Graduation with Distinction: English (ENGLISH)

The English department offers its majors two options for earning distinction: a.) the Critical Thesis option and b.) the Creative Writing option.

To be eligible for either option, English majors must have completed, by the beginning of the senior year, at least five (5) 100-level English courses and must have a GPA of at least 3.5 in English courses. Qualified students must submit an application form that includes a writing sample of about 10 pages from an English course, one recommendation from an English faculty member and a project description and basic bibliography (one page single spaced). Applications must be submitted to the Director of Undergraduate Studies. Applications are due Nov. 15th for a spring-to-fall option or March 15th for a fall-to-spring project).

Expected product
A well-executed and carefully revised piece of writing, generally of 35-65 pages in length.

Evaluative body
After initial approval by the thesis director, the director of undergraduate studies and his/her advisory committee will evaluate all honors theses.

Evaluation procedure
Upon approval by the instructor, the completed thesis is submitted to the director of undergraduate studies by December 1 (for a spring-to-fall honors project) or March 31 (for a fall-to-spring honors project) of the senior year for evaluation by the DUS and one other member of the English faculty. Please deliver three spiral-bound copies to 302 Allen Building.

Levels of distinction
Three levels: Distinction, High Distinction, or Highest Distinction. Levels of distinction are based on the quality of the completed work. Students who have done satisfactory work in the seminars but whose thesis is denied distinction will receive graded credit for their seminars and/or independent studies.

Special courses, other activities required, comments
Whereas the standard major in English requires a total of ten courses, students pursuing honors in English will take nine courses plus either two independent study courses or a "home seminar" to be followed by an independent study course.

See Also:
* Department of English
* Critical Thesis Option A
* Creative Writing Option B