

MASTER OF ARTS (M.A.)

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

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 M.A. in English.

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 Z(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 either through twelve (12) hours of undergraduate coursework in one language or through passing the Princeton examination. The foreign 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 three parts of the M.A. comprehensive examination in English.