

ENGLISH AND JOURNALISM

We believe story has the power to change the world. We read deeply, listen hard, get curious, go explore, and craft stories that shape our souls and endeavor to change the world.

Students in English and Journalism (<https://www.bethel.edu/undergrad/academics/english-journalism/>):

- BEGIN with a foundation in professional writing, literature, creative writing, or reporting.
- ADVANCE to deeper study with an array of specialty courses from World Literature to Sports Reporting to Writing for Social Change.
- CONNECT career to calling.
- PRACTICE with experiential learning in on-site internships and producing the *Clarion* newspaper and *Coeval* arts and literary magazine.
- EXPLORE the world through courses in Guatemala, India, Belize, and beyond.
- FORGE paths to the future with capstone projects and presentations.
- CELEBRATE accomplishments with a community of mentors and colleagues.

Our graduates work in law, literary publishing, newspapers, technical writing, nonprofit and ministry public relations, broadcast journalism, teaching, arts advocacy, and more.

Majors in English and Journalism

- B.A. in Communication Arts and Literature Education 5-12 (English Education) (<https://catalog.bethel.edu/arts-sciences/academic-programs-departments/english/communication-arts-literature-education-5-12-english-education-ba/>)
- B.A. in English (<https://catalog.bethel.edu/arts-sciences/academic-programs-departments/english/english-ba/>)
- B.A. in Journalism (<https://catalog.bethel.edu/arts-sciences/academic-programs-departments/english/journalism-ba/>)

Minors in English and Journalism

- Creative Writing (<https://catalog.bethel.edu/arts-sciences/academic-programs-departments/english/creative-writing-minor/>)
- English (<https://catalog.bethel.edu/arts-sciences/academic-programs-departments/english/english-minor/>)
- Journalism (<https://catalog.bethel.edu/arts-sciences/academic-programs-departments/english/journalism-minor/>)
- Photojournalism (<https://catalog.bethel.edu/arts-sciences/academic-programs-departments/english/photojournalism/>)

ENJ 100 • How Stories Change the World: How to Read & Why 4 Credits

Introductory exploration of great stories (both poetry and prose) and their power to illuminate the human experience, connect with readers' minds and hearts, and portray great ideas, hopes, joys, and sorrows. Students gain experience interpreting literature with greater comprehension and pleasure.

Offered: Fall or Spring.

ENJ 102 • British Literature 4 Credits

An exploration of great stories (both poetry and prose) from the British Isles. Students enhance comprehension and appreciation through study of historical and cultural contexts as well as literary interpretation skills.

Offered: Spring, odd # years.

English and Journalism 2

ENJ 103 • Topics in American Literature 4 Credits

Through a combination of survey and deep dive into a literary movement, students engage American literature within its historical and cultural contexts and its significance to American life today.

Offered: Spring, even # years.

ENJ 110A • Introduction to Creative Writing 4 Credits

Exploration of the creative act, addressing writing as a means for discovering the created world and ourselves as created beings within it. Emphasis on writing original work in three major genres: fiction, creative nonfiction, and poetry.

Offered: Fall, Spring.

ENJ 120 • Reporting 4 Credits

Introduction to fundamentals of reporting and writing for the news media, emphasizing print journalism. Covers news values, news judgment, the structure of news stories, information gathering, research techniques, and Associated Press style. Students learn to write quickly, accurately, and concisely on deadline.

Offered: Fall.

ENJ 121 • Digital Storytelling 4 Credits

Experimentation in advanced forms of storytelling in multiple media – including images, audio/video and graphics – to build a more diverse set of storytelling tools, and understanding when and how to use them, especially on a storytelling team.

Offered: Spring.

ENJ 200L • Story in Modern America 4 Credits

Explores forms, purposes, and functions of American story and how they have evolved. Students examine their roles and responsibilities as truth-seekers by reading, viewing, and creating texts - from short story to graphic novel, from film to podcast - that challenge and confirm assumptions about story in modern American culture.

Prerequisites: GES 130 and GES 160 or GES 149. Offered: Fall.

ENJ 201 • Literature on Location: Minnesota Authors 4 Credits

Explore Minnesota and the storytellers who have shaped its past and its present, and will shape its future. Learn how place matters in literature and how contexts matter in reading and writing. Read and experience Minnesota writers from Fitzgerald to Erdich in the landscapes of prairie, lakes, rivers, and cities.

Offered: January, odd # years.

ENJ 202 • Juvenile Literature 4 Credits

An exploration of a wide range of books written for children and teens in grades 5-9, as well as resources for effectively finding, reading, and interacting with them. Major topics of discussion include censorship, diversity, representation, and literary merit.

Offered: Spring, even # years.

ENJ 203U • World Literature 4 Credits

Focused study of literature from a non-western region of the world, examining social and historical contexts.

Prerequisites: GES 130 (may be taken concurrently) or GES 149 (may be taken concurrently). Offered: Spring, odd # years.

ENJ 204L • Modern Mythmakers 4 Credits

Consideration of how writers and filmmakers appropriate mythic structures and archetypes to create meaningful narratives of human experience. Modern mythmakers may include: J.R.R. Tolkien, George Lucas, Toni Morrison, C.S. Lewis, and others.

Prerequisites: GES 130 and GES 160 (may be taken concurrently) or GES 149 (may be taken concurrently). Offered: Occasionally.

ENJ 210A • Prose Studio 4 Credits

A workshop for exploring and sharpening prose style in nonfiction forms utilized in blogs, personal essays, technical writing, and op-ed writing. Includes reading and writing in a variety of prose forms, voices, and topics to assist students in developing persuasive, precise, and personal writing styles.

Prerequisites: GES 130 and GES 160 or GES 149. Offered: Occasionally.

ENJ 211 • Methods of Tutoring Writing 1 Credit

Introduction to the practical applications of writing theory, with a focus on tutoring student writers. Course readings with supervision will guide reflection on the student's work as a Writing Center tutor.

Prerequisites: Consent of instructor. Offered: Fall or Spring. Special Notes: This course is required of all first-time Writing Center tutors.

ENJ 220 • Principles of Editing 4 Credits

Editing of copy for publication in newspapers, magazines, and online media. Exposure to the book publishing process. Course includes working with the Associated Press and Chicago Style manuals.

Offered: Spring, even # years.

ENJ 221 • Feature Writing 4 Credits

Analyzing, writing, and marketing feature stories of various types: service articles, profiles, human-interest pieces, and in-depth issue articles for possible publication online or in print.

Prerequisites: ENJ 120. Offered: Spring 2026.

ENJ 300 • Shakespeare: The Art of the Dramatist 4 Credits

Major plays in Shakespeare's distinct periods and genres: history, comedy, tragedy, and romance. Both literary and theatrical aspects are examined, with attention to historical context. Emphasis on performance.

Offered: Spring, even # years.

ENJ 305G • Truth-Telling: The Stories of Resistance 4 Credits

Literature, film, and stories that reveal truths regarding systems of oppression. Explores the struggle for justice through the narratives and the imaginative response of the oppressed. Literary historical foci include the Holocaust, the experience of Native Americans, African Americans, women, and the oppressed in Minnesota.

Prerequisites: [GES 130; GES 160 or GES 149]; Contemporary Western Life and Thought (L) course or World Cultures (U) course. Offered: Fall.

ENJ 310 • Ways of Reading 4 Credits

Theory offers us a deeper way to engage with texts. Students interact with texts through a succession of perspectives and apply concepts and techniques for engaging with literature and culture in more perceptive and satisfying ways.

Prerequisites: ENJ 100. Offered: Occasionally.

ENJ 311 • Writing for Social Change 4 Credits

An exploration of persuasive writing through essays, blogs, and opinion pieces in which students use their writing skills to engage in public discourse of important issues in the hope of initiating social change.

Prerequisites: ENJ 120 or ENJ 210A. Offered: Occasionally.

ENJ 312AZ • Travel Writing 4 Credits

Art and craft of travel writing studied and practiced while traveling. Focus on reading travel writing from the past and present, and writing about one's own travel experience as it happens. May also include reading literature and other books related to the place of travel.

Prerequisites: GES 104. Offered: January, odd # years.

ENJ 314A • Fiction Writing 4 Credits

Practice in modern narrative techniques. Emphasis on writing and peer criticism of short fiction.

Offered: Fall, even # years.

English and Journalism 4

ENJ 315A • Poetry Writing 4 Credits

Metrics, imagery, and other techniques of versification, with practice in writing in a wide variety of genres.

Offered: Spring, even # years.

ENJ 317 • Publishing & Being Published 4 Credits

Connect with local literary publishing houses to learn about the editorial processes of professional publishing. Obtain hands-on experience by participating in all aspects of publishing Bethel's literary arts journal, *Coeval*: from reviewing submissions and selecting content to editing and designing. Students will also submit their own creative work for publication.

Prerequisites: ENJ 110A. Offered: Spring.

ENJ 321GZ • Media and Communication in Developing Countries 4 Credits

An examination of the socioeconomic, technological, and political factors that have influenced the development of communication systems in developing countries, with special emphasis on the role of Christian journalists. Includes comparative analysis of western media systems and those of developing nations.

Prerequisites: GES 104; [GES 130; GES 160 or GES 149]; Contemporary Western Life and Thought (L) course or World Cultures (U) course and Junior or senior standing. Offered: January, even # years.

ENJ 323 • Sports Reporting 4 Credits

Develop skills in reporting, writing and multimedia storytelling, gain exposure to award-winning sports reporting and sports reporters in multiple media and learn to think critically about sports media, as a journalist, fan, consumer, teammate, ethicist, and Christian.

Prerequisites: ENJ 120. Offered: Spring 2027.

ENJ 324 • Arts & Cultures Reporting 4 Credits

Develop skills in reporting, writing and multimedia storytelling, gain exposure to award-winning arts and culture reporting and reporters in multiple media and learn to think critically about arts and culture media, as a journalist, fan, producer, consumer, ethicist, and Christian.

Prerequisites: ENJ 120 and ENJ 121 (may be taken concurrently). Offered: Spring 2029.

ENJ 325 • Topics in Journalism 4 Credits

Study of a specialized topic of relevance to the practicing journalist with emphasis on the impact of journalism within a specific cultural context and the unique role of the Christian journalist.

Prerequisites: ENJ 120. Offered: Occasionally.

ENJ 330 • Topics in Literary Studies 4 Credits

Close study in a specific topic or genre of literature. Emphasis on applying the skills of literature study to a closely-focused topic.

Prerequisites: ENJ 100. Offered: Occasionally.

ENJ 400 • StoryForge I 2 Credits

Prepare for StoryForge II and the future by reflecting on strengths and gaps, casting a vision, and developing a project or internship proposal. Hear from speakers and read texts that will help build one's faith in God and self-confidence as one thinks about life after college.

Prerequisites: Major or minor in the department of English and Journalism and Junior standing. Offered: Spring. Special Notes: This course can be repeated for credit.

ENJ 498 • Internship in Writing 3-4 Credits

Placement in an off-campus writing position. Must be planned well in advance of placement in consultation with advisor.

Prerequisites: Major or minor in English and Journalism department and Completion of 10 credit hours in English and journalism. Offered: By arrangement.

ENJ 499 • StoryForge II 4 Credits

Launch from work in StoryForge I to complete a capstone project that implements and showcases skills gained throughout one's education in and outside the classroom. As crucible and scaffold, a structure for vibrant, responsive, sustainable independent work to bridge students to career, graduate school, or freelance work is modeled.

Prerequisites: ENJ 400 and a major in the department of English and Journalism. Offered: Fall. Special Notes: This course can be repeated for credit.