Master of Arts in English

With a focus on

- Literature
- Writing
- Pedagogy

Graduate English for Professionals

Whether you intend to continue your studies in a doctoral program or want to master advanced writing skills to enhance your career, earning an English master's degree from Bradley is the ideal first step.

Begin your personalized Bradley Experience by choosing the concentration that emphasizes your preferred area of study — literature or writing. No matter which you select, you will enjoy myriad opportunities to work closely with nationally renowned graduate faculty members:

- Complete an extended writing project under the guidance of a faculty mentor.
- Collaborate on the development of a practicum that will enable you to apply your skills in the workplace.
- Utilize various critical tools to investigate literary works and rhetorical situations at a professional level.

Why wait to increase your professionalism in English studies? Obtain firsthand experience in literature, creative writing, professional communication, rhetoric and composition through Bradley's master's program in English.

Graduate English for Teachers

Are you already in the classroom and want to enhance your theoretical and practical skills to maintain your professional status or pursue new opportunities? Then, Bradley's master's program in English has the right options for you.

Tailored to meet students' diverse needs, the M.A. in English offers emphases in literature and writing as well as a thorough examination of different teaching methods. You also will benefit from the extensive knowledge, research and specialties of our highly engaged faculty, with whom you will develop strong relationships through:

- Independent study projects that could result in the presentation of a paper at a national academic conference or publication in a scholarly journal.
- Internships in teaching that enable you to collaborate on the development of syllabi, pedagogy and other aspects of your personal teaching style.
- Engaging discussions about the theory and practice of English and the interdependence of reading and writing skills.

If you are interested in further developing your knowledge and skills in writing, research and analysis in the major areas of English studies, consider continuing your educational journey with a master's in English from Bradley.

The Bradley Advantage

Bradley has offered a Master of Arts in English since the inception of its graduate studies programs in 1945. In the seven decades since establishing a master's in English, the University, The Graduate School and the Department of English have supported the program's evolution into a highly valuable option for individuals who are preparing for future study at the doctoral level, maintaining their teaching certificates or pursuing any number of other career opportunities.
What You Can Expect

Typical courses include:

- English and American Periods – Joyce and Modernism; American Civil War Literature; 19th Century Gothic
- Selected Authors – George Eliot; Margaret Atwood
- Genres – Storytelling in Written Literature and Oral Performance; Crime Fiction; Modernism and Narrative
- Creative Writing – Intensive Fiction Workshop; Poetry; Screenwriting
- Language/Literary Theory – Language Theory; Writing Theory
- Contemporary Literary Criticism

Plus, the department continually evaluates and recommends program additions, including new courses, content and other opportunities to enhance the student experience.

Hear from the Program’s Alumni

“The Bradley University professors are simply the best around, and I learned a lot more from them than just what came from the pages of a book. Because of my experience at Bradley, I became not only a better learner but a better teacher. The nurturing and guidance I received under the care of the Department of English faculty helped me to grow in my profession and as a member of the community of scholars and humankind.”

Dr. Steve Bortolotti, MA ’97
Associate Professor of English, Midstate College

“Bradley’s master’s program in English became a supportive community of writers and thinkers who motivated me to pursue my passions. My teachers became brilliant mentors, some of whom have become my colleagues and friends. They continue to motivate me in my current writing and teaching. I learned that a strong, unique voice supersedes any preconceived or stereotypical characterizations of what English students are supposed to know or enjoy. I learned that I’m capable of quite a bit in terms of how and what I write and how and why I teach.”

Dr. Amy Eggert ’05 MA ’07
Instructor of English, Bradley University

“Earning my master’s in English through Bradley’s graduate program has helped me become a stronger and more confident educator and has provided me with a more expansive knowledge of the world of literature and discourse. I can say, with the utmost sincerity, that I would not have the focus necessary to teach literature and discussion techniques to high school students had it not been for my classroom experiences at Bradley.”

Shelby Harris Yocum ’07 MA ’15
English Teacher, East Peoria, Ill., Community High School

Making Bradley Affordable

The Graduate School generously supports multiple assistantships and scholarships each year. Most graduate assistants receive a minimum of a 50 percent tuition waiver and stipend while recipients of graduate scholarships may benefit from up to a 50 percent tuition reduction, including through the Professional Educators Scholarship available to all full-time school district employees. Additional financial support is provided by state and federal funding agencies as well as by private businesses. Visit bradley.edu/gradfinaid for more information.

Contact Information

THE GRADUATE SCHOOL
1501 W. Bradley Ave.
Peoria, Illinois 61625
(309) 677-2490
bradley.edu/las/eng

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH
(309) 677-2375
bradley.edu/GradSchool

Bradley University