



# English

The Department of English is a community of active scholars and writers dedicated to forming a deeper sense of themselves and their world. We celebrate the beauty of words and the power of language as a path towards that goal, and offer cultural, historical, and theoretical approaches to literature and the creative process. In so doing, we affirm the importance of creating and carefully understanding all forms of discourse. We also value well-crafted arguments, sophisticated analyses, elegant writing, and thoughtful engagement with research. We help students hone their critical thinking and writing skills in ways both creative and practical.

## THE PROGRAM

Gonzaga University's rigorous English curriculum stimulates personal and intellectual growth. Founded on solid introductory writing and literature courses and covering a variety of genres, the English major offers two areas of emphasis: a major with a focus in literature and one with a Writing Concentration.

The 36-credit **B.A. in English** focuses on literature and requires students to take classes in four broad periods of British and American literature:

- British Literature Pre-1660
- American Literature Pre-1900
- British Literature Post-1660
- American Literature Post-1900

Students may choose from numerous electives to complete their degree. Examples include Studies in the Novel, Studies in Women Writers, Creative Writing, Post-Colonial Literature, and Modern Theories of Literature and Criticism. In their senior year, English majors take the Senior Seminar, a focused, in-depth study of a literary topic. Past topics have included Tudor-Stuart Drama; Byron and Shelley; Literature of the Great War; and American Visionary Literature. The seminar familiarizes students with the critical conversation surrounding its topic, prepares them to engage in this and similar conversations, and has them enter into this conversation by creating a senior project: a well-informed, well-argued, research-based, critical study.

The 39-credit **Writing Concentration** English major requires students to sample classes from the literary periods above, but the rest of their curriculum consists of various writing courses of their choice. Examples include Poetry Writing,

Fiction Writing, Research and Writing, Creative Nonfiction, and Literary Journalism. In their senior year, Writing Concentration English majors complete a senior project approved by and in coordination with the English faculty. Examples of projects are a book of short stories, a collection of essays, or a research-based thesis.

Students with other academic interests may double-major or fulfill minors in other fields. English majors often obtain teacher certification from the School of Education, complete a pre-law or pre-medicine track, or add an additional major such as history, journalism, or theatre arts. Students majoring in any field may **minor in English** (21 credits) to enhance their language skills.

Outside of the classroom, the department supports student contributions to *Reflection*, the campus literary magazine, and *The Gonzaga Bulletin*, GU's weekly newspaper. The English Department also hosts the Gonzaga University Visiting Writers Series, which brings writers of international significance to campus. Recent visitors have included three former U.S. Poet Laureates: Natasha Trethewey, Robert Hass, and Robert Pinsky. Other distinguished writers have included Jimmy Santiago Baca, Denis Johnson, Carolyn Forche, Bharati Mukherjee, Joy Harjo, Li-Young Lee, Jess Walter, and Sherman Alexie.

Gonzaga's English Department recommends that high school students planning to pursue an English major take regular and advanced high school courses with an emphasis on developing strong writing, reading, and analytical skills. The Department does not believe that taking the first-year college composition course in a high school setting is the best preparation for college writing and encourages students to take this course at Gonzaga during their freshman year.

## OUTCOMES

An English graduate from Gonzaga University has the skills and habits of mind to succeed in a wide variety of vocations. Any field that values critical analysis, the ability to research and think creatively, and a deep understanding of language needs people who do what we do. Recent Gonzaga English graduates have found employment in a variety of fields, which include:

- Advertising
- Armed Forces
- College Admissions
- Content Development for Technology
- Copy Editing
- Government
- Jesuit Volunteer Corps
- Journalism
- Marketing
- Medicine
- Public Relations
- Publication Design
- Teach for America
- Teaching
- Teaching ESL Abroad
- Technical Writing
- Theatrical Design
- Video Production

The English Department has an outstanding reputation for its undergraduate preparation for graduate and professional study, including Ph.D. programs in English, M.F.A. programs in creative writing, and law school. Department graduates have entered prestigious graduate programs and now hold academic positions in various universities across the country.

Recent Gonzaga English graduates have also attended the following graduate programs:

### Graduate Studies in English

- Boston College
- Purdue University
- University of Chicago
- University of Colorado
- University of Denver
- University of Glasgow
- University of North Carolina
- University of Virginia
- University of Washington
- University of Wisconsin
- Washington State University

### Master of Fine Arts Programs

- Arizona State University
- Eastern Washington University
- Loyola Marymount University
- Naropa University
- University of Idaho
- University of Montana
- University of Nevada, Las Vegas

### Law Schools

- Georgetown University
- Lewis and Clark College
- Seattle University
- Temple University
- University of Hawai'i
- University of Miami
- University of San Diego
- University of Washington



## THE PEOPLE

Over the past 20 years, English faculty members have earned Fulbright Awards, grants from agencies such as the National Endowment for the Humanities, National Endowment for the Arts, and several teaching and scholarship awards.

Faculty members consistently publish poetry, fiction, and literary criticism; present scholarly papers at regional and national conferences; participate in professional organizations; and write for local publications. With their focus primarily on teaching, however, the English faculty at Gonzaga place a high priority on assisting students with classroom concerns and long-range career plans. All faculty members have posted office hours when students can set appointments or drop by with their questions or concerns.

### Sample of published works by Gonzaga English professors:

Tod Marshall, *Bugle*. Canarium Books, 2014. Washington State Book Award Winner.

Brian Cooney, *My Idea of Fun*. Floating Bridge Press, 2015.

Patsy Fowler (with Amanda Hiner), ed., *New Approaches to Eliza Haywood*, a special issue of the *Journal for Early Modern Cultural Studies*, Fall 2014.

Ann Ciasullo, "This is what I've always wanted": Bromance and the Evolution of Male Intimacy in the *Jump Street* Films." In *Interactions: Studies in Communication and Culture*, 2014.

Chase Bollig, "Is College Worth It?": Arguing for Composition's Value with the Citizen-Worker." In *College Composition and Communication*, December 2015.

## FACULTY CONTACTS & SPECIALTIES

### Ingrid Ranum | Dept. Chair

Ph.D., Washington State University  
Victorian literature  
ranum@gonzaga.edu

### Chase Bollig

Ph.D., Ohio State University  
rhetoric and composition, multi-modal composition  
bollig@gonzaga.edu

### Matt Bolton

Ph.D., Ohio State University  
film studies  
bolton@gonzaga.edu

### Daniel Butterworth

Ph.D., University of North Carolina  
contemporary literature, romantic literature, creative writing  
butterworth@gonzaga.edu

### Ann Ciasullo

Ph.D., University of Kentucky  
Chair of Women's and Gender Studies  
Powers Chair in the Humanities  
20th Century American literature, feminist theory, women writers, popular culture and cultural studies, literary theory  
ciasullo@gonzaga.edu

### Meagan Ciesla

Ph.D., University of Missouri  
fiction writing  
ciesla@gonzaga.edu

### Elizabeth Cooley

Ph.D., University of North Carolina  
20th Century British and American literature, creative writing  
cooley@gonzaga.edu

### Brian Cooney

Ph.D., University of South Carolina  
Director of the Center for Public Humanities  
British Romanticism  
cooney@gonzaga.edu

### Jeffery Dodd

M.F.A., Eastern Washington University  
Director of the Center for Teaching and Advising  
creative writing, literary editing and design  
dodd@gonzaga.edu

### Heather Easterling

Ph.D., University of Washington  
Early Modern drama, representation of Early Modern gender and culture in literature  
easterling@gonzaga.edu

### John Eliason

Ph.D., University of Nevada, Reno  
Director of Composition and the Writing Center  
writing program administration, writing pedagogy, writing centers, writing across the curriculum  
eliason@gonzaga.edu

### Patsy Fowler

Ph.D., Auburn University  
restoration & 18th Century British literature, women's studies, and the development of the novel  
fowlerp2@gonzaga.edu

### Yu-Kyung Kang

Ph.D., University of Illinois  
rhetoric & composition, multi-lingual composition  
kang@gonzaga.edu

### Tod Marshall

Ph.D., University of Kansas  
Washington State Poet Laureate  
Director of Writing Concentration  
Modernism, contemporary literature, poetry creative writing  
marshall@gonzaga.edu

### Jessica Maucione

Ph.D., Washington State University  
contemporary American literature and ethnic studies  
maucionej@gonzaga.edu

### Jeffrey Miller

Ph.D., University of Cincinnati  
19th Century American literature  
millerj3@gonzaga.edu

### Michael Pringle

Ph.D., Washington State University  
early American literature  
pringle@gonzaga.edu

### Ana Roncero-Bellido

Ph.D., Illinois State University  
Chicanx and Latinx Literatures  
roncero-bellido@gonzaga.edu

### Patricia Terry

Ph.D., University of North Carolina  
Interim Dean, College of Arts & Sciences  
20th Century American literature, composition and rhetoric  
terry@gonzaga.edu

### J.D. Thayer

Ph.D., University of Oregon  
Medieval literature  
thayer@gonzaga.edu

### Linda Tredennick

Ph.D., University of Oregon  
Co-Director of the Honors Program  
Renaissance literature  
tredennick@gonzaga.edu

