

ENGLISH - CULTURAL STUDIES MAJOR CONCENTRATION (B.A.) (36 CREDITS)

Offered by: English (Faculty of Arts)

Degree: Bachelor of Arts; Bachelor of Arts and Science

Program credit weight: 36

Program Description

The Cultural Studies option concentrates on analysis of forms of cultural expression and symbolic interaction, and of the various media through which these may be disseminated and transformed. Such study concerns symbolic form, aesthetically based forms of analysis, and the various modes of criticism and theory relevant to media which contain both verbal and non-verbal elements. The aim is above all to hone students' analytical and interpretive skills while introducing them to specific critical approaches to cultural studies. This is not a major in journalism or communications; and while many of our graduates go on to do creative work in a variety of media, instruction in film and video production is not part of the curriculum.

For the most up-to-date information on Department requirements and detailed course descriptions, please see the English Department Handbook at <http://www.mcgill.ca/english/>.

Degree Requirements — B.A. students

To be eligible for a B.A. degree, a student must fulfil all Faculty and program requirements as indicated in Degree Requirements for the Faculty of Arts.

We recommend that students consult an Arts OASIS advisor for degree planning.

Note: For information about Fall 2025 and Winter 2026 course offerings, please check back on May 8, 2025. Until then, the "Terms offered" field will appear blank for most courses while the class schedule is being finalized.

Required Courses (9 credits)

These courses should be taken in the first two terms of the program.

Expand allContract all

| Course | Title | Credits |
|----------|-----------------------------------|---------|
| ENGL 275 | Introduction to Cultural Studies. | 3 |
| ENGL 277 | Introduction to Film Studies. | 3 |
| ENGL 359 | The Poetics of the Image. | 3 |

Complementary Courses (27 credits)

27 credits selected as described below.

Note on Topics Courses: The Department of English offers courses which change topic from academic year to academic year. Depending on the topic in a specific year, these courses may count toward different program requirements. At the time they register for a topics

course, students should confirm with their program adviser the program requirement it fulfils for that academic year.

Major Figures

3 credits from a list of courses on Major Figures in Cultural Studies:

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| Course | Title | Credits |
|----------|---------------------------|---------|
| ENGL 315 | Shakespeare. | 3 |
| ENGL 381 | A Film-Maker 1. | 3 |
| ENGL 418 | A Major Modernist Writer. | 3 |
| ENGL 444 | Studies in Women Authors. | 3 |
| ENGL 481 | A Film-Maker 2. | 3 |

Canadian Component

3 credits from a list of courses in Cultural Studies with a Canadian component:

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| Course | Title | Credits |
|----------|-----------------------------------------------|---------|
| ENGL 393 | Canadian Cinema. | 3 |
| ENGL 440 | First Nations and Inuit Literature and Media. | 3 |
| ENGL 441 | Special Topics in Canadian Cultural Studies. | 3 |

Theory or Criticism

3 credits from a list of courses on Theory or Criticism:

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| Course | Title | Credits |
|----------|------------------------------------|---------|
| ENGL 317 | Theory of English Studies 1. | 3 |
| ENGL 318 | Theory of English Studies 2. | 3 |
| ENGL 319 | Theory of English Studies 3. | 3 |
| ENGL 322 | Theories of the Text. | 3 |
| ENGL 346 | Materiality and Sociology of Text. | 3 |
| ENGL 352 | Theories of Difference. | 3 |

400-Level Theory

3 credits from a list of 400-level courses in Cultural Studies with a theoretical component.

Historical Dimension

6 credits from a list of courses in Cultural Studies with an historical dimension:

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| Course | Title | Credits |
|----------|-----------------------------------|---------|
| ENGL 350 | Studies in the History of Film 1. | 3 |
| ENGL 351 | Studies in the History of Film 2. | 3 |
| ENGL 363 | Studies in the History of Film 3. | 3 |
| ENGL 374 | Film Movement or Period. | 3 |
| ENGL 444 | Studies in Women Authors. | 3 |
| ENGL 451 | A Period in Cinema. | 3 |
| ENGL 480 | Studies in History of Film 1. | 3 |

Additional Cultural Studies

9 additional credits from the option's offerings which includes all the courses specifically listed in the Cultural Studies categories above and the courses listed below. Any ENGL course not on these Cultural Studies lists, such as courses in Literature, may not count toward the Major Concentration English - Cultural Studies.

Expand allContract all

| Course | Title | Credits |
|----------|-----------------------------------------------|---------|
| ENGL 280 | Introduction to Film as Mass Medium. | 3 |
| ENGL 354 | Sexuality and Representation. | 3 |
| ENGL 366 | Film Genre. | 3 |
| ENGL 378 | Media and Culture. | 3 |
| ENGL 379 | | 3 |
| ENGL 380 | Non-Fiction Media: Cinema, Television, Radio. | 3 |
| ENGL 382 | International Cinema 1. | 3 |
| ENGL 383 | Studies in Communications 1. | 3 |
| ENGL 385 | Topics in Literature and Film. | 3 |
| ENGL 388 | Studies in Popular Culture. | 3 |
| ENGL 389 | Studies in Popular Culture. | 3 |
| ENGL 390 | Political and Cultural Theory. | 3 |
| ENGL 391 | Special Topics: Cultural Studies 1. | 3 |
| ENGL 395 | Cultural and Theatre Studies. | 3 |
| ENGL 476 | Alternative Approaches to Media 1. | 3 |
| ENGL 482 | International Cinema 2. | 3 |

Other Departments

Students are normally permitted to count 6 credits from other departments toward their English programs. In exceptional circumstances, an adviser who is approached by a student with strong academic grounds for including a third such course may grant permission (to a maximum of 9 extra-departmental credits) and must so indicate in advance by signing the departmental program audit sheet.