What will your curriculum look like?
Students can major or minor in English and American literature.

The major requires nine courses:
• Introduction to Literary Method (ENG 11a)
• Three courses dealing primarily with literature written in English before 1850
• One course in world literature
• Four electives

Students wishing to pursue honors must earn a GPA of 3.50 or higher in courses counting towards the major and complete a senior honors essay (one semester), which counts as a tenth course. In rare cases, students may elect instead to complete the senior honors thesis (two semesters).

The minor requires five courses:
• Introduction to Literary Method (ENG 11a)
• Four other courses offered by the department

Creative Writing Major
The creative writing major falls under the auspices of the English and American literature department. Students may double major in English and American literature and creative writing or major in one while minoring in the other.

What else does the English and American literature major offer?
Our faculty have special interest in a number of areas: women’s studies, gender and sexuality, American literature, Anglophone literature and postcolonial theory, early modern (especially Renaissance) English literature, literature and science, literary theory and philosophy, and contemporary poetry. Recent courses include: American Literature in the Age of Lincoln; Sex and Culture; Literature and Empire; Film Noir; and Major English Writers. Our faculty members publish regularly with major university presses and have won numerous fellowships and awards. For further information on the research or teaching interests of particular faculty members, please visit the department’s faculty webpage and click on any name for a detailed biography.

What kind of career and education options will you have?
Studying English prepares students for careers in teaching, law, business, publishing, writing, and administration. Understanding the history and conflicts that have shaped English-speaking cultures is also enormously valuable for anyone interested in human services, politics, travel, cross-cultural exchanges, or creative and artistic projects. English graduates help to ensure society’s cultural inheritance even as they contribute to that culture—as creators, as intelligent consumers, or both. Among our graduates are scientists, businessmen and women, professors, lawyers, filmmakers, television producers, psychologists, fiction writers and poets, literary agents, and social activists.

How can you learn more?
Visit the department website at www.brandeis.edu/departments/english.