics: The L3 series aims to bring a California-based linguist and/or language expert to CSUB's campus every semester to speak on a given topic and meet with students and faculty.



KEY CONTACTS

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

CONTACT:	OFFICE:	PHONE:	EMAIL:
Dr. Emerson Case English Department Chair	HOB 139	661-654-6281	ecase@csub.edu
Analía Rodriguez English Department Coordinator	HOB 148	661-654-2144	arodriguez5@csub.edu
Dr. Dan Stockwell EMCE Program Coordinator	HOB 146	661-654-3315	dstockwell@csub.edu
Dr. Adam Schuster Graduate Program Director	HOB 142	661-654-2127	aschuster@csub.edu
Dr. Kim Flachmann Writing Program Coordinator	DDH B104	661-654-3083	kflachmann@csub.edu
Angela Beardsley Writing Program Administrative Support Coordinator	DDH B100	661-654-6194	abeardsley@csub.edu

SCHOOL OF ARTS & HUMANITIES

CONTACT:	OFFICE:	PHONE:	EMAIL:
Dr. Alicia Rodriguez Dean	HOB 211	661-654-3986	arodriquez@csub.edu
Adrianna Hook Assistant to the Dean	HOB 207	661-654-3986	ahook@csub.edu

For more information, please visit www.csub.edu/english

