

The Master of Arts Degree in English

Chairperson: Dr. Janice Chernekoff
Office: 132 Lytle Hall
Telephone: (610) 683-4353
E-mail: cherneko@kutztown.edu

Hours: 33
Thesis: Optional

The Master of Arts degree in English is oriented toward the study of literature and literary criticism, and is intended to: (1) increase students' breadth and understanding literature; (2) help students to develop skills as literary critics; (3) provide opportunities for students to work on substantial writing projects, especially in response to literature; (4) allow and encourage students to explore special areas of linguistics, grammar, rhetoric and professional writing; (5) prepare students for further graduate studies; (6) and provide students who teach, or plan to teach, with advanced preparation in their field.

Students may choose to between a Thesis and a Capstone Project Independent Study for their culminating project. Those selecting the six-credit thesis option must seek a thesis advisor as well as two other faculty members to serve on the thesis committee. The thesis committee will then oversee the writing and defense of the student's thesis.

In lieu of a thesis, students may chose the three-credit Capstone project Independent Study during their final semester at Kutztown University. This Capstone project will require students to select two papers written for graduate classes and then to work with the director of their Independent Study (who must be the professor for whom one of the original essays were written) to *substantially revise and extend* both works. These essays will be transformed into a form suitable for sending out with applications to Ph.D. programs and/or submitting for publication. The student will also be required to meet with the professor for whom the second original paper was written and discuss ways in which that essay may be expanded or improved. Additionally, under the guidance of the director of the Independent Study, the student will be required to write a 15 – to 20 – page “reflective essay,” including a substantial bibliography reflecting texts the student considers foundational to his or her papers as well as his or her entire M.A. learning experience. It is the responsibility of the student to ask one of the two professors to be the advisor of the Independent Study, and this professor will oversee the writing of the Capstone project.

With the approval of their advisor, students may count 3 credits of graduate work which do not have an ENG, WRI, or ENU prefix.

Students may also receive credit for up to 6 hours of graduate work in English at another university. Please refer to “Transfer Credit” in the Graduate Bulletin for the transfer procedure.

Thirty-three semester hours are required for the receipt of the degree. All students accepted into this program must complete all requirements within six calendar years.

MA English Program

33 credit hours

REQUIRED COURSE WORK: (15 hours)

AREA I Seminar (3 hours)

Choose one for this category

ENG	565 Seminar in British Literature
ENG	567 Seminar in American Literature
ENG	575 Seminar in Literary Criticism

AREA II British Literature Requirement (9 hours: 6 in pre-1800)

Pre-1800 British: (6 hours)

ENG	530 Chaucer
ENG	534 Studies in Middle English Literature

ENG	535 Seventeenth-Century Studies
ENG	540 Milton
ENG	542 Age of Dryden
ENG	583 Eighteenth Century Studies
ENG	587 English Renaissance Literature
ENG	591 Seminar in Shakespeare
<i>Additional British: (3 hours may not repeat courses)</i>	
ENG	438 Major Modern Dramatists
ENG	455 Major Modern Poets
ENG	493 The Twentieth-Century British Novel
ENG	534 Studies in Middle English Literature
ENG	535 Seventeenth-Century Studies
ENG	540 Milton
ENG	542 Age of Dryden
ENG	583 Eighteenth Century Studies
ENG	587 English Renaissance Literature
ENG	591 Seminar in Shakespeare
ENG	594 Victorian Poetry
ENG	595 Victorian Prose

AREA III American Literature, Pre-1900 Requirement (3 hours)

Choose one for this category

ENG	550 American Romanticism
ENG	563 Studies in American Realism, 1865-1900
ENG	555 Black Women's Literature

ELECTIVES: (18 hours)

Choose six (6) courses for Non-Thesis Option, one of which must be ENG599. Choose four courses plus ENG503 if Thesis Option is chosen. Students may choose three (3) credits of graduate work in courses that are not taught by the English department. Students may not repeat courses taken to fulfill the program requirements. Note: ENG 470, Selected Topics in English, may be repeated once if the course content is different. Students should write in full course title.

Courses open to advanced undergraduates and graduates students

ENG	430 Rhetorical traditions/Cotemporary Renditions
ENG	438 Major Modern Dramatists
ENG	455 Major Modern Poets
ENG	457 Seminar in Major Twentieth-Century American Novelists
ENG	460 Classical Influences on Literature
ENG	470 Selected Topics:
ENG	493 The Twentieth-Century British Novel

Courses open only to graduate students (or by special permission of the instructor)

*ENG	503 Thesis (6 hours)
ENG	512 Symbol and Myth in Literature
ENG	525 Linguistics
ENG	526 Modern English Grammar
ENG	527 Seminar in Linguistics
ENG	530 Chaucer
ENG	534 Studies in Middle English Literature
ENG	535 Seventeenth-Century Studies
ENG	540 Milton
ENG	542 Age of Dryden
ENG	550 American Romanticism
ENG	555 Black Women's Literature

ENG 563 Studies in American Realism, 1865-1900
ENG 565 Seminar in British Literature
ENG 567 Seminar in American Literature

*required for Thesis Option

ENG 575 Seminar in Literary Criticism
ENG 576 Seminar in Film History, Theory and Criticism
ENG 583 Eighteenth Century Studies
ENG 585 Studies in English Romanticism
ENG 587 English Renaissance Literature
ENG 591 Seminar in Shakespeare
ENG 594 Victorian Poetry
ENG 595 Victorian Prose
ENG 599 Independent Study
**ENG 599 Independent Study (Capstone Project)

Courses taught by English faculty --- non-ENG prefix

ENU 405 The Teaching of Writing
ENU 407 The Teaching of Literature
ENU 511 Teachers' Writing Workshop
ENG 521 The English Curriculum
WRI 400 Creative Writing : Theory and Practice
WRI 410 Arts and Entertainment Writing

Graduate course taught outside the English Department

Students may choose three (3) credits of graduate work in courses that are not taught by the English department.

**required for Non-Thesis Option (see Capstone Project in Program Description)