

English

College of Arts & Sciences

The Department of English offers M.A. and Ph.D. programs. For the MA degree, students can choose either the thesis option, Plan A, or non-thesis option, Plan B. MA students can choose from concentrations in Literature and Film (which are only Plan A). Students will select from both British and American literature courses for their M.A. coursework. The final oral exam of Plan B students is based on a reading list. The final exam of Plan A students is a defense of the master's thesis.

For the PhD degree, students will select from a variety of literature courses. The qualifying examinations are comprised of a presentation prepared in response to questions submitted by the student's advisory committee, an oral exam, and a defense of the dissertation prospectus.

Requirements

- Oral examination based on two lists (major and minor) to be taken by the end of the first semester of the third year
- Directed Study with either director or core member during the first semester of the third year
- Dissertation prospectus to be completed during the second semester of the third year
- Dissertation prospectus defended in an oral examination by the end of the second semester of the third year

The Lists:

In consultation with the director and the two core members, the student decides on two areas:

1. Major - which will likely but not necessarily be a historical period (70 texts)
2. Minor - which will be either historical, special topic, or genre (30 texts)

For example, the student might focus on 19th century British literature along with a special topic such as gender studies or affect or postcolonial theory. The two lists will be assembled by the student in consultation with the committee members. While it is expected that most doctoral candidates will be examined in at least one major historical period, in certain circumstances a candidate may, with the approval of the doctoral committee, petition the Graduate Committee to take qualifying exams in a recognizable area other than a historical period.

Qualifying exam/part 1:

A week before the exam, students will be given 2 or 3 questions formulated by their director (in consultation with the core committee) from which students will choose one. They will then prepare a twenty-minute presentation for their exam. While the presentation should not be read, students may use Powerpoint. Students are advised to focus on roughly 6 central texts for the presentation. During the next forty minutes, the committee members discuss the presentation. Students should be prepared to reference in some detail other primary and secondary texts during the question period—roughly 20. Followed by a short break, the second hour turns to the whole list (including major and minor).

Prospectus

This should be from 12 to 15 pages with a (minimum) 3-page bibliography.

Oral exam/part 2:

By the end of the second semester of the third year, the student will be tested in an oral format for 2 hours on the dissertation prospectus.

Committee members divide the responsibilities.

The director oversees at least one of the lists, likely the major but possibly the minor instead, while a core committee member may oversee the other list, depending on area expertise. All three members should agree on the lists.

Admission Requirements

Admission is based on course grades, GRE scores, three letters of recommendation, a brief (1-2 pages) statement of purpose and an analytical writing sample, preferably a critical essay. While each applicant is judged on his or her merits, normal expectations are an undergraduate GPA of 3.0 or above, a graduate GPA of 3.5 or above, and scores of at least 70-80% on two of the three sections of the GRE Aptitude test. (The subject test is not required.) Applicants for the master's program who do not have an undergraduate degree in English should contact the Director of Graduate Studies who along with the Graduate Committee will evaluate their applications on a case by case basis. This is also the case for applicants to the doctoral program who do not have an M.A. in English. The English Department only has fall admissions, and the deadline for applications is January 15th.

All applicants must also fulfill the admission requirements of the Graduate School.

A detailed and current statement of requirements for the M.A. and Ph.D. is available here: <https://english.as.uky.edu/english-graduate-program>.

Course Descriptions

***ENG 507 ADVANCED WORKSHOP IN CREATIVE WRITING (Subtitle required). (3)**

For the student who has shown marked talent and commitment, this course provides a rigorous workshop among peers and includes additional attention to outside reading. Each student will produce a chapbook of poems or stories. See departmental listings for different offerings per semester. Prereq: ENG 207 and ENG 407, or the equivalent, and consent of the instructor. May be repeated with a different subtitle (different or same genre) to a maximum of 6 credits. Required for the ENG Creative Option under two different subtitles. Provides ENG Major Elective credit and ENG minor credit.

ENG 509 COMPOSITION FOR TEACHERS. (3)

A course covering the basic studies helpful to teachers of English composition at the secondary level.

Focuses on the teaching of grammar,

punctuation, usage, etc., and on theme planning, correction, and revision. Students are required to do quite a bit of writing. Provides ENG Major Elective credit and ENG minor credit. (Same as EDC 509.)

ENG 512 ANALYSIS OF ENGLISH SYNTAX. (3)

Contemporary approaches to the syntactic analysis of Modern English; particular attention is devoted to Chomskyan syntactic theory. Prereq: LIN 221 or graduate standing. (Same as LIN 512.)

ENG 513 TEACHING ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE. (3)

The course examines the current theories and methods of teaching English as a second language.

The course will include (1) language learning theory as it relates to other disciplines; (2) methods and techniques of contrastive analysis. Prereq: One course in linguistics or consent of instructor. Provides ENG Major Elective credit and ENG minor credit.

ENG 518 ADVANCED HISTORY OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE. (3)

This course explores the development of English from its roots in Indo-European, through Old, Middle, and Early Modern English(es), culminating with a review of the English languages of today. It focuses on the phonological, grammatical, and lexical changes of the language, as well as on the social contexts of the rise and spread of English as a contemporary world language. Special emphasis is given to a linguistically

informed understanding of how the language has changed in response to political and historical pressures. Fulfills the ENG Early Period requirement. Provides ENG Major Elective Credit and ENG Minor credit. (Same as LIN 518.)

ENG 519 INTRODUCTION TO OLD ENGLISH. (3)

An introduction to the study of the Old English language and its literature from the 8th to the 11th centuries. Emphasis on learning the basic vocabulary and grammar of Old English in the West Saxon standard written dialect. Readings include excerpts from prose and poetry the basics of Old English verse forms and alliterative poetry, and some historical and cultural background. The course is particularly recommended for students of European languages (especially German) and Linguistics; some basic background in Linguistics is recommended but not required. Fulfills ENG major Early Period Requirement. Provides ENG Major Elective credit and ENG minor credit.

ENG 570 SELECTED TOPICS FOR ADVANCED STUDIES IN LITERATURE (Subtitle required). (3)

Study of special topics that cut across the normal divisions of genre or periods, such as the relations of literature to other disciplines; metaphor and symbolism; interpretative theory. May be repeated to a maximum of six credits. Prereq: Junior standing or consent of instructor. PROSEMINARS: The purpose of the proseminar courses (600 level) is to impart through lectures and discussion both the facts of literary history and the techniques of literary analysis. They are, therefore, designed to go beyond the mere information level to techniques of contemporary literary criticism and scholarship.

ENG 600 BIBLIOGRAPHY AND METHODS OF RESEARCH. (3)

An introduction to descriptive and enumerative bibliography, textual criticism, and historical scholarship.

ENG 601 ESSAYS AND CREATIVE NONFICTION. (3)

Study and practice in nonfiction writing, including literary nonfiction, literary journalism, personal essays, and creative nonfiction. May not be repeated for graduate credit. Prereq: Admission to the graduate program or consent of instructor.

ENG 605 EDITING. (3)

ENG 605 offers instruction in the history of U.S. publishing and extensive practice in verification of sources, fact checking, copy editing, and manuscript preparation.

***ENG 607 GRADUATE WRITING WORKSHOP (Subtitle Required). (3)**

A course for experienced writers who have some knowledge of contemporary American literature. Equal emphasis on students' original work and outside reading. Each student will produce a chapbook of poems or stories and write a short introduction to it. May be repeated with the same subtitle to a maximum of fifteen credits. Prereq: Consent of instructor.

ENG 608 CRAFT OF WRITING (Subtitle required). (3)

This course examines the craft, emphasizing techniques, style, and structure. May be offered in each genre offered in the MFA degree program. At least 6 hours of courses related to the study of creative writing genres, such as: Craft of Poetry, Fiction, or Nonfiction, with emphasis on themes such as: Ekphrastic Writing, Experimental Forms, Working Class Themes, etc. Prereq: This course is open only to MFA in Creative Writing candidates or by permission of the instructor.

ENG 609 COMPOSITION FOR TEACHERS. (3)

A course in the theory and practice of teaching English composition at the college level. Required of first-year teaching assistants in the Department of English, the course is structured to match the ordering of English 101 so that the practical work of college writing and the theoretical considerations of English 609

will be mutually reinforcing.

ENG 610 STUDIES IN RHETORIC. (3)

This course introduces theories of rhetoric with readings drawn from major theoreticians and rhetoricians; applies theory to the practice of teaching college writing, with special emphasis on argumentation, the subject of English 102; and provides an opportunity for teaching assistants to get help from the teacher and from their peers in responding to and evaluating students' written work. This course, required of second semester teaching assistants in the Department of English, continues the work of English 609. Prereq: ENG 609 or equivalent.

ENG 611 LITERATURE TEACHING SEMINAR. (3)

This seminar prepares graduate students to teach literature classes at the University of Kentucky and elsewhere. It offers instruction and guidance in curriculum design, syllabus creation, reading and work exercises, and more. Students develop a portfolio of course materials and refine skills for teaching literature and film at the introductory as well as advanced levels of an undergraduate curriculum. This course is not a requirement for completing the Ph.D. degree, but it is required for graduate instructors to be approved to teach their own introductory-level literature and film classes in the University of Kentucky English Department.

ENG 653 STUDIES IN AMERICAN LITERATURE SINCE 1900. (3)

A study in depth of selected writers and movements.

ENG 656 BLACK AMERICAN LITERATURE. (3)

An in-depth study of black American literature, with concentration on major texts by major black writers. (Same as AAS 656.)

ENG 660 MODERN CRITICAL THEORY (Subtitle required). (3)

Detailed examination of one or another topic in contemporary theory of interpretation, such as literature and analytical philosophy, phenomenology and literature, structuralism, Marxism, psychoanalysis. May be repeated up to 6 credit hours under different subtitles.

ENG 681 STUDIES IN FILM. (3)

Comprehensive study of the history, theory, and criticism of film, with concentration on a series of major American and foreign films. Viewing of films outside of class is required. May be repeated up to 9 credit hours under different subtitles.

ENG 682 STUDIES IN FICTION. (3)

A study in depth of selected types of fiction.

ENG 690 STUDIES IN LITERATURE AND GENDER (Subtitle required). (3)

This course focuses on gender as a primary category for literary analysis. Topics will vary, from a group of authors, an historical period or an aesthetic movement, to a genre, a theme, or an aspect of literary theory. May be repeated under different subtitles to a maximum of six credits.

ENG 691 READINGS IN RHETORIC (Subtitle required). (1)

This reading course allows graduate students to integrate readings in Rhetoric and Composition scholarship and provides an opportunity to discuss research with faculty associated with Rhetoric and Composition. In addition to readings, students will be expected to keep a reading journal or complete a brief annotated bibliography. May be repeated to a maximum of three credits. Prereq: ENG 609 and ENG 610 or consent of instructor.

ENG 700 TUTORIAL FOR PH.D. CANDIDATES. (3)

This course allows Ph.D. candidates who have completed all course work requirements to work together under the direction of a senior faculty member in preparing for and taking the Qualifying Examination. May be repeated to a maximum of twelve credits. Prereq: Admission to the Ph.D. program and instructor's consent.

ENG 720 SEMINAR IN MEDIEVAL LITERATURE. (3)

Recent topics: medieval fiction; Chaucer and the Gothic mind. May be repeated to a maximum of six credits.

ENG 722 SEMINAR IN RENAISSANCE STUDIES (Subtitle required). (3)

Advanced work on a specific author or topic. Recent topics: Eco-Milton, Romance narrative. May be repeated to a maximum of nine credits.

ENG 730 SEMINAR IN 18th CENTURY LITERATURE. (3)

Recent topics: neoclassic satire. May be repeated to a maximum of six credits.

ENG 735 SEMINAR IN ROMANTIC LITERATURE. (3)

Recent topics: Keats; Wordsworth. May be repeated to a maximum of six credits.

ENG 738 SEMINAR IN VICTORIAN LITERATURE. (3)

Seminar in Victorian literature. May be repeated to a maximum of six credits.

ENG 740 SEMINAR IN 20th CENTURY BRITISH LITERATURE. (3)

Seminar in 20th century British literature. May be repeated to a maximum of six credits.

ENG 748 MASTER'S THESIS RESEARCH. (0)

Half-time to full-time work on thesis. May be repeated to a maximum of six semesters. Prereq: All course work toward the degree must be completed.

ENG 749 DISSERTATION RESEARCH. (0)

Half-time to full-time work on dissertation. May be repeated to a maximum of six semesters. Prereq: Registration for two full-time semesters of 769 residence credit following the successful completion of the qualifying exams.

ENG 750 SEMINAR IN COLONIAL LITERATURE. (3)

Seminar in Colonial Literature; may be repeated to a maximum of six credits.

ENG 751 SEMINAR IN AMERICAN LITERATURE: 1800-1860. (3)

Seminar in American literature 1800-1860. Recent topics: Emerson and Melville; Hawthorne. May be repeated to a maximum of six credits.

ENG 752 SEMINAR IN AMERICAN LITERATURE: 1860-1900. (3)

Seminar in American literature 1860-1900. Recent topics: Whitman and Dickinson. May be repeated to a maximum of six credits.

ENG 753 SEMINAR IN AMERICAN LITERATURE SINCE 1900. (3)

Seminar in American literature since 1900. Recent topics: Faulkner, Wolfe, and Warren. May be repeated to a maximum of six credits.

ENG 767 DISSERTATION RESIDENCY CREDIT. (2)

Residency credit for dissertation research after the qualifying examination. Students may register for this course in the semester of the qualifying examination. A minimum of two semesters are required as well as continuous enrollment (Fall and Spring) until the dissertation is completed and defended.

ENG 768 RESIDENCE CREDIT FOR THE MASTER'S DEGREE. (1-6)

May be repeated to a maximum of 12 hours.

ENG 769 RESIDENCE CREDIT FOR THE DOCTOR'S DEGREE. (0-12)

May be repeated indefinitely.

ENG 771 SEMINAR IN SPECIAL TOPICS (Subtitle required). (1-3)

Seminar in special topics; includes genres and subject matters such as symbolism which cover more than one period of literature. Recent topics: symbolism and allegory. May be repeated up to 9 credit hours under different subtitles.

ENG 780 DIRECTED STUDIES. (1-6)

Independent work devoted to study and research on specific subjects and problems according to the interests and needs of individual students. May be repeated to a maximum of nine credits. Permission of chairperson required.

ENG 781 SEMINAR IN FILM (Subtitle required). (3)

Seminar in special topics in film, such as directors, genres, historical periods, film and literature, film theories, and film movements. Viewing of films outside of class is required. May be repeated under different subtitle to a maximum of nine credits.