

## English, Comparative Literature, and Creative Writing Advising FAQs

### **Is Advising Required?**

We do not require advising if you are an English or Comparative Literature major or an English, Creative Writing, or Comparative Literature Minor. We very much encourage you to seek advising though. You may have friends with other majors that say that major advising is required. Different departments have different requirements!

### **When and why should I get advising?**

You can get advising at the posted times when school is in session. Advising hours tend to get rather busy close to registration, so keep that in mind! You can get advising for a number of reasons, including help with registration, questions about requirements, issues with your TDA, advice on what to do with your degree, and more!

### **Who are the advisors?**

The advisors are professors in the department. The advising committee changes every year, so you may have a different advisor from year to year. The advising committee includes three members plus the Director of Undergraduate Studies. For any complicated questions, it is best to ask the Director of Undergraduate Studies (currently Dr. Erin Hollis: ehollis@fullerton.edu).

### **How do I get advising?**

Typically, advising office hours for each semester will be posted on the department webpage as well as in the department office. For the Fall 2020 semester, advising will be done over Zoom. You can make an appointment online. There are also drop-in hours from 2:30-3:30 on Mondays for the Fall. Please note that advising office hours change every semester.

### **Can my major advisor give me advice on GE courses?**

Major advisors only advise on the major. If you need help with GE requirements, you should contact the Academic Advising Center (<http://www.fullerton.edu/aac/>). Please don't forget that you have to take 3 upper division GE's (especially if you are a transfer student)! Please also don't forget that you must have 120 units total to graduate!

### **When should I apply for graduation?**

It is best to apply for graduation at least one semester prior to your graduation date. You can apply for graduation as soon as you have completed 85 units.

### **What if I need to change my grad date?**

Please contact the Director of Undergraduate Studies. They will be able to change it for you.

### **Do I need to meet with an advisor for a grad check?**

Unlike some other departments, we do not require that you meet with an advisor for your grad check. Typically, the Director of Undergraduate Studies will complete your grad check by the middle of the semester in which you are going to graduate. You can tell if your grad check has been completed if you look at your TDA and it says "Candidate." If your TDA says "Department

Review” then your grad check is still being processed. You will only hear from the Director of Undergraduate Studies about your grad check if there is an issue, such as a missing course or not enough units.

### **What is the SMPP or SSPP?**

SMPP stands for Subject Matter Preparation Program and SSPP stands for Single Subject Preparation Program. They are the same thing and the terms get used interchangeably. This program is the pathway to the teaching credential, a post-degree credential offered through the College of Education for those who want to teach English at the high or middle school levels. The teaching credential is something you do after graduation and for which you have to apply. If you meet the requirements on the SMPP, you will meet the requirements for entry into the credential program (though acceptance is competitive). If you meet the requirements for the SMPP, you will meet the requirements for the major. If you plan to pursue a credential, you should follow the SMPP, which has more specific course requirements than the major in general.

### **What is the difference between English 302: Composition and Rhetoric for Teachers and English 307: Advanced Writing for English Studies?**

English 302: Composition and Rhetoric for Teachers is **only** for students on the SMPP. You should **not** take English 302 if you are not on the SMPP. English 307: Advanced Writing for English Studies is for students in the major in general and is the prerequisite for English 495t: Senior Seminar. You should not take both English 302 and English 307.

### **My TDA says I need an exception for English 434: Young Adult Literature. What do I do?**

Students on the SMPP take English 434: Young Adult Literature instead of English 495t: Senior Seminar. If you are on the SMPP, the Director of Undergraduate Studies will automatically issue this exception. You do not need to contact someone to receive the exception.

### **What is English 495t: Senior Seminar? Do I have to take it?**

You must take the senior seminar if you are a student who is not on the SMPP. Topics for this course change every semester. The course focuses on a specific topic and requires a significant research project. We recommend that you take this course in your penultimate semester or in your last semester.

### **How do I declare/change my major/minor?**

You need to get the form from records and registration (<http://records.fullerton.edu/resources/>) and then have a faculty member sign off on it. During Fall 2020, you can email this form to any of your advisors.

### **Can I major in English and minor in Creative Writing or Comparative Literature?**

Yes! In fact, if you do, you only need to take 12 distinct units in the minor. You can double-count 9 units! That means you only need 4 additional courses to complete either of these minors!!