English, MA

Leverage your love of literature and depth of language with this degree that fine tunes your analytical and critical thinking skills. Learn how to use the power of the English language to explain complex concepts through clear and concise expressions.

Program Description

Degree Awarded: MA English

The MA in English offered by the New College of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences is a comprehensive program that addresses the many facets of English: its literatures; its linguistic, social and cultural histories; and its capacities for persuasion, exposition and elucidation.

The program is grounded in scholarly tradition but designed for the demands of the 21st century. Its innovative curriculum has been developed to train present and future educators as well as individuals pursuing careers in the wide variety of professions that value advanced critical thinking, research and communication skills.

The world-class faculty is ready to help enhance students' skill set, deepen their knowledge base and put the Master of Arts in English degree to work in their chosen profession.

At a Glance

- College/School: New College of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences
- Location: West

Accelerated Program Options
This program allows students to obtain both a bachelor's and master's degree in as little as five years. It is offered as an accelerated bachelor's and master's degree with:

- Applied Science, BAS
- Communication, BA
- Communication, BS
- Disability Studies, BA
- English, BA
- Gender, Women and Sexuality Studies, BS
- History, BA
- Interdisciplinary Arts and Performance, BA
- Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences, BA
- Latin American Studies, BA
- Philosophy, Religion and Society, BA
- Social and Cultural Analysis (American Studies), BA
- Social and Cultural Analysis (Ethnicity, Race and Indigenous Studies), BA
- Social and Cultural Analysis (Latin American Studies), BA
- Social and Cultural Analysis (Peace Studies), BA
- Social and Cultural Analysis (Queer and Sexuality Studies), BA
- Social and Cultural Analysis (Women and Gender Studies), BA
- Spanish, BA

Acceptance to the graduate program requires a separate application. During their junior year, eligible students are advised by their academic departments to apply.

**Degree Requirements**

30 credit hours including the required capstone course (ENG 597)

**Required Core (6 credit hours)**
ENG 502 Contemporary Critical Theories (3) or MAS 505 Theories of Change, Culture and Mind (3)
ENG 582 Pedagogy (3)

**Electives or Research (12 credit hours)**
ENG 500 Research Methods (3)
ENG 591 Seminar (3)
ENG or LIN courses (6)
Open Elective or Research Courses (9 credit hours)

Culminating Experience (3 credit hours)
ENG 597 Graduate Capstone Seminar (3)

Additional Curriculum Information
For electives or research, students should see the academic unit for the approved course list from ENG and LIN courses through New College. ENG 500 is a required research course for all students and must be included in the plan of study.

For the open elective or research courses, nine credit hours can be selected from ENG or non-ENG coursework offered by various academic units. The selection of coursework is in consultation with the student's committee.

Admission Requirements

Applicants must fulfill the requirements of both the Graduate College and the New College of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences.

Applicants are eligible to apply to the program if they have earned a bachelor's or master's degree, in any field, from a regionally accredited institution.

Applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 (scale is 4.00 = "A") in the last 60 hours of their first bachelor's degree program; or applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 (scale is 4.00 = "A") in applicable master's degree program.

All applicants must submit:

1. graduate admission application and application fee
2. official transcripts
3. statement of purpose
4. two letters of recommendation
5. an academic writing sample or professional writing sample (optional)
6. resume or curriculum vitae (optional)
7. proof of English proficiency

Additional Application Information
An applicant whose native language is not English must provide proof of English proficiency regardless of current residency.

The statement of purpose should describe the educational background, scholarly interests and academic and professional goals of the applicant.
It is preferred that the letters of recommendation are from faculty members who know the applicant’s work well; if such faculty are not available, then recommendation letters from individuals in supervisory or professional roles are acceptable.

An academic writing sample (preferred) or a professional writing sample is recommended, but not required, when submitting an application.

**Career Opportunities**

The ability to influence and motivate behavior through the power of well-crafted language is a skill valued in every industry dependent upon customers, employees, suppliers or investors.

Graduates with a master's degree in English are able to use language to accomplish organizational goals; possess advanced critical thinking abilities and advanced skills for clear and effective verbal communication; are able to construct well-supported and persuasive arguments; can perform complex textual analysis; are knowledgeable about historical trends in written discourse; have an awareness of the role of literary discourse in broader social and historical contexts; and have the ability to engage in big picture thinking.

Career fields are many and varied. Examples include:

- business communication
- community college teaching
- editing
- grant writing
- journalism
- nonprofit consulting
- public relations
- publishing
- secondary teaching (continuing education)
- technical writing
- web (content management, social media management)

**Contact Information**

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Admission Deadlines