

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>.

Graduate Courses

ENG 480g	Special Studies In Film (Subtitle Required)	(3)
ENG 481g	Studies In British Literature (Subtitle Required)	(3)
ENG 482g	Studies In American Literature (Subtitle Required)	(3)
ENG 483g	Studies In African American Or Diasporic Literature (Subtitle Required)	(3)
ENG 484g	Comparative Studies In Literature (Subtitle Required)	(3)
ENG 485g	Studies In Literature And Gender (Subtitle Required)	(3)
ENG 486g	Studies In Theory (Subtitle Required)	(3)
ENG 487g	Cultural Studies (Subtitle Required)	(3)
ENG 488g	Gender And Sexuality Studies (Subtitle Required)	(3)
ENG 507	Advanced Workshop In Imaginative Writing (Subtitle Required)	(3)
ENG 509	Composition For Teachers (Subtitle Required)	(3)
ENG 512	Modern English Grammar (Same As LIN 512)	(3)
ENG 513	Teaching English As A Second Language (Same As EDC/LIN 513)	(3)
ENG 514	Tesl Materials And Methods (Same As EDC/LIN 514)	(3)
ENG 515	Phonological Analysis (Same As ANT/LIN 515)	(3)
ENG 516	Grammatical Analysis (Same As ANT/LIN 516)	(3)
ENG 519	Introduction To Old English	(3)
ENG 570	Selected Topics For Advanced Studies In Literature (Subtitle Required)	(3)
ENGg 572	Studies In English For Teachers (Subtitle Required)	(3)
ENG 600	Bibliography And Methods Of Research	(3)
ENG 605	Editing	(3)
ENG 607	Graduate Writing Workshop (Subtitle Required)	(3)
ENG 609	Composition For Teachers	(3)
ENG 610	Studies In Rhetoric	(3)
ENG 617	Studies In Linguistics (Subtitle Required)(Same As LIN 617)	(3)
ENG 618	History Of The English Language	(3)
ENG 619	Beowulf	(3)
ENG 620	Studies In Middle English Literature	(3)
ENG 621	Studies In Chaucer	(3)

ENG 622	Studies In Renaissance Literature: 1500-1660	(3)
ENG 625	Studies In Renaissance Drama Exclusive Of Shakespeare	(3)
ENG 626	Studies In Spenser, Shakespeare, Milton	(3)
ENG 630	Studies In English Literature: 1660-1720	(3)
ENG 631	Studies In English Literature: 1720-1780	(3)
ENG 635	Studies In Literature: 1780-1815	(3)
ENG 636	Studies In Literature: 1815-1830	(3)
ENG 638	Studies In English Literature: 1830-1860	(3)
ENG 642	Studies In Modern British Literature	(3)
ENG651	Studies In American Literature Before 1860	(3)
ENG 652	Studies In American Literature: 1860-1900	(3)
ENG 653	Studies In American Literature Since 1900	(3)
ENG 656	Black American Literature (Same As AAS 656)	(3)
ENG 660	Modern Critical Theory	(3)
ENG 681	Studies In Film	(3)
ENG 682	Studies In Fiction	(3)
ENG 690	Studies In Literature And Gender (Subtitle Required)	(3)
ENG 691	Readings In Rhetoric (Subtitle Required)	(1)
ENG 700	Tutorial For Ph.D. Candidates	(3)
ENG 720	Seminar In Medieval Literature	(3)
ENG 722	Seminar In Renaissance Studies (Subtitle Required)	(3)
ENG 730	Seminar In 18th Century Literature	(3)
ENG 735	Seminar In Romantic Literature	(3)
ENG 738	Seminar In Victorian Literature	(3)
ENG 740	Seminar In 20th Century British Literature	(3)
ENG 748	Master's Thesis Research	(0)
ENG 749	Dissertation Research	(0)
ENG 750	Seminar In Colonial Literature	(3)
ENG 751	Seminar In American Literature: 1800-1860	(3)
ENG 752	Seminar In American Literature: 1860-1900	(3)
ENG 753	Seminar In American Literature Since 1900	(3)
ENG 767	Dissertation Residency Credit	(2)
ENG 768	Residence Credit For The Master's Degree	(1-6)
ENG 769	Residence Credit For The Doctor's Degree	(0-12)
ENG 771	Seminar In Special Topics	(3)
ENG 780	Directed Studies	(1-6)
ENG 781	Seminar In Film (Subtitle Required)	(3)