

# ENGLISH DEPARTMENT SPECIALIZATIONS

## Customize Your English Degree Today!

UCSB's English Department now offers seven unique ways to enrich and focus your Bachelor's degree. **Majors who take at least four preapproved elective courses affiliated with any of the specializations below can request and be awarded certification in the specialization(s) upon completion of the English B.A's core requirements.** Adopting a specialization is an excellent way to cultivate your research interests, interact with affiliated faculty and graduate students, and ultimately convey your expertise to prospective employers and/or graduate programs!

### Official Specializations

#### American Cultures & Global Contexts

- Explores how different aspects of American culture interact and interrogate the ways that regional, hemispheric and global trends shape, and are shaped by, American cultural expressions
- Website: [acc.english.ucsb.edu](http://acc.english.ucsb.edu)

#### Literature and the Culture of Information

- Brings the perspective of the humanities to the concept of "information" that many students will engage with professionally and personally all their lives
- Compares the forms, media, institutions, and aesthetics of the "information revolution" to similar revolutions in the past—e.g., the print revolution
- Website: [lcmbeta.english.ucsb.edu](http://lcmbeta.english.ucsb.edu)

#### Literature and the Mind

- Explores how and why symbolic activity helps us create, rather than suffer from, reality.
- Highly interdisciplinary; accepted courses include offerings in Psychology, Religious Studies, and other departments (see website)
- Website: [mind.english.ucsb.edu](http://mind.english.ucsb.edu)

#### Modern Literature and Critical Theory

- Focuses on modernist, postmodern, post-colonial and transnational literatures
- Tailored to students interested in modern and contemporary literatures in English, primarily outside the US
- Website: [comma.english.ucsb.edu](http://comma.english.ucsb.edu)

#### Early Modern Studies

- Focuses on English literature from 1500 to 1800
- Includes both minor authors of the period as well as such major figures as Spenser, Shakespeare, Ben Jonson, Milton, Pope, Defoe, Richardson, and Samuel Johnson
- Website: [emc.english.ucsb.edu](http://emc.english.ucsb.edu)

#### Literature and the Environment

- Asks how literature affects environmental values and practices
- Can a novel or poem make a more sustainable world? Those interested in exploring such questions can get a green B.A. in English!
- Website: [lit-environ.english.ucsb.edu](http://lit-environ.english.ucsb.edu)

#### Medieval Literatures

- Focuses on the Middle Ages (500 C.E. – 1500 C.E.).
- Study the ever-mercurial hopes, fears, fantasies and dirty jokes of the men and women of medieval England
- Website: [medieval.english.ucsb.edu](http://medieval.english.ucsb.edu)

*For more information about any of these specializations, see the English Department website. If you have any questions or concerns about existing specializations, or are interested in creating a specialization of your own, please contact the department's Undergraduate Advisor, Nick Alward at [nick@hfa.ucsb.edu](mailto:nick@hfa.ucsb.edu), or this year's Arnhold Graduate Fellow, Paul Megna at [paulmegna3@yahoo.com](mailto:paulmegna3@yahoo.com)*