

Graduate School

English

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- [Master of Arts in English](#)

Purposes

The purposes of the Department of English are to:

1. Provide training in research techniques and critical writing.
2. Provide intensive study in certain areas of specialization.
3. Prepare the student for teaching and/or doctoral study.

Master of Arts Degree (M.A)

Admission Requirements

REGULAR ADMISSION

1. A bachelor's degree or equivalent from an accredited college or university.
2. Completion of twenty-four (24) semester hours of undergraduate English courses, at least twelve (12) of which must be at the Jr./Sr. level. Students may be required to make up particular deficiencies in their background.
3. A minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.5 (4.0 scale) on all undergraduate work attempted or a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.75 on all upper division undergraduate coursework attempted.
4. A score of 850 or above on the General Test of the GRE (Verbal and Quantitative).

CONDITIONAL ADMISSION

1. A bachelor's degree or equivalent.
2. A minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0 on all undergraduate work attempted.
3. A score of 750 or above on the General Test of the GRE (Verbal and Quantitative).

Students meeting these criteria may be admitted with the approval of the Department Head. Students in Conditional Admission will be upgraded to Regular Admission status by the Dean of the Graduate School when they fulfill the following requirements:

1. Make up all undergraduate coursework deficiencies to meet the standards of regular admission.
2. Maintain a cumulative graduate GPA of 3.0 in graduate coursework.
3. Receive no more than one grade of C during Conditional status.
4. Receive no grade below a C during Conditional status.

TEMPORARY ADMISSION

Students intending to pursue a graduate degree who do not qualify for Regular or Conditional Admission status will be placed in Temporary Admission status. Students in this status will be placed in Non-Degree status if they do not qualify for Regular Admission status, as outlined above, after completing 12 hours of graduate coursework in English.

NON-DEGREE STATUS

Graduate students not intending to pursue a graduate degree will be placed in Non-Degree status. This status includes students in Extended Studies, Alternate Certification, Master's Plus 30, and transient programs (intended for transfer credit at another institution).

No more than 12 graduate hours earned by a student in Conditional, Temporary, or Non-Degree status may be counted toward the MA in English.

Requirements for Degree

Upon admission into the program, a student may select one of the following options:

THESIS OPTION

Complete at least thirty-six (36) graduate hours of English including the following:

1. A thesis whose completion will include six (6) hours of graduate credit from ENGL 770. The thesis must demonstrate the student's ability to do research and must show acceptable literary workmanship in organization, style, and content.
2. Either ENGL 445/516, ENGL 447/518, or ENGL 448/548.
3. Either ENGL 475/575 (Literary Criticism), or ENGL 485/585 (PW Gateway).
4. At least fifteen (15) hours of coursework at the 600 level.
5. With the approval of the advisory committee, the student may take a maximum of six (6) graduate hours in a related field.

Concentration in Professional Writing - with the permission of the Coordinator of Professional Writing a student may choose a concentration in Professional Writing. The Professional Writing thesis will be in conjunction with a Professional Writing internship. In addition to the requirements listed above for the Thesis Option, the student will be required to take ENGL 486/586 (Document Production and Design).

Creative Writing - with the permission of the Coordinator of Creative Writing a student may choose to submit a creative thesis.

NON-THESIS OPTION

Complete at least thirty-six (36) hours of English including the following:

1. Either ENGL 445/516, ENGL 447/518, or ENGL 448/548.
2. Either ENGL 475/575 (Literary Criticism), or ENGL 485/585 (PW Gateway).
3. At least eighteen (18) hours of coursework at the 600 level. Work in these courses must demonstrate the ability to do acceptable research and literary workmanship in organization, style, and content.

4. With the approval of the advisory committee, the student may take a maximum of six (6) graduate hours in a related field.

ALL CANDIDATES FOR AN MA IN ENGLISH MUST:

1. Pass the departmental comprehensive examination.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of a foreign language either through twelve (12) hours of undergraduate coursework or through passing the Princeton examination. The foreign language requirement is waived for international students whose native language is not English.