



MORAVIAN COLLEGE

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

An overview of the department and its offerings. For further information, visit the website at www.moravian.edu/english.

The field of English studies is one of the cornerstones of a liberal arts education and also offers a variety of approaches to specialized study. At Moravian College, students are invited to explore the rich, multi-dimensional nature of English studies through their engagement with creative expression and the study of culture and history, linguistics, literature, rhetoric, theatre and performance, and writing. Through English studies, students learn to demonstrate critical thinking in reading and writing as well as in verbal presentations and evaluating and presenting research. Upon graduation, they are prepared to write effectively in a variety of genres, and for a variety of purposes and audiences. The English major is excellent preparation for graduate study and helps launch the careers of writers, critics, lawyers, reporters, archivists, speech writers, editors, teachers, publishers, businesspeople, and researchers.

Strong, Personalized Academic Majors

The English major fosters breadth and depth in a student's experience of literature and writing with a variety of experiences both inside and outside the classroom. Students learn that English studies is multi-dimensional, including creative expression; cultural, historical, linguistic, literary, and rhetorical study; and the study of writing. Students develop critical thinking, writing, speaking, and research skills through coursework and a number of inspiring and productive hands-on activities.



Moravian's English majors benefit from a unified and balanced program in which they take a variety of courses that reinforce all the skills addressed within English studies. All students are required to take both literature and writing courses to strengthen their understanding and practice the connection between effective reading and writing. A great deal of flexibility is built into the major, in both the core categories and the elective choices, with which students can build a concentration in their preferred area of study. Students are invited to explore literary studies in a wide range of historical and cultural contexts (from medieval, to early modern, to modern and postmodern) and through the lenses of a variety of genres, authors, and perspectives. In writing, in the practice of literary theory, in dramatic studies, and in teaching, students engage with texts and the rich diversity of responses to texts. The department's independent study and special topics courses bridge student-faculty academic interests. The flexibility of the English major also allows for combination with a second major, with a minor, or with self-designed programs.

The Moravian English major is particularly strong because of the commitment and availability of its faculty. English professors make themselves regularly accessible to students; frequent individual conferences focus on student writing, student research interests, helpful advising, and





effective mentoring. Regular faculty-student socials allow informal interaction that helps build a sense of community. Annual awards within the department recognize students' outstanding achievements. In addition, recent English department students have won Fulbright Awards and the most prestigious campus-wide honors, and have pursued graduate studies in literature, writing, medieval and early modern studies, rhetoric and composition, education, library science, and law. The major's deliberate design provides students with challenging and engaging opportunities, supports them with effective advising and mentoring, and helps them find meaningful application for their learning, talents, and skills. Visit the website for additional details and information.

Hands-On Learning

A capstone project is an extended work in keeping with a student's interests within the major, and is the culmination of the English major's experience. English majors also create a portfolio of work from throughout their major, including a Hands-on-Learning Assignment (HLA)—a written work that has been produced under the guidance of the Public Relations office, the Moravian College Theatre Company, *The Comenian* newspaper, or the Center for Leadership and Service. The HLA component of the English curriculum encourages majors to put their skills to use in the wider community and provides examples of their accomplishments.

Experiential learning for English majors is also made available through Honors, internships, Writing Center tutorships, theatre courses and production, study abroad, opportunities to present at conferences and symposia (both on-campus and off), and opportunities to publish in the College literary magazine, *The Manuscript*, sponsored by the English department. Faculty members offer off-campus

trips, locally and to New York and Philadelphia, that focus on literature, writing, and theatre, and they collaborate with the Zinzendorf Society (a student organization promoting English Studies), which sponsors similar events both on and off campus. The department hosts alumni speakers who share their own work experiences with current students, and sponsors a chapter of the English honor society, Sigma Tau Delta. The department routinely partners with the Multi-Cultural Reading Group, the Friends of Reeves Library, and the programs in women's studies and medieval studies to expand opportunities for students.

Alumni Careers for English majors

- Kelly Grab '11 is in the master's program in higher education and student affairs at Indiana University Bloomington.
- Mike Watson '11 is in the M.F.A. program in creative writing at Rutgers University, Camden.
- Andrew Gerlitz '08 was a Peace Corps volunteer in Ecuador, and is entering the graduate program in international agricultural economics and development at the University of Vermont.
- Peter Cunha '07 earned his J.D. from the University of Miami School of Law, where he was the executive editor of the university's law review. Currently, he works in Greenberg Traurig's Miami office.
- Courtney Werner '06 is an assistant professor of English in rhetoric and composition at Hope College.
- Julie Anderson Shoults '05 was a Fulbright Scholar in Germany. She is pursuing a Ph.D. in German at the University of Connecticut, where she teaches German and women's, gender, and sexuality studies.
- Bill Trub '03 was a Peace Corps volunteer in South Africa, and now teaches at a school for disadvantaged teens in Brooklyn. His first book, *A Man's Abortions*, will be published in 2013.

Long before 1776,
Moravian College stood for
life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.
As the sixth-oldest college in America,
we believe everyone is born with an innate love of learning.

Our mission is to set it free.

To every student of every circumstance,
we promise the power of the liberal arts,
a whole wide world of experience,
and a deeper enjoyment of life.

Pursue them all with passion.