

BACHELOR OF ARTS: RHETORIC AND WRITING EMPHASIS

University Requirements

General Education

UMKC Essentials is the university-wide curriculum that all undergraduate students will complete. The 30-credit hour program includes a First Year Experience course; three critical thinking courses in the areas of Arts & Humanities, Natural & Physical Sciences, and Social & Behavioral Sciences; a Culture and Diversity course; a Civic & Urban Engagement course; two courses in Written Composition and one course in Oral Communication; and a Math Pathway course. Transfer students entering UMKC will elect from the UMKC Essentials General Education Program or the Missouri Core 42 General Education Curriculum. Academic advisors will meet with incoming transfer students to determine which option best serves the student's educational needs. More information about General Education may be found here: <https://catalog.umkc.edu/undergraduate-academic-regulations-information/general-education-requirements/> (<http://catalog.umkc.edu/undergraduate-academic-regulations-information/general-education-requirements/>)

Constitution Course

Every undergraduate student must take a course covering the United States Constitution and the Missouri State Constitution before graduation. Course options are included in the program requirements section below.

Exit Examinations

Information on exit examinations is available in the Undergraduate Academic Regulations and Information (<http://catalog.umkc.edu/undergraduate-academic-regulations-information/graduation/exitexams/>) section of the catalog.

Missouri Higher Education Civics Achievement Examination

In accordance with Missouri Senate Bill 807 (section 170.013.1), 'any student entering a public institution of higher education for the first time after July 2019 who is pursuing an associate's or bachelor's degree from such institution shall successfully pass an examination on the provisions and principles of American civics with a score of seventy percent or greater as a condition of graduation from such institution'. To satisfy this requirement at UMKC, students access the exam through the Canvas site. This requirement will be listed in the degree audit system as, 'Take State Mandated Missouri Higher Education Civics Achievement Examination', and listed on the transcript as 'Missouri Civics Examination'.

Student Learning Outcomes

Students graduating from this program will:

- Create coherent academic arguments that are built upon complex rhetorical and/or linguistic analysis.
- Analyze the language and rhetoric of various texts and media.
- Situate media in cultural and/or historical contexts.
- Engage in critical conversations.
- Present an essay in ways that reflect a sense of professional rules and conventions.

The Bachelor of Arts in English with an emphasis in Rhetoric and Writing is recommended for students interested in a broad background in the humanities with a focus in language and rhetoric and for those interested in obtaining a firm foundation for further study in graduate school. Students will receive intensive emphasis in the study of rhetoric and writing. This option is especially relevant for students considering law school and careers in communications, marketing, and business.

To graduate with a major in English, students must achieve a grade-point average of at least 2.0 in the 36-hour program described below, but no credit will be given for courses in which the grade is below C-. No course may fulfill more than one requirement. At least 18 hours must be taken in the English Department at UMKC. Students complete a capstone project in their final year.

Program Requirements

UMKC Essentials

Code	Title	Credits
First Semester Experience Course (GEFSE)		3
Written Communication:		
ENGLISH 110	Introduction to Academic Prose	3
ENGLISH 225	English II: Intermediate Academic Prose	3
Oral Communication (choose one of the following):		3
COMM-ST 110	Fundamentals of Effective Speaking and Listening	
COMM-ST 140	Introduction to Communication	
COMM-ST 212	Argumentation And Debate (offered via dual credit only)	

COMM-ST 277	Interpersonal Communication	
Math Pathway (choose one of the following):		3
MATH 116	Mathematics For Liberal Arts	
STAT 115	Statistical Reasoning	
MATH 110	Precalculus Algebra	
MATH 120	Precalculus (5 credit hours)	
Any 200-level MATH or STAT course		
ACT Math Subscore of 28 or higher; or SAT Math Subscore of 660 or higher		
Critical Thinking in Arts & Humanities (GECRT-AH)		3
Critical Thinking in Natural & Physical Sciences (GECRT-SC)		3
Critical Thinking in Social & Behavioral Sciences (GECRT-SS)		3
Culture & Diversity Course (GECDDV)		3
Civic & Urban Engagement Course (GECUE)		3
Total Credits		30

Constitution Course Requirement

Section 170.011.1 of the Missouri Revised Statutes, 2015, states that all candidates for a degree issued by a college or university in the state of Missouri must have "satisfactorily passed an examination on the provisions and principles of the Constitution of the United States and of the state of Missouri, and in American history and American institutions."

Courses at UMKC that satisfy this state requirement are:

Code	Title	Credits
Choose one of the following:		3
CJC 364	The Supreme Court And The Criminal Process	
HISTORY 101	U.S. History to 1877	
HISTORY 102	U.S. History Since 1877	
HONORS 230	Honors American Government	
POL-SCI 210	American Government	
Total Credits		3

There are a few other ways this requirement can be satisfied for students transferring to UMKC:

- Take an equivalent course from the list above at a regionally accredited institution.
- Earn credit for one of the above courses through AP, IB, or CLEP.
- Take a course that directly satisfies the Missouri Constitution Requirement at another Missouri institution.
- Have a previous bachelors degree (or higher) from a regionally accredited institution.
- Have an Associate of Arts degree from a regionally accredited institution.
- Complete the 42 Hour Core at a Missouri institution and have it listed on the official transcript.

School of Humanities and Social Sciences Degree Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
Writing Intensive Course (300-level or above; satisfied in major requirements below):		0
Total Credits		0

Major Requirements

Students must successfully complete the major requirements below with at least 18 of the 36 required hours taken in the department at UMKC with 12 of those hours at the 300-level or above.

One of the courses taken below must be writing intensive.

Code	Title	Credits
I. Introductory English Course		3
Choose one of the following courses:		
CLASSICS 119	Myth and Literature	
CLASSICS 210	Foundations Of Ancient World Literature I	

COMM-ST 203	Introduction to Journalism
ENGLISH 120	Literary Monstrosities
ENGLISH 126	Popular Literature
ENGLISH 207	World Literature in English
ENGLISH 214	Introduction To Fiction
ENGLISH 215	Introduction To Poetry
ENGLISH 216	The Craft of Creative Writing
ENGLISH 242	Women Writing/Women Reading
ENGLISH 270	Writing Tutor Training Seminar ²
ENGLISH 273	Science Fiction
ENGLISH 278	Asian American Literature

II. Literary Surveys 12

Choose four of the following courses:

ENGLISH 311	American Literature I ²
ENGLISH 317	British Literature I ²
ENGLISH 321	American Literature II ²
ENGLISH 323	Shakespeare ²
ENGLISH 327	British Literature II ²
ENGLISH 331	African American Literature I ²
ENGLISH 333	African American Literature II ²
CLASSICS 340AWI	Classical Literature In Translation ²

III. Rhetoric and Writing 15

Choose five of the following, three of which must be at the 400-level:

ENGLISH 270	Writing Tutor Training Seminar ²
ENGLISH 301WI	Writing And The Academy
ENGLISH 304WI	Professional and Technical Writing
ENGLISH 305WI	Theory And Practice Of Composition
ENGLISH 308	Rhetorics of New Media
ENGLISH 309WI	Rhetorics of Public Memory
ENGLISH 310	Introduction To Linguistics/Language Science
ENGLISH 320	Structure Of English
ENGLISH 330	History Of The English Language
ENGLISH 342WI	Women And Rhetoric
ENGLISH 380	Multimodal Writing and Rhetoric
ENGLISH 381	Composing Digital Environments
ENGLISH 430WI	Technical Communication
ENGLISH 441	Girls, Literacies, and Print Culture ²
ENGLISH 477RC	Studies in Rhetoric and Composition ¹
ENGLISH 477DH	Studies in Digital Humanities ¹
ENGLISH 448	External Internship
ENGLISH 449A	Publication Practicum
ENGLISH 449B	Publication Practicum
ENGLISH 449C	Publication Practicum
ENGLISH 499	Senior Tutorial

IV. Electives 6

Choose two of the following courses:

CLASSICS 300CY	Ancient World in Cinema
CLASSICS 340AWI	Classical Literature In Translation ²
CLASSICS 391WI	Ancient Greek and Roman Medicine
COMM-ST 354	Introduction to Screenwriting
ENGLISH 311	American Literature I ²
ENGLISH 312	Creative Writing I Fiction

ENGLISH 315	Creative Writing Poetry
ENGLISH 316	Literary Nonfiction
ENGLISH 317	British Literature I ²
ENGLISH 318	Bible As Literature
ENGLISH 321	American Literature II ²
ENGLISH 323	Shakespeare ²
ENGLISH 325	Arthurian Legends
ENGLISH 326	Modern Irish Literature
ENGLISH 327	British Literature II ²
ENGLISH 331	African American Literature I ²
ENGLISH 332WI	Race and Literature
ENGLISH 333	African American Literature II
ENGLISH 336	Contemporary American Literature
ENGLISH 337	Introduction to American Studies
ENGLISH 351	Special Readings ¹
ENGLISH 355	The Novel Before 1900
ENGLISH 356	Studies in Poetry
ENGLISH 365WI	The Novel After 1900
ENGLISH 367	Introduction to Latinx Literature
ENGLISH 404	Old English
ENGLISH 433	Histories Of Writing, Reading, And Publishing ¹
ENGLISH 441	Girls, Literacies, and Print Culture
ENGLISH 447	Theory and Criticism in English Studies
ENGLISH 450	Special Readings ¹
ENGLISH 464	Paleography
ENGLISH 477CS	Classical Studies ¹
ENGLISH 477EM	Early Modern Studies ¹
ENGLISH 477ES	18th-Century Studies ¹
ENGLISH 477MS	Medieval Studies ¹
ENGLISH 477NS	19th-Century Studies ¹
ENGLISH 477SA	Studies in Authorship ¹
ENGLISH 477SG	Studies in Genre ¹
ENGLISH 477TS	20th- and 21st-Century Studies ¹
FILM 323	Concepts of the Hero in Ancient Literature and World Cinema

Total Credits**36**

¹ These courses, when offered with different content, are repeatable for credit.

² These courses, which may fit in more than one category, **may only be used once towards the 36 credit hour total.**

General Electives

Students must take elective credit hours to meet the minimum credit hour requirement for their degree, including at least 36 credit hours of coursework at the 300-level or above. The minimum required by the university is 120 credit hours, of which at least 30 credit hours must be taken at UMKC, but some degree programs require more.

Code	Title	Credits
General Electives		51

¹ No course may be used to fulfill more than one requirement, but courses not used for "Language" or "Rhetoric" categories above may be taken for the "Language/Rhetoric/Theory" category.

² Only one course at the 100- or 200-level may be used to fulfill an elective requirement. No more than one course in Creative Writing may be counted toward the 36-hour requirement for the Language and Rhetoric Emphasis. No course in expository writing or journalism may be used to fulfill the 300-level or above elective requirement. Elective coursework may be offered on a rotation basis. Please consult with your advisor for current availability.

Minimum GPA: 2.0

Total Credit Hours: 120

Tools for Planning and Fulfilling Academic Requirements

UMKC’s Major Maps are detailed, semester by semester plans that lead a student to complete all degree requirements within four years. Plans include benchmarks and critical courses by term that assist a student’s evaluation of progress and major “fit”. In order to ensure that the appropriate courses are taken, students are encouraged to consult with the undergraduate advisor for this major. Please see the tab above to view the major map for this program.

UMKC’s Transfer Guides (<https://www.umkc.edu/transfer/transfer-credit/transfer-guides.html>) provide detailed guidance on recommended transfer coursework, plans of study, transfer timelines, and transfer contact information. To ensure a seamless transfer experience, students are encouraged to work with both their community college advisor and a UMKC advisor when planning their coursework.

UMKC’s PlanMyDegree ‘Audit’ (<https://www.umkc.edu/registrar/academic-programs/plan-my-degree.html>) degree audit system provides an individual evaluation of all degree requirements (General Education, Degree Specific, Major Specific, etc.) for students’ officially recorded (Office of the Registrar) and “what if” exploratory plans of study. This evaluation is used to certify all graduation requirements.

UMKC’s PlanMyDegree ‘Plans’ (<https://www.umkc.edu/registrar/academic-programs/plan-my-degree.html>) degree planning tool enables students to develop a personalized semester by semester plan of study towards completion of degree requirements for student’s officially recorded (Office of the Registrar) and “what if” exploratory plans of study. Update and edit your full plan to degree completion each term and confirm accuracy each semester with your Academic Advisor(s).

Major Map

Four Year Graduation Plan - Courses & Critical Benchmarks for First Time College Students:

UMKC’s Major Maps are detailed, undergraduate four-year course outlines that inform students on the classes they should take and when to take them. Outlines are updated yearly. Graduate students should visit their program’s individual school for program outlines.

The following is a sample course of study. Your path to graduation may vary based on factors such as college credit you earned while in high school, transfer work from other institutions of higher learning, and placement in Mathematics. You are responsible for checking prerequisites to any courses. It is the Student’s responsibility to ensure that all program requirements are met. This guide is not a substitute for academic advisement.

First Year

Fall Semester	Credits	Spring Semester	Credits
GEFSE 101		3 ENGLISH 1XX/2XX Major Elective course ^{CC}	3
ENGLISH 110 ^{CC}		3 ENGLISH 225	3
GECRT-AH 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 112, or 113		3 MATH 116 or STAT 115	3
HISTORY 101, 102, or POL-SCI 210		3 COMM-ST 110 or 277	3
General Elective		3 General Elective	3
		15	15

Second Year

Fall Semester	Credits	Spring Semester	Credits
ENGLISH 311, 321, 317, or 327 ^{CC}		3 ENGLISH 311, 321, 317, or 327 ^{CC}	3
ENGLISH 320 or 330		3 GECDV 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, or 211	3
GECRT-SS 101, 102, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, or 111		3 GECRT-SC 101, 102, or 103	3
GECUE 201, 203, 204, 205, 206, or 272		3 General Elective	3
General Elective		3 General Elective	3
		15	15

Third Year

Fall Semester	Credits	Spring Semester	Credits
ENGLISH 311, 321, 317, or 327		3 ENGLISH 311, 321, 317, or 327	3
ENGLISH 323		3 ENGLISH 3XX/4XX Rhetoric Elective	3
ENGLISH 3XX/4XX Rhetoric Elective		3 General Elective	3
ENGLISH 3XX/4XX Rhetoric Elective		3 General Elective	3
General Elective		3 General Elective	3
		15	15

Fourth Year

Fall Semester	Credits	Spring Semester	Credits
ENGLISH 3XX/4XX Language/ Rhetoric/Theory Elective		3 ENGLISH 3XX/4XX Language/ Rhetoric/Theory Elective	3
ENGLISH 3XX/4XX Major Elective (WI course if not yet completed)		3 ENGLISH 3XX/4XX Major Elective	3
General Elective		3 3XX/4XX General Elective	3
General Elective		3 General Elective	3
General Elective		3 General Elective	3
		15	15

Total Credits: 120

CC Critical Courses provide feedback regarding major fit and help indicate likelihood of successful completion of chosen academic program and degree.

Recommendations to Maintain Progress toward 4-Year Degree Completion

- Completion of the First Semester Experience (FSE) course in first term.
- Early completion of Written Communication, Oral Communication, and Math Pathway requirements.
- Maintain the minimum GPA required for academic Good Standing for your degree program.
- Completion at least 15 credit hours toward degree each regular semester. (*Students may use the summer to ensure completion of 30 hours per academic year or to lighten Fall and Spring course loads.*)
- Enrollment in Critical Courses as listed on the Major Map is recommended in order to maintain timely progress and completion of prerequisite coursework.
- Early and continuous enrollment in Foreign Language through completion of level required for degree program is recommended. (*The Foreign Language placement exam is highly recommended to ensure placement in the correct course level.*)
- Regular consultation with Academic Advisor(s) for program(s) of study is strongly recommended and may be required for some degree programs..

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