

# DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

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**Les Harrison, Ph.D.**

Associate professor and chair

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Professor and director of the creative writing program

**Mary Caton Lingold, Ph.D.**

Associate professor and director of the MATX program

english.vcu.edu (<http://www.english.vcu.edu>)

The purpose of the Department of English is to teach students to see their worlds with clarity and respond to them with sensitivity, through reading and writing. Students are invited to read and explore a diversity of texts created in different times and voices and then to respond to these texts variously and critically, situating them within their contexts and discerning their important aesthetic features, rhetorical elements and social functions.

Students in this department also are encouraged to express themselves in expository or imaginative works that engage thought and feeling, evince purpose clearly, marshal appropriate evidence and observe principles of rhetorical decorum.

The Department of English offers a Bachelor of Arts in English, as well as minors in American studies, British studies, English (for non-English majors), creative writing, professional writing and editing; the Master of Arts in English and the Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing; and a doctoral program leading to a Ph.D. in Media, Art, and Text. Use the program index links to view individual program descriptions and curricula, or visit the department's website (<http://www.english.vcu.edu>) for additional information.

Students who complete the requirements for the below will receive a Bachelor of Arts in English.

- English, Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) (<https://bulletin.vcu.edu/undergraduate/college-humanities-sciences/english/english-ba/>)
- American studies, minor in (<https://bulletin.vcu.edu/undergraduate/college-humanities-sciences/english/american-studies-minor/>)
- British studies, minor in (<https://bulletin.vcu.edu/undergraduate/college-humanities-sciences/english/british-studies-minor/>)
- Creative writing, minor in (<https://bulletin.vcu.edu/undergraduate/college-humanities-sciences/english/creative-writing-minor/>)
- English, minor in (<https://bulletin.vcu.edu/undergraduate/college-humanities-sciences/english/english-minor/>)
- Health humanities, minor in (<https://bulletin.vcu.edu/undergraduate/college-humanities-sciences/english/health-humanities-minor/>)

- Professional writing and editing, minor in (<https://bulletin.vcu.edu/undergraduate/college-humanities-sciences/english/pro-writing-editing-minor/>)