At least 124 hours are required for graduation, and students must earn a 2.0 overall GPA, a 2.0 WSU GPA, and a 2.0 GPA in the major. Students must also complete all courses required for Liberal Arts and Sciences General Education. In addition, Foreign Language courses (or the equivalents) are required for every BA degree in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

REQUIREMENTS FOR MAJOR: 33 hours, minimum, including:

BASIC REQUIREMENTS: 21 hours

either
- 310 The Nature of Poetry (3) (310 is required for students who declared the major before Fall 2009)
or
- 320 The Nature of Drama (3)
or
- 330 The Nature of Fiction (3)

either
- 322 Origins of Western Literature (3)
or
- 323 World Literature (3)

- 360 Major British Writers I (3)
- 361 Major British Writers II (3)
- 362 Major American Writers I (3)
- 363 Major American Writers II (3)
- 590 Senior Seminar (3)

MAJOR REQUIREMENTS: 12 hours with at least 6 hours of courses numbered above 500 chosen from the following:

- 230 Exploring Literature (3)
- 232 Themes in American Literature (3)
- 285 Introduction to Creative Writing (3)
- 336 Women’s Personal Narratives (3)
- 340 Shakespeare (3)
- 342 American Folklore (3)
- 345 Studies in Comparative Literature (3)
- 346 American Multicultural Literature (3)
- 347 World Comparative Literature (3)
- 363 Major American Writers II (3)
- 365 African-American Literature (3)
- 375 Popular Literature (3)
- 390 The Bible as Literature (3)
- 503 American Literature I (3)
- 504 American Literature II (3)
- 512 Studies in Fiction (3)
- 513 Studies in Poetry (3)
- 514 Studies in Drama (3)
- 515 Studies in Shakespeare (3)
- 520 Epic and Romance (3)
- 521 Medieval Literature (3)
- 522 Renaissance Literature (3)
- 524 Restoration and 18th Century Literature (3)
- 526 Romantic Literature (3)
- 527 Victorian Literature (3)
- 532 Modern British Literature (3)
- 533 Contemporary Literature (3)
- 536 Writing by Women (3)
- 550 Independent Reading (1-3)
- 580 Special Studies (1-3)

With departmental consent, three hours may be taken in a cognate subject (such as foreign literature, theatre, etc.) offered by another department.

Requirements for a Minor: 15 hours, including:

either
- 310 The Nature of Poetry (3)

or
- 320 The Nature of Drama (3)

or
- 330 The Nature of Fiction (3)

select 12 additional hours in English. At least 9 must be in upper division work:

ENGL 101 and 102 are not counted toward the major or the minor.