

# ENGLISH - LITERATURE HONOURS (B.A.) (54 CREDITS)

**Offered by:** English (Faculty of Arts)

**Degree:** Bachelor of Arts

**Program credit weight:** 54

## Program Description

Entry to Honours is by application, normally after two terms in a Departmental program, including at least 18 credits of English. The Faculty of Arts requires that all students admitted to Honours programs complete a second program minor in addition to their Honours program.

Admission to the Honours program is limited to a small number of students with excellent records. The minimum CGPA for application to the Honours program is 3.30. Students with a CGPA lower than 3.3 and at or above 3.0 (but with the requisite 3.5 program GPA) may consult the Director of the Honours program for special permission to apply. Students with a program GPA lower than 3.5 and at or above 3.3 (but with the requisite CGPA of 3.3) may also consult the Director of the Honours program for special permission to apply. In neither instance is admission guaranteed. After admission into the Honours program, the student is required to maintain a CGPA at a level set by the Faculty for graduation with Honours and a program GPA at the level set by the Department.

The Honours program in English requires 54 credits. Students intending to apply for Honours should plan to complete as many of the specific requirements of their option as possible within the first two years. With the written approval of an adviser, up to 9 credits may be taken outside the Department. All Honours students must complete at least 6 of their complementary credits at the 500 level. Ideally, 500-level seminars chosen will be relevant to the area of the student's independent study in the Honours Essay course (ENGL 491D1 Honours Essay./ENGL 491D2 Honours Essay.), taken without exception in the final year of the program. The Honours Essay is first planned in consultation with a supervisor at the time of application to the Honours program; it is then guided and evaluated by that supervisor during the completion of ENGL 491 Honours Essay.. Graduation with Honours requires 54 credits of English, a minimum mark of B+ on the Honours Essay, a minimum CGPA of 3.00, and a minimum program GPA of 3.50. Graduation with First Class Honours requires a mark of A on the Honours Essay, a minimum CGPA of 3.50, and a minimum program GPA of 3.70.

### 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 (18 credits)

ENGL 202 Departmental Survey of English Literature 1., ENGL 203 Departmental Survey of English Literature 2. and ENGL 311 Poetics. are normally taken in the first two terms of the program. ENGL 360 Literary Criticism. is normally taken in the second year of the program.

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Course	Title	Credits
ENGL 202	Departmental Survey of English Literature 1.	3
ENGL 203	Departmental Survey of English Literature 2.	3
ENGL 311	Poetics.	3
ENGL 360	Literary Criticism.	3
ENGL 491D1	Honours Essay.	3
ENGL 491D2	Honours Essay.	3

## Complementary Courses (36 credits)

36 credits selected as described below. At least 6 of the 36 credits must be at the 500 level. A maximum of 9 credits may be from another department with the signed permission of the program adviser. At least 3 of the 36 credits must be devoted to a course on a Major Author, and 3 must be devoted to a course on Canadian Literature, as indicated under the rubrics dedicated to these offerings in each year's list of Complementary Courses on the Department of English website (<http://www.mcgill.ca/english>). A maximum of 9 of the 36 credits are allowed at the 200 level, none in the final year of the program.

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.

### Theory

3 credits from a list of courses on Theory:

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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

## Areas of English Literature

6 credits, 3 credits each from two of the following areas: Backgrounds of English Literature, Old English, Medieval, Renaissance.

### Backgrounds of English Literature

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Course	Title	Credits
ENGL 347	Great Writings of Europe 1.	3
ENGL 348	Great Writings of Europe 2.	3
ENGL 349	English Literature and Folklore 1.	3
ENGL 447	Crosscurrents/English Literature and European Literature 1.	3

### Old English

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Course	Title	Credits
ENGL 342	Introduction to Old English.	3
ENGL 452	Studies in Old English.	3
ENGL 553	Old English Literature.	3

### Medieval

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Course	Title	Credits
ENGL 337	Theme or Genre in Medieval Literature.	3
ENGL 349	English Literature and Folklore 1.	3
ENGL 356	Middle English.	3
ENGL 357	Chaucer .	3
ENGL 456	Middle English.	3
ENGL 500	Middle English.	3

### Renaissance

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Course	Title	Credits
ENGL 305	Renaissance English Literature 1.	3
ENGL 307	Renaissance English Literature 2.	3
ENGL 308	English Renaissance Drama 1.	3
ENGL 315	Shakespeare.	3
ENGL 316	Milton.	3
ENGL 400	Earlier English Renaissance.	3
ENGL 401	Studies in the 17th Century.	3
ENGL 416	Studies in Shakespeare.	3
ENGL 501	16th Century.	3
ENGL 516	Shakespeare.	3

### Areas of English Literature

6 credits, 3 credits each from two of the following areas: Restoration, 18th Century, Romantic, Victorian, 19th Century American.

#### Restoration

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Course	Title	Credits
ENGL 302	Restoration and 18th C. English Literature 1.	3
ENGL 303		3
ENGL 310	Restoration and 18th Century Drama.	3
ENGL 444	Studies in Women Authors.	3

#### 18th Century

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Course	Title	Credits
ENGL 301	Earlier 18th Century Novel.	3
ENGL 302	Restoration and 18th C. English Literature 1.	3
ENGL 303		3
ENGL 304	Later Eighteenth Century Novel.	3
ENGL 310	Restoration and 18th Century Drama.	3
ENGL 403	Studies in the 18th Century.	3
ENGL 444	Studies in Women Authors.	3
ENGL 503	18th Century.	3

### Romantic

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Course	Title	Credits
ENGL 331	Literature Romantic Period 1.	3
ENGL 332	Literature Romantic Period 2.	3
ENGL 444	Studies in Women Authors.	3

### Victorian

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Course	Title	Credits
ENGL 329	English Novel: 19th Century 1.	3
ENGL 330	English Novel: 19th Century 2.	3
ENGL 334	Victorian Poetry.	3
ENGL 404	Studies in 19th Century Literature 1.	3
ENGL 405	Studies in 19th Century Literature 2.	3
ENGL 423	Studies in 19th Century Literature.	3
ENGL 444	Studies in Women Authors.	3
ENGL 504	19th Century.	3

### 19th Century American

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Course	Title	Credits
ENGL 326	19th Century American Prose.	3
ENGL 422	Studies in 19th Century American Literature.	3
ENGL 444	Studies in Women Authors.	3

### Areas of English Literature

6 credits, 3 credits each from two of the following areas: Early 20th Century, Modernist, Post-modernist, Contemporary.

#### Early 20th Century

Expand allContract all

Course	Title	Credits
ENGL 327	Canadian Prose Fiction 1.	3
ENGL 328	Development of Canadian Poetry 1.	3
ENGL 361	Poetry of the 20th Century 1.	3
ENGL 414	Studies in 20th Century Literature 1.	3
ENGL 444	Studies in Women Authors.	3

#### Modernist

Expand allContract all

Course	Title	Credits
ENGL 327	Canadian Prose Fiction 1.	3
ENGL 328	Development of Canadian Poetry 1.	3
ENGL 335	The 20th Century Novel 1.	3
ENGL 361	Poetry of the 20th Century 1.	3
ENGL 414	Studies in 20th Century Literature 1.	3
ENGL 418	A Major Modernist Writer.	3
ENGL 444	Studies in Women Authors.	3

### Post-modernist

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Course	Title	Credits
ENGL 320	Postcolonial Literature.	3
ENGL 333	Development of Canadian Poetry 2.	3
ENGL 443	Contemporary Women's Fiction.	3
ENGL 444	Studies in Women Authors.	3

### Contemporary

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Course	Title	Credits
ENGL 320	Postcolonial Literature.	3
ENGL 333	Development of Canadian Poetry 2.	3
ENGL 336	The 20th Century Novel 2.	3
ENGL 362		3
ENGL 407	The 20th Century.	3
ENGL 408	The 20th Century.	3
ENGL 419	Studies in 20th Century Literature.	3
ENGL 421	African Literature.	3
ENGL 443	Contemporary Women's Fiction.	3
ENGL 444	Studies in Women Authors.	3

### Literature Stream Offerings

6 credits from among English Department Literature stream offerings.

### Department Offerings

9 credits from among other Department offerings (ENGL courses).