INTRODUCTION

The program in Literature (LITT) asks majors to consider the sweep of our literary heritage. Course offerings encompass British, European, American, and global literatures, from ancient Greece to the twenty-first century, as well as creative writing. The program is at once skills-based, emphasizing critical thinking and writing, and committed to the interdisciplinary study of literature as a serious intellectual pursuit.

WHY STUDY LITERATURE AT RICHARD STOCKTON COLLEGE?

Career opportunities: Employers today value strong writing, communication, and analytical skills. These skills are the foundation of a B.A. in Literature at Richard Stockton College.

Among its career paths, the program prepares students for graduate studies in literature or creative writing; however, our graduates have also gone on to advanced study and work in a variety of fields, including education, law, journalism, publishing, web-based communications, advertising, civil service, library and information science, public relations, and non-profit and higher education administration.

The Literature program encourages its students to pursue at least one term of study abroad or one term of internship (e.g., the Washington Internship). A sample of previous placements for majors in Literature includes internships with the United Press International’s Capitol Hill Investigative Reporter, The National Journal, The Hill Rag, D.C. Public Defender, as well as congressional and executive offices.

A comparative, global curriculum: The Literature program presents students with a curriculum full of exciting traditional courses as well as global, multicultural, and interdisciplinary offerings. We emphasize language and cultural studies.

Intellectual rigor and student success: The Literature program is proud to count a number of valedictorians, many recipients of Distinguished Student Fellowships, and published authors among its majors.

Texts and technology: Our program emphasizes new media research and digital media production and offers students opportunities to participate in faculty-led digital scholarship, such as the Stockton Postcolonial Project http://wp.stockton.edu/postcolonialstudies and the Franz Kain Project www.franzkain.net. Literature students are also encouraged to participate in the South Jersey Culture & History Center, devoted to the study and dissemination of texts connected with South Jersey.

Active student engagement: Our program prides itself on involving students in writing and research. We publish a student-run journal, Stockpot, and the anthology Divergently. Many of our students give presentations at local and professional conferences. The program maintains an active chapter of the honor society Sigma Tau Delta as well as the literature club, Idols of the Tribe. The program brings students, faculty, and alumni together for career orientation workshops, meet-and-greet information gatherings, graduate school application workshops, and the annual LITT Bash, a large party to honor outstanding student work and celebrate the completion of the academic year. Our facebook page, The LITT Program at RSCNJ, informs students and alumni of upcoming events and features interesting information from the world of literature.

www.stockton.edu/arhu
The program is composed of three concentrations: Literary Studies, Creative Writing, and Theatre/English. Two core courses are common to all concentrations: LITT 2123: Introduction to Research in Literature and LITT 4610: Senior Seminar. Additionally, all students must take one designated “literary interpretation course” as a prerequisite to the research course. In all concentrations, students will learn to read texts critically, how to write clearly and professionally, how to identify the qualities of the traditional genres in Western literature, how to complete literary research using printed and electronic sources, and how to recognize continuities and paradigm shifts in literature. Most students will also study the three main streams of Western literature—European, British, and American. As juniors and seniors, students will enroll in several seminars where they will be required to synthesize their knowledge. Note: Most LITT 2000-level courses are without prerequisites and thus open to all students regardless of major. LITT 2123 is a prerequisite course for most LITT courses at the 3000 and 4000 level. Transfer students who wish to be Literature majors, especially those with associate’s degrees, will typically enroll, during their first semester, in a 2000-level “literary interpretation” course and take LITT 2123 the following term. A Language or Cultural Studies component is required for both the Literary Studies and Creative Writing concentrations. Specific requirements can be referenced at http://intraweb.stockton.edu/eyos/academic_advising/content/docs/Humanities.pdf

The Literary Studies concentration: This concentration prepares students for graduate work in English studies or related fields (cultural studies, library science, rhetoric and composition, law, etc.) and for careers in elementary or secondary teaching, as well as for other careers in which critical analysis, close reading, and strong writing skills are valued, such as publishing, advertising, and journalism. The concentration is based on the assumption that such students need a curriculum of breadth over all types and periods of literature, and depth in various periods, authors, or theoretical approaches. All students in this concentration must take at least one course in American literature, one course in British literature (in addition to Shakespeare), and one course in US Ethnic/Postcolonial literature.

The Creative Writing concentration: Students in this concentration will take, in addition to literature courses, a variety of creative writing courses to develop their style, technique, and range, of writing. All students will take LITT 2237: Introduction to Creative Writing, two creative writing electives, the Creative Writing Workshop, and two advanced workshops in poetry and/or fiction. Some students may opt to for a creative thesis instead of senior seminar. Elective writing classes include travel writing, play writing, humor writing, creative non-fiction, speculative fiction, experimental writing, nature writing, flash fiction, and more.

The Literature program sponsors the Visiting Writers Series: Public readings by poets, novelists, and non-fiction authors with local, national, and international reputations. Recent visiting writers include Jeffrey Eugenides, Galway Kinnell, Sharon Olds, Marilyn Nelson, Marie Howe, Tony Hoagland, Mark Strand, and Alicia Ostriker.

The Theatre/English concentration: Students wishing to combine study of literature and the physical theatre must fulfill two sets of requirements: one in LITT and the other in Performing Arts (ARTP.) Students wishing to teach high school English and drama should consult the School of Education about requirements for certification/endorsement in that area.

ADMISSION TO THE PROGRAM

The Literature program is open to any student with an interest in literature, creative writing, or theatre. There are no formal entrance requirements beyond acceptance to the College.

The primary medium of the program is language; the faculty assumes that those wishing to pursue a LITT degree will be proficient in their own use of language—reading, writing, speaking—since courses in LITT demand a substantial exercise of these skills.

Students wishing to major in the program are encouraged to declare their intentions by the beginning of their sophomore year if possible, but definitely before the beginning of their junior year. Students, including transfer students, intending to major in Literature, should consult with a faculty member of the program. That person will describe requirements and may recommend preceptors. For more information about the Literature program, visit our webpage at http://wp.stockton.edu/literature

THE MINOR

The Literature program offers a minor for students who are interested in literature but are majoring in another field. To minor in Literature, students are required to complete five courses in LITT with a grade of C or better: one “literary interpretation” course, one course at the 1000 or 2000 level, LITT 2123, and two courses at the 3000 level or above. Students
must consult with a faculty member of the program to plan and review a coherent selection of courses.

**STUDENTS PURSUING TEACHING CERTIFICATION**

Students pursuing K-12 teaching certifications, whether in elementary/middle school instruction or in secondary English teaching must meet the requirements of both the LITT and the EDUC programs, along with other State-mandated requirements. This will necessitate more than the minimum 128 credit hours for degree completion. Students should consult the School of Education for an explanation of certification requirements.

Information regarding Scholarship opportunities and participation in Student Clubs and Honor Societies is available at [www.stockton.edu/arhu](http://www.stockton.edu/arhu)

**STOCKTON’S LIVING LEARNING COMMUNITIES**

Living Learning Communities (LLCs) in Residence Life are designed to connect students, faculty and staff around activities both in and out of the classroom. These themed communities support and enhance student success in academic, personal and social development, by providing related activities both on and off campus.

The Communities are:
- **Freshmen**—Diversity; Wellness; Honors
- **Upperclassmen**—Diversity; Wellness; Honors; Sustainability; Global Citizenship and Creative Arts

[www.stockton.edu/arhu](http://www.stockton.edu/arhu)
THE FACULTY

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