

## Request for Certification of a Specialization in the English major

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Perm number \_\_\_\_\_ Local Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Local Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Quarter of expected graduation \_\_\_\_\_

**Specialization:**

\_\_\_\_\_

List below the 4 upper-division English courses (Culture of Information can use Engl. 25 as one of these courses) you have completed at UCSB to satisfy the requirements for whichever specialization you have completed and return to the English department ***with a self-addressed and stamped envelope.***

\_\_\_\_\_  
Undergraduate Advisors Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

***See English department website at [www.english.ucsb.edu](http://www.english.ucsb.edu) for a listing of courses that can be used to fulfill the requirements for each specialization.***

# **Specializations within the English major**

## **Literature and the Culture of Information**

The English department has established three specializations within the undergraduate major. The first is the Literature and the Culture of Information specialization. This specialization brings the perspective of the humanities to the concept of "information" that many students will engage with professionally and personally all their lives. In particular, Literature and the Culture of Information compares the forms, media, institutions, and aesthetics of the "information revolution" to similar revolutions the past-e.g., the print revolution. The goal is to ask what the "well-read" have to offer the "well-informed," and vice versa. What was beautiful, enlightening, or cruel in the project of orality or literacy and their literatures? How does the project of information compare? And how might the insights of past ages of languages be used to improve our contemporary age? Courses offered by this specialization hybridize the theory, practice, and literature of contemporary information culture with studies of the earlier information media of oral discourse, manuscripts, and print and the literature they embodied.

**Faculty:** Alan Liu, (Director) Christopher Newfield, Rita Raley, Carol Pasternack, Mark Rose, William Warner.

**Requirements:** any 4 elective courses or 3 elective courses and one upper-division seminar in the "Literature and the Culture of Information" specialization. Students in the specialization will also be invited to participate in one or more such events each year as a conference, discussion with a faculty member or visiting scholar, or field trip to an organization related to information culture.

**Website:** <http://transcriptions.english.ucsb.edu>

## **Early Modern Studies**

The Early Modern Specialization focuses on English literature from 1500 to 1800. It encourages students to take courses on a wide range of topics throughout this broad historical span and to study in depth both minor authors of the period as well as such major figures as Spenser, Shakespeare, Ben Jonson, Milton, Pope, Defoe, Richardson, and Samuel Johnson.

**Faculty:** Lee Bliss, Elizabeth Heckendorn Cook, Robert Erickson, Patricia Fumerton, (Director) Richard Helgerson, David Marshall, Michael O'Connell, Mark Rose, William Warner, and Everett Zimmerman.

**Requirements:** Any 4 elective courses or 3 elective courses and one upper-division seminar in the Early Modern period. Early Modern courses required for the English major (for example, Engl. 101 and 102) may **not** count toward the Early Modern Specialization.

**Website:** <http://emc.english.ucsb.edu>

## **American Cultures**

The American Cultures specialization offers students an opportunity to study authors and topics drawn from a broad historical range. We also encourage students to develop a comparative understanding of the field. In practice, this includes exploring how different aspects of American cultures interact, and interrogating the ways regional, hemispheric and global trends shape, and are shaped by, American cultural expressions.

**Faculty:** Elliott Butler-Evans, Giles Gunn, Carl Gutierrez-Jones, Alycee Lane, Stephanie LeMenager, Shiley Geok-lin Lim, Mark Maslan, Christopher Newfield, John Ridland, Elisa Tamarkin and Candace Waid.

**Requirements:** Any 4 elective courses or 3 elective courses and one upper-division seminar devoted to American culture. American literature courses that satisfy requirements for the English major (English 103A, 104A) will not count toward the American Cultures Specialization, although these courses are recommended.

**Website:** <http://acc.english.ucsb.edu>