2.3.1.5 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, the Minor in English Studies is likely to be attractive to students from a number of diverse disciplines throughout the university.

The Minor in English Studies offers students a chance to develop a deeper level of knowledge and thinking abilities in the study of Literature and Language. 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 the 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.

The Minor in English Studies is open to all students in NUS, but students majoring in English Language and/or English Literature are not eligible for the Minor in English Studies.

Programme Requirements

Pass at least 24 MCs of EL and EN modules, which must include the following:

1. EL1101E The Nature of Language
2. EL2101 Structure of Sentences and Meanings
3. EN1101E An Introduction to Literary Studies
4. A minimum of ONE level-2000 EN module from the following:
   - EN2201 Backgrounds to Western Literature and Culture
   - EN2202 Critical Reading
   - EN2203 Introduction to Film Studies
   - EN2205 Late Medieval Literature and Culture
   - EN2207 Gender and Sexuality in Literature
(5) At least 8 MCs of EL and/or EN modules at level-3000.

Note 1: Minor in English Studies is NOT offered to EL major and EN major students.

Note 2: A maximum of 8 MCs from the minor can be used to satisfy the requirements of a major or another minor.

Please refer to the guidelines/requirements pertaining to the Minor programmes at the FASS Student Portal and the Registrar’s Office (Minor programmes) website.

Note 3: EN2201, EN2202, EN2203, EN2205 and EN2207 are pre-requisite or co-requisite for level-3000 EN modules; all other level-2000 modules can be taken as electives so long as graduation requirements are met.

For reasons of staff availability and student enrolment, not all Level-2000 and Level-3000 elective modules will necessarily be offered every academic year. Students are to check the Department website for the modules offered, and the relevant prerequisites and preclusion(s).

For the latest updates, please visit the Minor in English Studies website at: http://www.fas.nus.edu.sg/ell