

Milestones to Your BFA Degree

Note: This is intended as a general guide. It is not intended to replace all detailed requirements for the degree clearly outlined in the [Undergraduate Catalog](#) and in your Student Degree Audit Report (aka DARS Report), found by logging in to MYBGSU. To stay on track, you should meet with an advisor about progress toward your degree by making an [Academic Advising Appointment](#). You can also meet with your assigned faculty mentor to discuss the major.

FIRST TWO YEARS. You're on your way to Land's End (see the pic)! Only 16 miles to go!

MILES 1 THROUGH 3 :

In your first two years, you'll be completing general education courses, along with courses you need for the BFA major. Go to this [page](#) for the current requirements.

You can take ENG 2040, Imaginative Writing, your very first semester. Many majors choose to do so.

MILES 4 THROUGH 6: To stay on track you MUST complete the four 2000-level courses: Eng 2040, Eng 2050, Eng 2060, and Eng 2090. When you have completed THREE of these courses, and are enrolled in the FOURTH course, during the fifth week of this FOURTH course, you MUST prepare and submit a writing portfolio. Your writing portfolio will be evaluated to determine if you will be invited to continue on in the BFA major and enroll in 3rd-year (i.e. 3000-level) creative writing courses. You can get the [guidelines for preparing the portfolio](#) here.

MILE 7:

You can start to enroll in Eng 0990, Creative Writing Common Time in the first two years. It's a fun and enriching experience involving readings and lectures by visiting writers, MFA writers, creative writing faculty, and BFA seniors. You need four semesters to graduate.

MILE 8:

Finally, in these two years, it's a good idea to declare a minor by reaching out the College of Arts and Sciences (A&S) office, 374 Central Hall, contactcas@bgsu.edu. You can find a form for declaring the minor [here](#). You MUST have a minor to get your BFA degree. You may as well get started on it.

THIRD YEAR. You're getting there. Nine miles behind you and seven more to reach Land's End!

MiLE 9:

If you have NO semesters of Eng 0990 yet, you should enroll in it every semester, beginning fall of the third year. You need four semesters of Eng 0990 to graduate.

MiLE 10:

In your third year, you'll mainly complete 3000-level courses for the major as well as continuing to finish up other general education requirements. Make an appointment with your [Academic Advisor](#) sometime during the third year to make sure you're on track.

FOURTH YEAR. Just the last few miles and you can smell the ocean in the air. Don't give up! Only 5 miles to go to Land's End!

MiLE 11:

A requirement of the degree is to learn how skills can be applied in professional contexts. You can fulfill this requirement EITHER by enrolling in Eng 3870, Literary Editing and Publishing, OR by completing an internship or Co-op. For information on internships and Co-ops, see the [Michael and Sarah Kuhlin Hub for Career Design and Connections](#), and see the program's [Careers](#) page. It's certainly possible to take both Eng 3870 and complete an internship.

MiLE 12:

First off, don't forget to APPLY TO GRADUATE. You can apply on MYBGSU. You can find the dates / deadlines to apply for graduation by downloading the appropriate Academic Calendar [here](#).

MiLE 13:

Next, don't forget that you MUST enroll in Eng 4970, BFA Senior Thesis Workshop, and complete it. Most students take this class in their final semester. You will complete your BFA thesis as part of this class. You can get the [guidelines to prepare your BFA thesis](#) here.

MiLE 14:

Next, you must ask a creative writing faculty member to be the genre advisor for your BFA thesis. Your Eng 4970 instructor will give you a list of faculty available to serve as your genre advisor. You may also ask instructors other than those provided by the instructor IF YOU HAVE HAD THEM FOR ENG 3120, 3130, 4120, OR 4130.

MiLE 15:

Another task you **MUST** complete to pass Eng 4970 is to give a brief public reading from work in your thesis. You'll read in Eng 0990, affectionately known as the Prout Reading Series. See the Reading Series schedule [here](#) for dates of the BFA graduation readings. Your Eng 4970 instructor will help schedule your reading.

The reading is a celebratory event, and many graduating students invite friends and family to attend.

MiLE 16:

You've applied for graduation? You've turned in your thesis for signatures? You've given a reading in the Prout Reading Series? **THAT'S IT. YOU'VE REACHED LAND'S END!** Feel the sand between your toes, sea breeze in your nostrils. Race into the oncoming breakers! Enjoy. You've earned it.