

## FOURTH YEAR

ENGL 33XX-43XX Concentration Elective  
 ENGL 33XX-43XX Concentration Elective  
 ENGL 33XX-43XX Concentration Elective  
 ENGL 4390 Senior English Capstone  
 13XX-43XX Free Elective  
 33XX-43XX Free Advanced Elective  
 33XX-43XX Free Advanced Elective  
 33XX-43XX Adv. Minor or Additional English Elective  
 33XX-43XX Adv. Minor or Additional English Elective  
 13XX-43XX Free Elective  
 ENGL 33XX-43XX Concentration Elective  
 13XX-43XX Free Elective

## THIRD YEAR

ENGL 33XX-43XX English Core Elective – Literature (b)  
 ENGL 3362 English Grammar  
 ENGL 33XX-43XX Concentration Elective  
 ENGL 33XX-43XX English Core Elective – Rhetorical Writing (d)  
 13XX-XXXX Minor or Additional English Elective  
 ENGL 33XX-43XX English Core Elective – Literature (b)  
 ENGL 33XX-43XX Concentration Elective  
 ENGL 33XX-43XX English Core Elective – Literature (b)  
 ENGL 33XX-43XX Concentration Elective  
 ENGL 33XX-43XX English Core Elective – Literature (b)  
 ENGL 3351 Creative Writing I  
 ENGL 33XX-43XX Concentration Elective  
 ENGL 33XX-43XX Minor or Additional English Elective  
 ENGL 33XX-43XX Concentration Elective

## SECOND YEAR

Choose 1 Government/Political Science  
 Choose 1 Life and Physical Sciences  
 Choose 1 Integrative/Experiential Learning  
 13XX-XXXX Minor or Additional English Elective  
 ENGL 3300 Introduction to English Studies  
 Choose 1 Government/Political Science  
 Choose 1 Life and Physical Sciences  
 Choose 1 Integrative/Experiential Learning  
 ENGL 33XX-43XX English Core Elective - Linguistics (c)  
 ENGL 33XX-43XX English Core Elective - Literature (b)  
 13XX-XXXX Minor or Additional English Elective

## FIRST YEAR

Choose 1 Communication  
 Choose 1 American History  
 Choose 1 Social & Behavioral Sciences  
 ENGL 23XX Language, Philosophy & Culture:  
 Rec- Any 2300-level lit. course  
 Choose 1 Integrative/Experiential Learning  
 UNIV 1301 Learning Framework  
 Choose 1 Mathematics  
 Choose 1 Creative Arts  
 Choose 1 American History  
 Choose 1 Communication

### 2018-2019 ACADEMIC PLAN

“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](http://www.utrgv.edu/degreeplans). Courses in red are part of the General Education Core Curriculum (GEC).

### Additional Info

- *The English Major requires students to choose from among concentrations or tracks for their BA English degree: English Language Arts; Literature; Linguistics; Rhetoric, Composition, and Literacy; or Creative Writing.*
- *The English Core of common courses shared by all the concentrations for the English Major requires 27 hours (9 courses).*
- *This is the blueprint with advice for students who are seeking a BA in English and who are not planning to do the Teacher Certification route as part of their university degree.*
- *In their General Education core, English majors are recommended to take ENGL courses to fulfill the “Language, Philosophy, and Culture” area and the “Social and Behavioral Sciences” area.*

### Contact Info

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## UTRio Grande Valley



**ENGLISH (BA)**  
**Catalog: 2018-19**  
**COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS**

### Degree Info

The English degrees at the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley cultivate in students scholarly and creative achievement through graduate and undergraduate courses in literature, language, rhetoric and composition, creative writing, and secondary English language arts. We promote student literacy – specifically the abilities to read, write, and think critically – as well as an appreciation for the English language. We encourage faculty to pursue excellence in teaching, foster collegiality, contribute scholarly research, and engage in 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 Studies, and the Creative Writing Program in the College of Fine Arts, support culturally responsive pedagogy and 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, public service, and advocacy, and they are prepared for continued graduate or professional study.



# BLUEPRINT EXPERIENCES

## FIRST YEAR

## SECOND YEAR

## THIRD YEAR

## FOURTH YEAR AND BEYOND

## CAREERS

### MILESTONES

- UTRGV has a Writing Center and a Learning Center. Make it a point to visit them!
- Complete your first-year writing courses (1301 and 1302/1305) during your first year.
- Complete 30 credit hours every year in order to graduate in 4 years. Make sure all credits count toward your degree plan.
- If you entered with credits, start taking courses for your major now.
- Aim for a GPA of 3.0 or better throughout your studies.

### ADVICE & SUPPORT

- Meet with your academic advisor and bring your orientation folder with you to every session. Make sure each course you take counts toward your degree plan.
- Visit faculty members during office hours to ask questions about class, your concentration for your major, and career options.
- Classes fill up fast. When registration opens, be sure to register on the first day for your group. Get advising done in advance.
- Cold or flu getting you down? We have Student Health Services on campus with free office visits.

### APPLY WHAT YOU LEARN

- 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.
- Participate in a campus-sponsored community service project.
- Form study groups with fellow students in your classes.

### GLOBAL, CAMPUS & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- Read widely in order to learn about the world and about different types of writing.
- Set up your profile on the Engagement Zone through My.UTRGV.edu. Update it each semester.
- Attend inclusive and diversity events on campus such as Linguistics Seminars, to be part of UTRGV intellectual life.
- Join a student organization such as Cross-Linguistic Undergraduate Board or Creative Writing Club. Visit VLink ([utrgv.edu/vlink](http://utrgv.edu/vlink)) for options.

### LIFE AFTER GRADUATION

- Create a résumé, and set up your profile on the Handshake icon: ([My.UTRGV.edu](http://My.UTRGV.edu)).
- Make summer plans. Visit the Career Center. Seek out jobs that develop new and marketable skills to add to your résumé.
- Research shows that university 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.
- After English Core courses, declare your concentration in English, then proceed to fulfill requirements for it. Self-assess about which concentration within the English major works for your professional objectives and future plans.
- Complete 30 credit hours each year (15 each semester) that count to your degree plan.
- Continue to use the Writing Center and Learning Center.

- Talk with English faculty about your future career plans or to decide on a concentration.
- Want to explore different careers? Check out MyMajors!
- When you visit your academic advisor, come ready with course plans and questions. Empower yourself.
- Visit the Communication Hauser Lab for help with public speaking.
- If you have trouble making your tuition payment, the Financial Aid Office can help.

- Look for ways to add value to your degree by getting experience in writing, communication, and teaching.
- To find undergraduate research opportunities, visit the Engaged Scholarship & Learning Office.
- Consider attending the LeaderShape Institute or the Engaged Scholar Symposium. Plan for how you can be active and add to your resume every semester.
- Find a way that you can give back to your local community.

- Check out a cultural campus or community event such as FESTIBA, HESTEC, and local Book Festivals.
- Join another student organization consider serving on a campus life committee. Visit VLink or Student Government Association (SGA) for more info.
- Attend events on campus and find people who share some of your interests.

- Update your résumé in Handshake every semester. Have it reviewed regularly.
- Visit the Career Center site, and attend a Job Fair. Approach recruiters to discuss internships or hiring trends.
- Consider which minor you might do, such as English as a Second Language or Film Studies.
- Explain to someone how your academic program aligns with your strengths and interests. Self-assess your skills.

- Make sure you are taking the exact courses that count for the concentration that you want. Self-evaluate to be certain you are in the appropriate concentration for your skills and goals.
- Aim for a GPA of 3.0 or better, and complete 30 credit hours each year. A GPA of 3.0 is often the minimum needed for graduate admissions.
- Have you already done an internship, acquired research experience, or collaborated on a major project with a public audience? This is the year to make it happen.

- Seek out research opportunities, community projects, and graduate school possibilities by talking with faculty members, mentors within your major, and professionals in the field.
- Check DegreeWorks to make sure you are on track for graduation next year. Make sure Degree Works accurately reflects your degree and your coursework.
- Discuss internships with your advisors and Career Center.
- Look at the résumés of people who have a job you would like.

- Sharpen the writing skills that are crucial for an English major. You might tutor others, write for campus media (Rider, Pulse, UTRGV TV, Radio, etc.), and/or get co-curricular experiences that relate to the kind of job you may want to do in the future.
- Apply to present your research, service learning, or creative works at the Engaged Scholar Symposium.
- Submit your writing for publication in *Gallery* and venues beyond UTRGV.
- Consider joining Sigma Tau Delta, the English Honor Society, and other campus organizations.

- Find a leadership role, a project-organization role, or a meaningful service role within an organization.
- Look into study abroad opportunities at Office for International Programs & Partnerships.
- Continue to read widely and to develop your English major skills in writing, revising, editing, and design.

- Talk with alumni and mentors to get insights about career choices.
- Think about three people you can ask for letters of recommendation (professors, mentors, advisors, supervisors, etc.). Give them at least two weeks' advance notice and 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.

- "I have a plan for after graduation." If this describes you, great! If not, visit your Faculty Advisor, the Career Center, or your mentors in your major or minor fields.
- Register for your English Capstone Course: ENGL 4390.
- Double-check that you are on track to graduate.
- Continue to use the Writing Center and Learning Center.
- Submit your application(s) for graduate school and/or for full-time employment.

- Engage in an independent study project, an academic internship, a collaborative research program to complement your degree.
- Discuss future plans with your faculty mentor or advisor. Include employment, finances, family, and life goals.
- Apply for graduation one semester prior to your anticipated date. Visit the Academic Advising Center often to ensure you are on track.
- Consider what you want to be doing and where you want to be in the future, such as in two years, in five years, and in ten years.

- Submit writing for possible publication. Get feedback on your submissions from peers and from English faculty.
- Apply to present research or creative works at the Engaged Scholar Symposium or at a conference in your field.
- Set up an informational interview with an individual (such as an alumnus) currently in the field you aspire to work in.

- Identify employers of interest and seek them out at job fairs, online, at on-campus information sessions, staffing agencies, and more. The Career Center can help.
- Before a job interview, schedule a mock interview with the Career Center or speech coaching with the Communication Hauser Lab.
- Find a way to give back to your university and community by helping others to achieve like you have succeeded as a UTRGV Vaquero!

- 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.
- Create a strategy for life after graduation. Attend career fairs and graduate fairs; apply to fellowships; talk to family.
- Update your contact information with Alumni Relations. Enjoy alumni mixers, events, and continued access to Career Center services!
- If applicable, do your exit loan counseling on [studentloans.gov](http://studentloans.gov).

- Creative Writing
  - Novels: fiction and nonfiction
  - Poetry, plays, screenplays, and scripts
  - Greeting cards
  - Lyrics/Jingle writing
- Journalism:
  - Writing/Reporting
  - Editing
  - Critique
- Freelance writing
- Technical writing and editing
- Science and medical writing
- Grant and proposal writing
- Software and hardware documentation
- Information technology writing
- Human-computer interface design
- Corporate communications and training
- Mechanical communication

For additional info, visit the Career Center website and check out "What Can I Do With This Major?" [www.utrgv.edu/careercenter](http://www.utrgv.edu/careercenter)