

English

Robert Prescott,
Graduate Program Coordinator

The Master of Arts in English provides post-baccalaureate students with study in the theory and practice of English. It is intended to prepare students for professional advancement and for further study in either literature or writing. The literature track emphasizes the study of literary texts with related study of writing, theory, and methods. The literature track also requires an internship within the context of an undergraduate literature course, a portfolio of written work, and a written comprehensive exam over selected work taken in the program. The writing track emphasizes the study and practice of writing with related study of literature, theory, and methods. The writing track also requires an internship within the context of an undergraduate writing course, a portfolio of written work, and a written comprehensive exam over selected work taken in the program.

Because the master's program is predicated upon the complementary relationship between theory and practice in the study of English, both tracks of the program require ENG 500 Theory and Practice of English, another course in theory, and the internship. Students in either program not only will become familiar with the aesthetic, formal, and theoretical underpinnings of their field of study, but also will learn how to address their audiences by means of professional discourse. In this way, the program enriches students' professional lives and enhances their uses of the discipline in the classroom and the workplace.

Special Admission Requirements

In addition to the admission requirements of the Graduate School, the applicant shall present the following material with the application:

1. An essay of under 1500 words stating what the applicant expects to achieve from the study of English (literature or writing) at the master's level.
2. A writing sample (professional, critical, creative) that the applicant deems to be representative of the quality of his or her work. The sample may be an undergraduate paper, professional work, or work prepared for personal use. (The sample will not be returned. Submit a copy.)
3. Two letters of recommendation from references whose discipline is English literature or writing or from employers who have experience in the field of literature or writing. For those applicants who no longer have contact with either, the recommendations should be from those who can comment on the applicant's ability to benefit from a graduate program in English.

Programs of Study

Literature Emphasis Requirement

Theory and Practice of English	3 hrs.
Language Theory or Writing Theory or Literary Criticism	3 hrs.
American or English Periods	6 hrs.
Selected Authors/Genres	6 hrs.
Internship in Literature	3 hrs.

Writing Emphasis Requirement

Theory and Practice of English	3 hrs.
Writing in the Professions and/or Workshop for Writers and/or Creative Non-Fiction	6 hrs.
Language Theory or Writing Theory or Literary Criticism	3 hrs.
Literature Courses	6 hrs.
Internship in Writing	3 hrs.

To complete either 30-hour program, students elect 3 courses (9 credits) from literature, writing, theory, or independent study.

Course Descriptions

ENG 500 Theory and Practice of English 3 hrs.

Overview of the practices, theories, and history of the field of English and an introduction to the Bradley program. Required of all graduate students. Must be taken in first nine hours.

ENG 503 Creative Non-Fiction 3 hrs.

Practice in writing non-fiction genres, such as autobiography, biography, nature writing, and travel writing. Prerequisite: submission to instructor of an acceptable manuscript.

ENG 506 Writing in the Professions 3 hrs.

Study and practice of the writing conventions and rhetorical characteristics of individual professions.

ENG 507 Workshop for Writers 3 hrs.

Individual guidance in creative writing projects. May be repeated for a maximum of six hours credit. Prerequisite: consent of instructor, after submission of an acceptable manuscript.

ENG 508 Composing Hypertext 3 hrs.

Elements of hypertext composition, mechanics, style, and theory. Prerequisite: graduate standing; or specially qualified junior or senior; or completion of C2 general education requirement; or consent of instructor.

ENG 550 Language Theory 3 hrs.

Study of the relationships between language and writing, thinking, and society. Prerequisite: senior or graduate standing.

ENG 560 Writing Theory 3 hrs.

Theoretical approaches to the study of writing. Prerequisite: senior or graduate standing.

ENG 570 Contemporary Literary Criticism 3 hrs.

Advanced study of contemporary critical approaches to literature, including, but not limited to, feminism, semiotics, cultural criticism, post structuralism. Study of the critical theories and applications of the criticisms to literary texts.

ENG 580 Theories and Methods of Teaching Composition 3 hrs.

Theoretical and pedagogical issues and approaches in teaching composition.

ENG 630 American Periods 3 hrs.

Study of selected periods or movements from the 17th century to the present. May be repeated under a different topic for a maximum of six hours credit.

ENG 640 English Periods 3 hrs.

Study of selected periods or movements from the 7th century to the present. May be repeated under a different topic for a maximum of six hours credit.

ENG 650 Selected Authors 3 hrs.

Study of one or two authors who write in English. May be repeated under different authors for a maximum of six hours credit.

ENG 660 Genres 3 hrs.

Study of a single genre: fiction, prose, poetry, or drama. May be repeated under a different genre for a maximum of six hours credit.

ENG 690 Internship in Literature 3 hrs.

Theory, analysis, and practice of literature within the context of an undergraduate literature course. Prerequisites: 21 hrs. English graduate courses.

ENG 691 Internship in Writing 3 hrs.

Theory, analysis, and practice of writing within the context of an undergraduate composition class. Prerequisite: 21 hrs. English graduate courses.

ENG 695 Independent Study 3 hrs.

Independent research in literature, writing, or theory.

ENG 699 Thesis 3-6 hrs.

Independent research. Three hours required in the first program (traditional M.A.). Prerequisite: consent of department chair.