

English, MA

LAENGLMA

Study with award-winning faculty in a dynamic, multidisciplinary English department. Fulfill your interests with coursework focused on exciting inquiries into culture and language, digital literacy, environmental studies, film analysis, linguistics, medieval and early modern cultural studies, or young adult literature. Take advantage of internship and professional development opportunities.

Program description

Degree awarded: MA English

The MA program in English allows for a variety of studies within four distinct tracks:

Comparative literature --- Students interpret cultural productions in English and at least one other language, utilizing approaches including textual criticism, critical theory, and translation and cultural studies.

English studies --- Students in this online track learn how to interpret complex cultural, historical, literary and language-related materials, as well as articulate and mobilize this knowledge for general audiences through a series of courses from across disciplinary areas of study.

Literature --- Students develop skills in literary and cultural analysis, explore social and historical contexts, address theoretical issues and pursue interdisciplinary modes of inquiry.

Writing, rhetorics and literacies --- Students engage with various approaches to the history, theory and practices of rhetoric and pedagogies of writing and composition.

At a glance

- **College/School:** [The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences](#)
- **Location:** [Tempe](#) or [Online](#)

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 plus master's degree** with:

[English \(Creative Writing\), BA](#)

[English \(Literature\), BA](#)

[English \(Writing, Rhetorics and Literacies\), BA](#)

Acceptance to the graduate program requires a separate application. Students typically receive approval to pursue the accelerated master's during the junior year of their bachelor's degree program. Interested students can learn about eligibility requirements and [how to apply](#).

Degree requirements

30 credit hours and a thesis - Comparative Literature Track, or

30 credit hours and a thesis - Literature Track, or

30 credit hours and a thesis - Writing, Rhetorics and Literacies Track, or

30 credit hours including the required applied project course (ENG 593) - Comparative Literature Track,
or

30 credit hours including the required applied project course (ENG 593) - Literature Track, or

30 credit hours including the required applied project course (ENG 593) - Writing, Rhetorics and
Literacies Track, or

30 credits hours including the required capstone course (ENG 597) - English Studies Track

Required Core (3 credit hours)

ENG 501 Approaches to Research (3)

Track Coursework (12-18 credit hours)

Comparative Literature Track (15 credit hours)

one course in concept and methods (3)

four courses in a language other than English (12)

English Studies Track (18 credit hours)

one course in linguistics (3)

one course in literature (3)

one course in writing, rhetorics and literacies (3)

one course in English education (3)

two additional courses (6)

Literature Track (18 credit hours)

ENG 502 Contemporary Critical Theories (3)

one course in early literatures and cultures (3)

one course in modern and contemporary literatures and cultures (3)

one course in global, ethnic, and transnational literatures and cultures (3)
one course in methods and approaches (3)
one course in language and linguistics (3)

Writing, Rhetorics and Literacies Track (12 credit hours)

one course in composition theory (3)
one course in rhetoric theory (3)
two 600-level courses (6)

Electives (3-12 credit hours)

Culminating Experience (3 or 6 credit hours)

ENG 593 Applied Project (3) or
ENG 597 Graduate Capstone Seminar (3) or
ENG 599 Thesis (6)

Additional Curriculum Information

Students should see the academic unit for the approved lists of track coursework.

Students must choose one of the following tracks: comparative literature, English studies, literature or writing, rhetorics and literacies. Students complete 12 to 18 credit hours of track coursework and 3 to 12 credit hours of Electives depending on their track and culminating experience.

The capstone culminating experience option is available to students in the English studies track only. Students in this track must take the capstone. Students in one of the other tracks must select an applied project or thesis for the culminating experience.

Admission requirements

Applicants must fulfill the requirements of both the Graduate College and The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Applicants are eligible to apply to the program if they have earned a bachelor's or master's degree 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 a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 (scale is 4.00 = "A") in an applicable master's degree program.

All applicants must submit:

1. graduate admission application and application fee
2. official transcripts

3. statement of purpose
4. resume or curriculum vitae
5. letters of recommendation
6. academic writing sample relevant to the field
7. proof of English proficiency

Additional Application Information

An applicant whose native language is not English must provide [proof of English proficiency](#) regardless of their current residency. Students should see the Department of English website for specific details about English proficiency requirements. Your application will not be processed without valid proof of English proficiency. More information about English proficiency requirements can be found [here](#). Please note that official scores must be sent to ASU in order for your application to be processed.

Applicants to the comparative literature track must prove fluency in a foreign language at a level sufficient for graduate study.

The one- to two-page, single-spaced statement of purpose should detail the applicant's background, reasons for wanting to do graduate work in the track to which the applicant is applying and plans for the future.

Three letters of recommendation are required for applicants to the comparative literature, literature, and writing rhetorics and literacies tracks. Applicants to the English studies track are required to submit two academic or professional letters of recommendation; a third recommendation letter is optional.

An academic writing sample is required for applicants to the comparative literature, literature and writing rhetorics and literacies tracks. Applicants to the English studies track are not required to submit a writing sample as the statement of purpose serves as the writing sample.

Tuition information

When it comes to paying for higher education, everyone's situation is different. Students can learn about [ASU tuition and financial aid](#) options to find out which will work best for them.

Attend online

ASU Online

ASU offers this program in an online format with multiple enrollment sessions throughout the year. Applicants may [view the program's ASU Online page](#) for program descriptions and to request more information.

Application deadlines

Fall

Spring [expand](#)

Program learning outcomes

Program learning outcomes identify what a student will learn or be able to do upon completion of their program. This program has the following program outcomes:

- Graduates from the MA program in English at ASU will be able to use concepts from a discipline in English studies to analyze (break into constituent parts) a relevant creative, literary, rhetorical or linguistic artifact or other cultural phenomenon according to standards of rigor in the field.
- Graduates from the MA program in English at ASU will be able to compose a compelling case, argument or creative work relevant to English studies that meets or exceeds standards of rigor in the field.
- Graduates of the MA program will be able to use theories, concepts and methods from a discipline in English studies to sustain an evidence-based line of reasoning that makes a grounded, situated and qualified contribution according to standards of rigor in the field.

Career opportunities

Professionals with expertise in all areas of English studies are able to articulate and translate complex ideas for a general audience and are prepared for career opportunities in public humanities, business, digital media, teaching, museums, nonprofits and arts organizations. In addition, their advanced skills in writing, oral presentation and critical thinking are valuable assets for any career.

Career examples include:

- communications director
- copywriter
- editor or author
- human resources specialist
- instructor
- library or museum administrator
- market research analyst
- publisher
- social media manager
- technical writer
- web content writer or specialist

Contact information

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[Admission deadlines](#)

