

ENGLISH
COLLEGE OF ARTS, HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
LEADING TO THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF ARTS (M.A.)

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.
4. Encourage and support advanced study of the humanities.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Regular Admission

Any person admitted to the Master's program in English must hold a bachelor's degree. An applicant who receives regular admission status must also meet the following requirements:

- A. Completion of twenty-four (24) semester hours of undergraduate English courses, at least twelve (12) of which must be at the Jr./Sr. level.
- B. A combined score of 850 or above on the General Test of the GRE,
- C. One of the following minimum graduate admissions requirements based on the level of work completed at the time of the application:
 1. 2.50 GPA on the undergraduate degree or
 2. 2.75 GPA on the last two years (approximately 60-70 semester hours or 90-100 quarter hours) of upper level undergraduate academic course work or
 3. 2.75 GPA on 30 or more semester hours undergraduate credit after earning the first bachelor's degree or
 4. 2.75 GPA on the last two years (approximately 60-70 semester hours or 90-100 quarter hours) of undergraduate academic course work and a 3.00 GPA on fewer than 24 hours graduate course work or
 5. 3.00 GPA on 24 or more graduate hours or
 6. An earned master's degree or higher-level degree.

A student in a Regular admission status is eligible for a graduate assistantship.

Provisional Admission

An applicant not satisfying the minimum GRE score and/or grade point average may be admitted to a degree program as a provisional student if recommended by the graduate coordinator of the academic unit offering the degree program. Students below a combined GRE score of 750 and/or a GPA of 2.0 on the undergraduate degree will not be considered for provisional status. Students in provisional status must advance to regular status as prescribed by Graduate Studies rules outlined in the catalogue.

Contingent Admission

A student may be admitted in contingent status when needing the final transcript recording the bachelor's degree, GRE scores, and/or the completion of undergraduate course deficiencies. Students in provisional status must advance to regular status as prescribed by Graduate Studies rules outlined in the catalogue.

A student in the contingent status is eligible for a graduate assistantship. Continued eligibility for a graduate assistantship beyond the initial semester would require that any such graduate assistants advance to regular status by the completion of the initial semester. Students may not be moved from contingent status to provisional status. Failure to qualify for regular admission status will prevent the student from registering for the next semester.

Non-Degree-Classified Admission and Unclassified Admission

Students wishing to take graduate courses in English for purposes other than a graduate degree should review their options for Non-Degree-Classified Admission and Unclassified Admission as specified by Graduate Studies rules outlined in the catalogue.

No more than 9 hours earned by a student in Provisional, Contingent, Non-Degree, or Unclassified Status may be counted towards a graduate degree, provided Graduate Studies approves the credit that is recommended by the appropriate graduate coordinator/director or graduate faculty advisor.

REQUIREMENTS FOR DEGREE

The M.A. in English consists of a core of literary studies with choices for professional development in all areas of English Studies, including concentrations in Creative Writing, Language and Literacy, and Professional Writing. Students may choose between Thesis- and Non-Thesis options:

NON-THESIS OPTION – Complete at least thirty-six (36) hours of English in an individually-designed curriculum. With the approval of the advisory committee, the student may take a maximum of six (6) graduate hours in a related field. All students choosing the non-thesis option must complete the following coursework:

1. One advanced writing course: ENGL 447/518, ENGL 448/548, or ENGL 467/567.
2. One theory and methods course: ENGL 475/575, ENGL 477/577, or ENGL 485/585.
3. At least eighteen (18) hours of coursework at the 600 level.

THESIS OPTION – Complete at least thirty-six (36) graduate hours of English, including 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. With the approval of the advisory committee, students may take a maximum of six graduate hours in a related field. All students choosing the thesis option must complete the following coursework:

1. One advanced writing course: ENGL 447/518, ENGL 448/548, or ENGL 467/567.
2. One theory and methods course: ENGL 475/575, ENGL 477/577, or ENGL 485/585.
3. ENGL 770 (6hrs) Thesis
4. At least fifteen (15) hours of coursework at the 600 level.

CONCENTRATIONS – Students choosing the thesis option may write a thesis as a required part of a concentration in one area of English studies. Students must also complete courses in advanced writing and methods for their area. With the approval of the advisory committee, students may take a maximum of six (6) graduate hours in a related field. Three concentrations are offered:

Concentration in Creative Writing – Requires the permission of the Coordinator of Creative Writing. All students choosing this concentration must complete the following coursework:

1. ENGL 475/575 Introduction to Contemporary Criticism
2. ENGL 482/582 Intermediate Poetry Workshop
3. ENGL 483/583 Intermediate Fiction Workshop
4. ENGL 645 Creative Writing
5. ENGL 770 (6hrs) Thesis in Creative Writing

Concentration in Language & Literacy – Requires the permission of the Coordinator of Language & Literacy. All students choosing this concentration must complete the following coursework:

1. ENGL 477/577 Foundations in Language and Literacy
2. Two courses from the following: ENGL 467/567, ENGL 476/576, ENGL 646, ENGL 647, ENGL 413/508, ENGL 414/524, ENGL 642.
3. ENGL 770 (6 hours) Internship and Thesis in Language and Literacy

Concentration in Professional Writing – Requires the permission of the Coordinator of Professional Writing. All students choosing this concentration must complete the following coursework:

1. ENGL 448/548 Advanced Technical and Professional Design
2. ENGL 485/585 Foundations in Professional Writing
3. ENGL 486/586 Document Production and Design
4. ENGL 770 (6 hrs) Internship and Thesis in Professional Writing

ALL CANDIDATES FOR AN M.A. IN ENGLISH MUST:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of a foreign language or language structure either through six (6) hours of undergraduate coursework in one language, through completion of an approved graduate-level course on language structures, through demonstrated knowledge of a major computer language (such as C++, XML, or Java), or through passing the Princeton examination. The language requirement is waived for international students whose native language is not English.
2. Complete nine (9) hours of graduate coursework in three broad literary periods: (1) ancient, medieval, and early modern literatures (2) Eighteenth- and Nineteenth-Century literatures (3) Twentieth-Century and Contemporary literatures.
3. Pass all parts of the M.A. comprehensive examination in English.