

**Department of English Language & Literature  
National University of Singapore**

**MINOR IN ENGLISH STUDIES**

In the last fifty years English has become the major world language. Spoken with different levels of competence by nearly 800 million people, it is the pre-eminent means of communication in international business, diplomacy, and academia, the medium of numerous vibrant national literatures, the language of many important films, as well as an almost ubiquitous presence in electronic communications of various kinds. The high level of English in Singapore has long been one of the country's social, cultural, economic and intellectual assets. For these reasons, a Minor in English Studies is likely to be attractive to students from a number of diverse disciplines throughout the university.

Minor in English Studies offers students a chance to develop a level of knowledge and thinking abilities in both Literature and Language study. It introduces students to some of the central questions of the two disciplines, and some of the methodologies they have developed for investigating those questions. In particular, students are encouraged to acquire a critical understanding of literary and linguistic analyses, and the capacity to engage meaningfully in analysis, interpretation, and explanation. There is also some room in the Minor for students to choose modules and develop interests of their own. The student who follows this Minor will have an increased understanding of the nature of the English language, and of literature in English, as well as tools for further independent investigation of literary and linguistic phenomena.

**This minor is open to students from all faculties, but students majoring in English Language and/or English Literature are not eligible for this Minor in English Studies.**

The student must take 6 modules (24 MCs), out of which 4 are compulsory; and the final 2 modules are level 3000 electives through which students may develop their own interests in English.

The following are the essential modules:

1. EL1101E The Nature of Language
2. EN1101E An Introduction to Literary Studies or the cross-listed GEK1000 or EN2101E Literary Appreciation and Criticism. [EN2101E is for students with GCE 'A' level English Literature at grade C and above.]
3. EL2131 Patterns in English: Grammar and Meaning or EL2101/EL2201 Structure of Sentences and Meanings
4. EN2111 Reading British/World Texts or EN2112 Reading American Texts or EN2113 Reading Film and Cultural Texts.

Students are required to choose 2 elective modules from the **level 3000** [English Language](#) and/or [English Literature](#) modules.

For reasons of staff availability and student enrolment, not all level 3000 elective modules will necessarily be offered every academic year. Students are to check the website/noticeboard for the modules offered, and the relevant pre-requisites and preclusions.