- recommended to take ENGL courses to fulfill the "Language, Philosophy, and Culture" area and the "Social and Behavioral Sciences" area.
- common courses shared by students in all the concentrations for the English Major.

- The English Core is the term for the 27 hours (9 courses) of
- two certification exams before Clinical Teaching.
- In their General Education core, English majors are

ELABS 211, 956-665-3421 BSABH 2.202, 956-882-8246 **Department of Writing and Language Studies** ELABS 329, 956-665-3441 BSABH 2.202, 956-882-8246

Department of Literatures and Cultural Studies

ENGLISH (BA)

4th-8th or 7th-12th Teacher Certification

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

Catalog: 2018-19

UTRio Grande Valley

Degree Info

Grande Valley cultivate in students scholarly and creative

courses in literature, language, rhetoric and composition,

We promote student literacy – specifically the abilities to

creative writing, and secondary English language arts.

appreciation for the English language. We encourage

collegiality, contribute scholarly research, and engage in

Studies, and the Creative Writing Program in the College

of Fine Arts, support culturally responsive pedagogy and

The English degrees at the University of Texas Rio

achievement through graduate and undergraduate

read, write, and think critically – as well as an

faculty to pursue excellence in teaching, foster

service to the university and Rio Grande Valley

community. The English degrees, as a collaboration

among the Department of Literatures and Cultural

Studies, the Department of Writing and Language

community engagement. A student with an English

major possesses skills in critical thinking, writing, and

reading. English majors can enter professions such as

teaching, writing, editing, media production, the law,

continued graduate or professional study.

public service, and advocacy, and they are prepared for

FIRST YEAR

Additional Info

• This is the blueprint for English majors who want to become certified teachers as part of their university degree. You

must take the English Language Arts concentration of the

To get an English degree with certification to teach ELAR 4-8

or ELAR 7-12 requires admission to the College of Education

EDUC and READ, including the Clinical Teaching semester. A

and P-16 Integration (CEP) then 42 hours of coursework in

completing 60 credit hours toward the degree plan (at the

end of sophomore year). Admission requirements include a

requirements. Students in certification tracks must also pass

English major and also complete the UTRGV Teacher

student applies for admission to CEP at the time of

2.75 overall UTRGV GPA and other test scores and

Certification program.

Contact Info

2018-2019 ACADEMIC PLAN

EDNC 3305

EDNC 3301

ENGL 3321

KEAD 4342

FOURTH YEAR

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Or All-Level

EDNC 4911

Student Teaching Secondary

THIRD YEAR

Interim Chair-Literatures and Cultural Studies

Dr. Steve Wilson

Steve.wilson@utrgv.edu

Chair- Department of Writing and Language Studies

Dr. Colin Charlton

Colin.charlton@utrgv.edu

English Education Coordinator for English Majors

Dr. Amy Cummins

Amy.cummins@utrgv.edu

English Major Undergraduate Degree Specialist

Shoney Flores

Shoney.flores@utrgv.edu

Knowledge of Student Dev. & Learn.

Narrative and Expository Analysis

Creative Writing I

& Critical Literacy

K IGacher

The Teaching Prof & Student Learning

SECOND YEAR

"Choose 1" Indicates course options. If options are not listed, please review the 2018-19 General Education Core or the degree plan for this major: www.utrgv.edu/degreeplans.

Learning Framework	ENCF 33XX-43
Social & Behavioral Sciences	ENGF 33XX-43
Mathematics	ENGF 3300
Creative Arts	Choose 1
American History	Choose 1
Communication	Choose 1

Rec- Any 2300-level lit. course Integrative/Experiential Learning	Choose 1
Language, Philosophy & Culture:	ENCT 53XX
Government/Political Science	Choose 1
American History	Choose 1
Communication	Choose 1
Learning Framework	1301 UNI
Social & Behavioral Sciences	Choose 1

Choose 1

Choose 1

Choose 1

Choose 1

READ 4341	Media Literacies for Secondary ELA/		Area Classrooms
	Reading Elective	READ 4305	Disciplinary Literacy in Content
ENGL 33XX-43XX	English Language Arts/		Smoorsseld gninistsud lassrooms
		EDNC 3304	Instructional Planning & Assessmen
EN C F 1338	Teaching Secondary School Lit.		Positive Learning Environments
	Reading Elective	EDNC 3303	ni gnidəsəT bəssB-əənəbiv∃
ENGL 33XX-43XX	English Language Arts/		Study Skills (for 7-12 cert.)
ENGF 4343	Composition Theory & Pedagogy		or Writing Methods, Inquiry, and
ENGF 3362	English Grammar	READ XXXX	Early Literacy Dev. (for 4-8 cert.)
	Yriting Assessment	READ 4343	Literacy, Culture, & Diverse Learners
READ 4340	Reflective Reading &	ENGF 4380	Senior English Capstone

English Lang. Arts/Read. Elective Intercultural Context of Schooling	EDEK 5301 ENGF 33XX-43XX
Life and Physical Sciences Major Requirement – Literature (b) Intro to Descriptive Linguistics Children's & Adolescent Literature Read. Comprehension & Assessment	Choose 1 ENGL 333X-43XX ENGL 3337
Life and Physical Science Government/Political Science Integrative/Experiential Learning Introduction to English Studies Major Requirement – Literature (b) Major Requirement – Literature (b)	Choose 1 Choose 1 Choose 1 Choose 1

Courses in red are part of the General Education Core Curriculum (GEC).

BLUFPRINT EXPERIENCES

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SECOND YEAR THIRD YEAR

AND BEYOND

MILESTONES

ADVICE &

SUPPORT

APPLY WHAT

YOU LEARN

GLOBAL, CAMPUS

& COMMUNITY

ENGAGEMENT

LIFE AFTER

GRADUATION

- ☐ Complete 30 credit hours every year in order to graduate in 4 years. Make sure all credits count toward your degree.
- □If you entered with credits, begin courses for your major now, in addition to completing required General Education courses.
- Use resources such as the Learning Center and the Writing
- ☐Meet with your academic advisor, and bring your orientation folder with you to every session. Make sure every course you take counts toward your degree plan.
- ☐ Visit faculty members during office hours to ask questions about class, your English concentration, or future career options.
- □Classes fill up fast. When registration opens, be sure to
 register on the first day for your group.
- ☐ Take advantage of campus resources. For instance, Student Health Services is on campus and has free office visits.
- Want to explore different careers? Check out MyMajors!
- ☐Follow campus media, and learn about ways that you could use your skills as an English major to communicate with the public.
- ☐Look for a service-learning course. For guidance, visit the Engaged Scholarship & Learning Office.
- □Get tutoring, substituting, or volunteer experience in schools.
- □Form study groups with fellow students in your classes.
- Learn about and participate in the communities in which you want to work as a teacher.
- Set up your profile on the Engagement Zone throughMy.UTRGV.edu. Update it each semester.
- Attend academic and co-curricular events on campus to be part of the intellectual and social life of UTRGV.
- □ Join a student organization such as Cross-Linguistic
 □ Undergraduate Board or Creative Writing Club. Visit VLink
- __(utrgv.edu/vlink).
 □As you plan for summer work, seek opportunities to work
- with the age group you want to teach.
- □Create a résumé, and set up your profile on the Handshake icon: (My.UTRGV.edu).
- □ Research shows that students who work on campus
 perform better than those who work off campus. Look for a
 job on Handshake!
- ☐ Check your UTRGV email for the daily Messenger. Locate and attend student workshops or other events.

- □ Take ENGL 3300 and the English Core courses that fulfill requirements for all English majors.

 Also take courses for your concentration within the English major.
- □If you hope to be a teacher, choose the English
 Language Arts concentration and apply for
 admission to the College of Education and P-16
 Integration (CEP) while completing 60 hours
 toward your degree plan. Deadlines for CEP
 admission are every semester.
- ☐ Take at least 30 credit hours annually that count to this degree plan.
- ☐ Talk with English faculty about your future career plans. Get to know English education faculty such as Dr. David Bowles, Dr. Amy Cummins and Dr. Ronny Noor.
- ☐When you visit your academic advisor, come ready with course plans and questions. Empower yourself.
- □Visit the Communication Hauser Lab for help with your speeches.
- ☐ Trouble making your tuition payment? The Financial Aid Office can help. Payment plans and emergency loans are also available
- ☐ Plan for how you can make the most of your UTRGV time by adding skills and lines for your résumé every semester.
- ☐ Consider attending the LeaderShape Institute, the Engaged Scholar Symposium, or other learning opportunities.
- □Look for ways to add value to your degree by getting experience in writing, communication, and teaching.
- □Look at study abroad opportunities!
- ☐ Check out a cultural campus or community event such as FESTIBA, HESTEC, and local Book Festivals.
- ☐ Join another student organization. Visit VLink to find out more.
- ☐Attend events on campus. Find people who share some of your interests, maybe in class or in a club such as BESO.
- □Visit the Career Center site, and plan to attend the Teacher Job Fair every year. Ask questions to the recruiters.
- □Update your résumé in Handshake.
- ☐ Developing your bilingual skills further will enhance employability in teaching English Language Arts.

- ☐Make sure you have been admitted to the College of Education and P-16 Integration and are taking required coursework.
- □ Aim for a GPA of 3.0 or better, and complete 30 credit hours or more every year. Make sure you are taking the exact courses needed for the certification track of the English major.
- ☐ Begin preparations for your certification exams (PPR and English content test). You must pass before Clinical Teaching. Also get to know faculty in the College of Education & P-16 Integration who can help prepare you.
- ☐ Prepare for and pass TEXES teacher certification exams.
 ☐ Talk with the English Education Coordinator for more
- information and guidance in the English teacher preparation process.
- ☐ Seek out research opportunities or graduate school possibilities by talking with faculty members or mentors.
- ☐ Check DegreeWorks to make sure you are on track for graduation next year. Make sure Degree Works accurately reflects your degree and coursework. Meet with advisors.
- ☐ Continue to use the Writing Center and the Learning Center.
- ☐ Sharpen the writing skills that are crucial for an English major. Tutor others, write for campus media (Rider, Pulse, UTRGV TV, Radio, etc.), and submit your writing for publication in *Gallery* and in venues beyond UTRGV.
- ☐ Read widely so that you can develop the knowledge necessary to teach literature and writing to diverse learners.
- ☐ Do your observation hours, and follow required sequences of coursework for EDUC/READ coursework. ☐ Consider joining Sigma Tau Delta, the English Honor Society, and other honor societies and campus
- ☐Gain work or volunteering experiences in school settings.
- ☐Find a leadership role, a project-organization role, or a meaningful service role within a campus organization.
- □Look into study abroad opportunities at Office for International Programs & Partnerships.
- □ Now is the time you need to plan for your future career. Talk with alumni, faculty, and mentors to get insights.
- □Plan for the three people you can ask for letters of recommendation (professors, mentors, field supervisors, etc.). Have them look over your résumé.
- ☐ If you are going to graduate school, make sure you are aware of deadlines. Late applicants are not accepted. Get faculty mentors to review application materials with you in advance.

- ☐ Apply for Clinical Teaching. Deadlines are with the College of
- Education and P-16 Integration.
- ☐ Take and pass your teacher certification exams in advance of the semester in which you will do Clinical Teaching.
- Complete degree requirements for English majors (including the capstone ENGL 4390) and for the College of Education.
- ☐Complete at least 30 credit hours annually in order to graduate. Double-check that you are on track to graduate and have completed all requirements.
- ¹□Submit your applications for jobs and/or for graduate school.
- □ Apply for graduation one semester prior to your anticipated date. Visit the Academic Advising Center often to ensure you are on track.
- ☐Make use of the multiple sources of advising and support for your teacher certification track with the English major.

 Advocate for yourself, and empower yourself to persist throughout this program.
- ☐ Engage in an independent study project, an academic internship, a collaborative research program to complement your degree.
- □Discuss your future plans with family, faculty mentors, and advisors. Include employment, finances, and life goals.
- ☐Your semester of Clinical Teaching is the culmination of your work in this teacher certification track. This shows how the field really works. It also prepares you for your first full-time teaching job. The CEP Pinning Ceremony celebrates your completion of Clinical Teaching.
- ☐ Submit your writing for possible publication. Get feedback on your submissions from peers and from faculty. Or apply to present research or creative works at the Engaged Scholar Symposium or at a conference. Keep developing as a writer.
- Build up your list of possible references at the school where you are doing your Clinical Teaching.
- □Identify employers and school districts of interest and seek them out at job fairs, online, at on-campus information sessions, staffing agencies, and more. Apply for jobs and get interview experience.
- ☐ Find a way to give back to your university, community, or family by helping others to achieve like you have succeeded at UTRGV!
- ☐Make sure you apply for multiple jobs and weigh various employment offers.
- ☐ Have you received your acceptance for graduate school and/or an employment offer? If not, network: apply, talk to faculty, Career Center and get on LinkedIn or other sites.
- □Update your contact info with Alumni Relations. Enjoy alumni mixers, events, and continued access to Career Center services!
- ☐Do your exit loan counseling on studentloans.gov.

CAREERS

- Teaching
- Tutoring
- Research
- Administration
- Public and private K-12 schools
- Colleges and universities
- Language institutes, local and abroad
- Libraries
- Museums
- Private learning centers
- Test preparation organizations
- Nonprofit organizations involved with literacy
- Information/LibraryScience
- Non-classroom
 Teaching
- English as a Second Language (ESL)

For additional info, visit the Career Center website and check out "What Can I Do With This Major?"

www.utrgv.edu/careercenter

organizations.