English Studies
(offered by the Department of English Studies)
Telephone number 012 429 6774

1 Introduction

English Studies offers students an opportunity to explore a wide variety of topics and areas of speculation and debate, ranging from English for Specific Purposes and the development of language skills, to the study and analysis of literary representation within a broader cultural and philosophical context. The modules offered situate the study of English in an open structure which allows students to choose those that best suit their needs and interests. First-level modules offer practical, critical and theoretical contexts for thinking and learning; second and third level courses engage students in a process of study and analysis which encourages the exploration of textuality and the changing relationships between texts and contexts. From different but complementary perspectives, the selection seeks to empower students as thinkers, learners and writers, both within the discipline and across the University.

2 General Information

- At first level, students may register for any two modules depending on their needs. However, students should not register for both ENN101 and ENN103 as these are regarded as equivalent core modules.
- Students who wish to study English at second and third level are advised to register for ENN101 and ENN102. These modules have a critical, literary and creative emphasis. They serve as a useful introduction to further study in English and develop critical and writing skills appropriate to other disciplines in the human, social and cultural sciences.
- Students who wish to improve their skills in English and who do not intend further study in English are advised to register for ENN103 and one of ENN104 or ENN106. These modules have a practical orientation and have been designed to serve specific needs and requirements.
- Students may register for individual modules in line with the requirements of particular learning programmes or in order to obtain additional credits to complete a degree.
- Science students who have passed CSS101 and wish to obtain credit for English on first level may take ENN101 or ENN103.
- All first-level modules permit access to studying English at second level. However, students who obtain a mark of less than 65% for ENN103-108 are advised not to register for second-level modules without consulting the Department of English Studies prior to registration.
- Students who select English as a major subject are advised to take at least two modules in one or more of the following subjects before or together with Second level: EED101F, EED201J, another language, Biblical Studies, Classical Culture, Communication Science, History, Art History, History of Music, Linguistics, Philosophy, Modern Romance Literature in Translation, Psychology, Theory of Literature.

FOR THE COLLEGE OF LAW

LLB students who register for English must select one of the following combinations:

- ENN103 and 106
- ENN101 and 106

3 Admission Requirements

See also A9 in Part 5 of the Calendar

FIRST-LEVEL MODULES

None

4 Transitional Arrangements

- Students who passed only one or two of the papers for English II prior to 2000 retain credit for the paper(s) concerned and can complete the course by passing three or two of the six modules listed under 5 below – see table below for modules which may not be taken. For example, a student who has passed only ENG211 will need to complete three modules in order to meet the requirements for second-level English.
- Students who passed English II papers prior to 1995 or English III papers prior to 1996, but who did not complete the course, will be dealt with on an ad hoc basis. Such students must consult the Chairperson of the Department, English, prior to registration.
- Students who passed only one, two, or three of the papers for English III prior to 2001 retain credit for the paper(s) concerned and can complete the course by passing four, three, or two of the six modules listed under 5 below – see table below for modules which may not be taken. For example, a student who has passed ENN312, ENN313 and ENN315 will need to register for two modules to meet the requirements of third-level English.
- If students have passed ENN321N they MAY NOT register for the new ENN314Q module as the content of the new module overlaps significantly with that of the old ENN312N module. Instead, in order to complete their studies at third-year level in English, they will have to pass ENN311M, ENN303M and ENN315R.

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<tr>
<th>Study unit passed</th>
<th>Modules which may not be taken</th>
<th>Outstanding modules which may be taken</th>
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<tr>
<td>PEN100</td>
<td>ENN103, 104</td>
<td>–</td>
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Study unit passed | Modules which may not be taken | Outstanding modules which may be taken
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ENL101 | ENN101, 103 | ENN102 or EED101 or one of ENN104, 106
ENL102 | ENN102, 104, 106 | ENN101 or ENN103
ENG211 | EED201 | —
ENG212 | — | —
ENG214 | ENN202 | —
ENG215 | — | —

### English as a Major Subject

**Compulsory modules for a major subject combination:**

**NB**

Students wishing to major in English are strongly advised to take EED201J.

**First level:** ENN101 and ENN102

**Second level:** ENN203, 204, 205, 207

**Third level:** ENN311, 303, 314, 315

### Syllabus

**NB**

All modules in this subject are offered as YEAR MODULES.

### First-level Modules

**Prerequisite:** See 3 above

**Advice:** Students are advised to register for ENN101 and either ENN102 or EED101. (Students who register for any two of ENN103, 104, 106 may proceed to second level, but it is recommended that they obtain a pass of at least 65% for both modules before registering for the second level.)

#### INTRODUCTION TO ENGLISH STUDIES

**ENN101D** English studies: Approaching literature and writing* (Project)

*Purpose:* to develop critical and creative writing abilities; to build basic, independent research skills; to establish a literary and academic foundation for English studies; and to introduce students to representations of diversity within a socio-cultural matrix.

Students will encounter and respond to a wide variety of texts in English.

**ENN102E** English studies: Explorations in reading and meaning*

*Purpose:* to encourage students to reflect on their reading practices so that they can become active, critical readers; to develop appropriate reading strategies for the reading of literary and non-literary texts; and to provide opportunities for students to produce a range of written responses to their texts.

The module provides a foundation for cultural and literary studies.

**EED101F** English language studies*

See English for Education

#### English for Specific Purposes (formerly known as Practical English)

**ENN103F** English for academic purposes*

*Purpose:* to enable students to gain a background in English grammar and usage, to develop an ability to read texts critically with comprehension and insight, and to acquire skills in reading and writing at tertiary level.

**ENN104G** Practising workplace English*

*Advice:* This module is a basic introduction to business writing.

*Purpose:* to enable students to develop proficiency in English and a range of related communication skills and strategies for both public and private sector work environments. The central focus is on the ability to produce well written work-related documentation in English.

**ENN106J** English communication for law*

*Purpose:* to enable students to acquire reading, writing and language skills specific to the study of law.

### Second-level Modules

**Prerequisite:** TWO first-level modules in this subject or any FOUR first-level modules.

**Advice:** Students who obtained a mark of less than 65% for ENN103-108 should consult the Department of English Studies prior to registration.
ENN203J One writer's vision: Jane Austen*
*Purpose: to enable students to extend their critical and analytic ability by assessing and comparing the range and nature of a single writer's engagement with ideas concerning gender, society and history.

ENN204K African encounters*
*Purpose: to enable students to think and write critically about their own encounters with African writing and about encounters within African writing such as the author's engagement with history, community, nationhood, politics and his or her literary context.

ENN205L Close reading, good writing*
*Purpose: to enable students to gain insights into literary terms and techniques through the practice of close reading.

ENN207N Exploring Shakespeare*
*Purpose: to introduce students to a variety of Shakespearean texts, and encourage them to undertake close critical reading, in order to develop their own understanding of Shakespeare's language and concerns. The module will encourage students to develop an awareness to the rich variety and diversity of Shakespearean criticism and interpretation.

EED201J English language studies*
See English for Education

THIRD-LEVEL MODULES

Prerequisite: TWO first-level modules in this subject or any FOUR first-level modules.

ENN303M Themes in English language studies
*Advice: Although previous exposure to language studies is not a prerequisite, students who have completed first and second level modules in linguistics or language studies (LIN103Y and/or LIN2046) will be at an advantage.
*Purpose: to engage students in a study of the origins, change and diversity of the English language and to explore the nature and position of English within the context of the multicultural, multilingual nature of South African society.

ENN311M Exploring South African writing*
*Purpose: to develop a critical awareness amongst students of how social issues are reflected in a selection of texts from Africa. Qualifying students are able to explore diverse genres in African writing and can arrive at their own interpretations of the texts within their own contexts.

ENN314Q Reading classics*
*Purpose: to introduce students to the works of major writers from four key periods in the history of English literature. Geoffrey Chaucer, from the fourteenth century, represents the Medieval period; John Milton is from the mid-seventeenth century; there is a selection of poetry from the Romantic period; and George Eliot represents the nineteenth century. The notion of 'classic' writing is interrogated through an exploration of these four works.

ENN315R Testing the limits of the literary sign: Modern and contemporary literature*
*Purpose: to explore the diversity and complexity of literature produced since 1900. Qualifying students are able to read individual works in relation to the philosophical destabilisation of meaning in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. They explore areas of deferred and problematic signification and can arrive at their own interpretations of the texts.