

## **A Guide for the UNG Associate of Arts Pathway to English, 2018–2019** (including the English Education Pathway)

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This Guide will answer many of your questions, help you decide which courses to take, and explain the English Department's Plan of Study for your AA Degree. You'll probably need to read this guide more than once and refer to portions of it now and again.

### **Getting Started**

First, find the right online version of the [Undergraduate Catalog](#) on UNG's website. Although our programs change from time to time, you'll typically have to fulfill the requirements as they're described in the version of the *Catalog* that was current in the year when you began your program. You can search the *Catalog* for answers to many of your questions.

Online in [Banner](#), go to the **DegreeWorks** program, which can help you work out which courses you need, avoid mistakes, and locate information and services.

You may also find it helpful to get a copy of your appropriate **Plan of Study** form, called the "Plan of Study for BA Degree in English with Teaching Certification." It's online at the [English department's web page](#).

With the help of **DegreeWorks** and your advisor, you can use your plan of study like a to-do list. (But you can ignore **the military courses**.) Check off everything you already have credit for. (Credit typically means an A, B, or C grade – but some courses require a B or higher for Education majors.) If you don't remember all your courses or grades, use your Tranguid in Banner to guide you. (In Banner, follow the menu items Student, Student Records, and Student Tranguid.) Everything left unchecked is what you still must complete to graduate.

Through hyperlinks, Degree Works gives you easy access to a number of useful online services: undergraduate catalogs, class schedules, your transcripts, help desk services, and FAQs.

However, it will be less helpful for transfer students, because of the number of variables involved. Transfer students require individual attention and decisions that cannot easily be encoded into Degree Works.

If you're **transferring courses from another school**, the University Registrar evaluates your transcript and decides if a transferred course meets our requirements. If you disagree with the Registrar's decisions, you may appeal by submitting, to the chairperson of the relevant department, a memo presenting your case, including documentation about the course (e.g., a syllabus or a letter from the instructor) and the course description from the other school's catalog.

If the appeal is acceptable to the department, it must then be approved by the University Registrar. (See, on the University website, the Registrar's documents on "[Transfer Credit](#)" and "[Transfer Equivalencies](#).")

Many transfer students find that they have taken some courses that do not apply to their UNG degrees.

**You may be planning to transfer** to another school after you finish your AA degree. If you're planning to go to another school *within* the University System of Georgia, your core courses will

transfer, but you should still consult with an advisor at the other school, especially concerning Area F courses.

If you're planning to go to a school *outside of* the University System of Georgia, *we cannot guarantee* that all the courses you take here will apply. Consult *carefully* and frequently with an advisor at the other school.

## Areas A through F

Searching the online *Undergraduate Catalog*, find the document entitled "Core Curriculum." (You'll find the "Core Curriculum" page in the "Programs" section.) Here you will find information about A through F requirements, including lists of all the courses that fulfill these requirements. These courses are usually offered both fall and spring, and many are offered in summers.

You'll probably need to refer to the "Core Curriculum" pages often, and you may find it helpful to print this section out: Use the print button at the bottom of the "Core Curriculum" page to access a printer-friendly version, which is only about five pages long. For those of you using the online plan of study on the advising tools webpage, core curriculum courses are listed as multiple-choice options within the plan of study.

If you completed parts of these Areas at another school in the University System of Georgia, your courses will generally transfer. The Registrar's online documents on transfer credits and your transcript evaluation on your Banner account can answer many questions about such matters.

**Area A:** You must pass ENGL 1101 and 1102 and your Math with a grade of C. MATH 1101 or 1111 are acceptable, and higher level courses are, too.

**Area B:** For this area, you'll take a course on a **global topic**, along with your 1001 **or** 1002 course in a **modern language**. If you have previous coursework or experience in a modern language, consider taking a CLEP or FLATS exam through the testing center to get credit for the course, which then applies to your plan of study.

You may also take a placement test through the Department of Modern Languages (Dunlap 322), though this will not earn you any course credit. Be aware that your program requires completion through level 2002 of a modern language, which for many students means four language courses.

If you have no prior modern language experience, you will need to begin with the 1001 level. You can list either your 1001 or 1002 class in Area B on your plan of study, but not both. The other class *will be an elective*.

**Area C:** This area includes the first of *three required English 2100-level survey courses* in your degree. (All the available survey courses are listed in the "Core Curriculum" section of the *Catalog* and described later in the *Catalog*.) You need a grade of B or better in your first survey course to take upper-level English courses. You need a grade of B or better in this course (and in ENGL 2050 and 2230) to qualify for upper-division English courses.

For the second course in Area C, there are several good choices in arts and philosophy. Because English teachers will sometimes teach speech, one particularly good option is COMM 1110, Public Speaking. The "Core Curriculum" section of the *Catalog* lists other options.

**Area D:** See the “Core Curriculum” section of the *Catalog* for a list of acceptable courses. Take two **lab-based science courses** (each includes a three-hour lecture and a one-hour lab) and a third three-hour course. If you’re planning to earn a bachelor’s degree in education later, MATH 2400, elementary statistics, is recommended, because you will take a course on statistics-based research (SCED 3540) during your internship.

**Area E:** Take one of the listed courses for each of the three Area E subsections. Remember, courses cannot count in multiple sections. PSYC 1101 is the recommended behavioral science course.

This next point is **important**: The University System of Georgia requires all undergraduates to take **course work in U.S History and the Constitution, and in Georgia history and the state constitution**. To meet that requirement, you should choose one of these courses for Area E: HIST 2111, HIST 2112, or POLS 1101. If you’ve completed one of these courses through AP or IB credit, or at an out-of-state school or a private school, it *does not* meet some of these requirements.

In that case, to meet the requirements fully you’ll need to take *either* an additional course (one of the three listed above) *or* some subset of four exams given through the Testing Center. (For further information, refer to [this page](#).)

Ignoring this requirement can cause you trouble later on in your university career.

**Area F:** You must pass the following courses with a B or better if you plan to take upper-division (3000- and 4000-level) English courses at UNG later. You should finish these courses by the end of your sophomore year:

- At least one ENGL 2100-level literature survey course,
- ENGL 2050, Standard English Grammar, and
- ENGL 2230, Intermediate Composition.

Typically, students take twelve hours in a modern language for their English degrees, completing at least a 2002 course. It’s a good idea to finish this requirement as soon as possible to build on your high school language courses.

You may want to consider study abroad to fulfill the language requirement. It’s an expensive option, and it requires a summer, but immersion in a foreign culture and language can lead to greater fluency, and you’ll benefit from the cross-cultural experience. See the website [of the Center for Global Engagement](#), which offers scholarships to make the experience more affordable.

Some 2100-level literature survey courses (discussed in **Frequently Asked Questions**) also apply in Area F.

## Frequently Asked Questions

**When do I register?** Follow the Registrar’s instructions [here](#) to find that information in your Banner account.

**Which 2100-level surveys should I take?** You’re required to take *at least one* World Literature course. You may take any of the other survey courses listed under Area C in the “Core Curriculum” section of the *Catalog*, for a total of *five* survey courses.

With the Common Core curriculum, you will teach multicultural, world, American, and European literature; choose your surveys with that in mind.

Also keep in mind that early literature (ancient and medieval) is often the most difficult for new teachers, so you should probably take *at least one* early World or early British survey to help you understand and teach these works.

Many literature surveys are offered both fall and spring; some are offered in the summer.

**What will *this* course be like?** The best way to learn about a specific course is to talk to the professor who teaches it; ask for a copy of a recent syllabus. Also talk with students who have taken it.

**Can I test out of any modern language requirements?** If your high school work enables you to test out of 1001, then you only have to take nine hours. See the Modern Language Department about placement tests. Be aware that placement tests may not give you course credit – you will need to take substituted electives to fill these spots.

You can consider taking CLEP or FLATS exams through the UNG testing center to receive courses credit *which will count* for your program. CLEP and FLATS exams give students the opportunity to earn credit through the 2002 level with one exam. Refer to the Testing Center's website for [more information](#).

**Can I take courses online?** The University System's eCore courses (that is, online courses) will all apply to your degree. But you should remember that online courses may require skills and aptitudes (e.g., considerable persistence in working independently) that may not be required in your classroom courses. See the catalog for [a list of offered courses](#).

**What is an advisor? Who is my advisor? Why should I bother seeing them? I know what I'm doing.** An advisor is, typically, a faculty member with experience in the field you are wanting to explore. Advisors are excellent resources for you to answer any questions you have, help you choose appropriate courses, and help you stay on track for meeting graduation requirements. Your assigned advisor will be listed on your Tranguid in your Banner account. (Go to Banner and follow menu items for Student, Student Records, and Student Tranguid.)

It is *strongly recommended* that you check in with your advisor every semester – even if you are positive that you know what you are doing. In the best case, your advisor will simply review your plan and tell you that you're doing a good job. Much more frequently, your advisor will ask why you have certain classes planned and, when necessary, make recommendations which may keep you more on track.

### **Anything else?**

1. **See your advisor *at least once a semester***, beginning with your very first semester. Students who do not are sometimes rudely surprised to learn that they have not met one qualification or another.
2. Keep your English textbooks, especially the anthologies from your literature survey courses. They will be invaluable references while you teach. And you don't get that much money back by selling them.
3. Plan ahead. Consult your advisor regularly. Really.

## **Useful Phone Numbers and Other Information**

**The English Department:** On the Gainesville campus the English Department office is located at 4168 Nesbitt (678-717-3935, fax 678-717-3832). Many questions can be answered by Associate Department Head Dr. Shannon Gilstrap ([shannon.gilstrap@ung.edu](mailto:shannon.gilstrap@ung.edu)).

On the Dahlonoga campus: Our main office is at Dunlap 207 (706-864-1775, fax 706-864-1485). Many questions can be answered by Office Administrator Kayla Mehalcik ([kayla.mehalcik@ung.edu](mailto:kayla.mehalcik@ung.edu)).

**Advisors** for English Education students include these faculty on the Gainesville campus:

Prof. Anita Turlington (678-717-3429), [anita.turlington@ung.edu](mailto:anita.turlington@ung.edu)  
Prof. Kristin Kelly (678-717-3935), [kristin.kelly@ung.edu](mailto:kristin.kelly@ung.edu)

**Advisors** for English Education majors include these faculty on the Dahlonoga campus:

Prof. Steven Brehe (706-864-1349), [steven.brehe@ung.edu](mailto:steven.brehe@ung.edu)  
Prof. Austin Riede (706-864-1961), [austin.riede@ung.edu](mailto:austin.riede@ung.edu)

**The Secondary Education Advisor** on all campuses is Dr. Chantelle Grant (706-867-2969), [chantelle.grant@ung.edu](mailto:chantelle.grant@ung.edu).

You can also contact [COEadviseDAH@ung.edu](mailto:COEadviseDAH@ung.edu) or [COEadviseGVL@ung.edu](mailto:COEadviseGVL@ung.edu) for information about the education side.

Good luck!