

Master of Arts in English Graduate Handbook



Department of English,
Languages & Cultural Studies
Northwestern State University

Table of Contents

Note: Some content of this handbook is extracted directly from the Northwestern State University Catalog, available on the Registrar's web page. Selections have been re-ordered and re-paginated and inapplicable info removed to better suit this handbook's focus on English graduate programs.

Department of English, Languages, and Cultural Studies	1
Program Administration	1
Program Mission	1
Graduate Faculty	2
Admission to NSU's MA in English Program	4
The Graduate School of NSU	6
Admission for International Students	7
Graduate Assistantships	7
General Degree Requirements	7
Advancing to Candidacy	7
Eligibility to Remain in the Graduate School	7
Time Limit to Complete a Graduate Degree	8
Revalidation of [Expired] Courses	8
Transfer Credit	8
Concurrent Registration	8
Second Master's Degree	8
Grade and Quality Points	9
Grade Appeal	9
Grades of C and F in Graduate School	9
Application for Graduation	10
MA in English Program	11
Degree Requirements	12
Available Concentrations	12
Accelerated Scholars BA and MA in English Programs	14
Course Descriptions	17
Accountability & Student Conduct	21
Master's Capstone for MA in English	22
Master's Capstone Proposal (form)	25
Thesis for Accelerated BA-MA in English	28
BA-MA Thesis Plan (form)	31
Sample Schedules for Theses	34
Concentration Checklists	36
Image Credits	43

Department of English, Languages, and Cultural Studies

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Department Head

Dr. Thomas Reynolds

Office: 318 Kyser Hall. Appointments and messages 318-357-6272 or reynolds@nsula.edu

Duties: Department administrator

Coordinator of Graduate Studies

Dr. J. Ereck Jarvis

Office: 316-I Kyser Hall. Appointments and messages 318-357-5586 or jarvisj@nsula.edu.

Duties: English graduate program coordinator and advisor.

Administrative Assistant

Marisa Dawson

Office: 318 Kyser Hall. Appointments and messages 318-357-6272 or dawsonm@nsula.edu

Duties: Provides administrative support for students, faculty, staff, and visitors.

OUR MISSION

The Graduate Program of the Department of English, Languages and Cultural Studies is a dynamic, student-oriented program focused on rigorously preparing students to achieve in diverse fields. The English M.A. degree focuses on developing, providing, and supporting forward thinking, responsive, and accessible graduate education of the highest level. Through concentrations in Creative Writing, Folklife & Southern Culture, Literature, TESOL, Composition & Rhetoric, and Generalist, the Graduate Program encourages a mastery of discipline-specific literature, thoughtful research, professional development, and cross-curricular innovation as members of an engaged scholarly community. Offering its students access to creative, critical, and compositional skills and experiences, the Graduate Program provides invaluable versatility in a rapidly changing world.

Graduate Faculty

NSU faculty members who teach and direct graduate students have terminal degrees in their area of specialization, an active research agenda, and current approval of the Graduate Council and administrative officers responsible for graduate programs. Only faculty who have acquired and retained Graduate Faculty Status can teach graduate courses and direct Master's Capstones.

Assistant Professor **Lilly Berberyan** (PhD University of North Carolina, Greensboro) studies and teaches British literature before 1700, particularly early modern drama.

Associate Professor **J. Andrew Briseño** (PhD University of North Texas) specializes in creative writing with an emphasis in fiction; he also studies Chicana and Latina literature.

Assistant Professor **Khirsten Doolan** (PhD University of Louisiana at Lafayette) specializes in Southern US literature and queer studies.

Associate Professor **Jennifer Enoch** (PhD Florida State University) studies and teaches composition and rhetoric.

Associate Professor **J. Ereck Jarvis** (PhD University of Wisconsin-Madison) coordinates the English Graduate Program and specializes in British literature after 1660, particularly literature of the long eighteenth century with attention to race and sociality.

Associate Professor **Rebecca Macijeski** (PhD University of Nebraska-Lincoln) is a poet and member of the creative writing faculty. Her work is interested in intersections between verbal and nonverbal communication and the ways in which poetry makes and records various kinds of knowledge.

Professor **Sarah E. McFarland** (PhD University of Oregon) specializes in contemporary literature and literary theory with an emphasis on the environmental humanities and critical animal studies.

Associate Professor **Jim Mischler's** (PhD Oklahoma State University) research focuses on linguistics and the scientific study of language. He also is the director of the NSU IRB.

Professor **Shane Rasmussen** (PhD University of Louisiana at Lafayette) serves as the Director of the Louisiana Folklife Center. He specializes in folklore (including mythology, legends, ethnography, and urban and contemporary folklife) as well as early American literature (to 1910) and science fiction.

Associate Professor **Thomas Reynolds** (PhD University of Louisiana at Lafayette) has worked as a professional writer and editor, an online course designer, and a high school instructor. He is department head of English, Languages, and Cultural Studies and has an active program of research related to the multiple intersections between writing, rhetoric, technology, and teaching.

Associate Professor **Allison Rittmayer** (PhD University of Florida) specializes in film and media studies, Southern literature and culture, critical theory, and modern and contemporary American literature.

Admission to NSU's MA in English

Applications are accepted on an ongoing basis; however, submit all materials by the following deadlines to ensure review and evaluation of your application by the admissions committee:

<u>To begin in</u>	<u>Submit all materials by</u>
FALL	AUGUST 1
SPRING	DECEMBER 15
SUMMER	MAY 1

Materials should be submitted to the Graduate School. Their contact information is:

The Graduate School

Caspari Hall, Room 123

Natchitoches, LA 71497

318-357-5851

Grad_school@nsula.edu

<https://www.nsula.edu/academics/graduate-school/>

A complete application file for certificate programs in TESOL or Writing for Business, Industry and Technology requires:

- Admission to the Graduate School
 - The [online application for admission](#)
 - Receipt of official college transcripts

A complete application file for the English MA program requires:

- Admission to the Graduate School
 - The [online application for admission](#)
 - Receipt of official college/university transcripts, including graduate study, if applicable
 - Receipt of [immunization records](#) or waiver
 - Receipt of 2 letters of recommendation
 - Receipt of \$25 Application Fee
- a writing sample of 10 -15 pages demonstrating facility in analysis, argument, research, and coherence emailed to jarvisj@nsula.edu (Multiple compositions within these length specifications are acceptable, and students interested in creative writing are welcome to include a mix of creative and scholarly composition, taking care to include some scholarly work that makes use of sources);
- a letter of intent (statement of purpose) of about 500 words describing career goals and/or rationale for pursuing graduate study in English. This statement should demonstrate a substantial commitment to graduate study. Email to jarvisj@nsula.edu.

Successful applicants to the MA program in English *generally* meet the following criteria, in addition to the admission requirements established by the Graduate School:

- Undergraduate GPA of 3.0 or higher;
- A lucid and engaging writing sample of 10 to 15 pages demonstrating facility in analysis, argument, research, and citation;
- A statement of purpose of about 500 words describing career goals and/or rationale for pursuing graduate study in English that demonstrates a substantial commitment to graduate study; and
- Two letters of recommendation from people who have supervised the applicant in an academic or similar setting and speak to the applicants' potential for success in graduate studies.

THE GRADUATE SCHOOL

123 Caspari Hall
318-357-5851
grad_school@nsula.edu

Dean: Greg Handel, *Professor*

The Dean of the Graduate School along with the Graduate Council supervises graduate study at Northwestern State University. All correspondence should be addressed to: Office of the Dean of the Graduate School, 123 Caspari Hall, Northwestern State University, Natchitoches, LA 71497; Phone 318-357-5851, 800-232-9892; Fax: 318-357-5019; E-mail: grad_school@nsula.edu; website: graduateschool.nsula.edu/.

The *University Catalog* presents the current curricula, educational plans, course offering, requirements, and policies of Northwestern State University. Catalogs are in effect beginning with the fall semester and remain in effect for the following spring and summer session. Degree requirements are also published on each academic department's website. It is the student's responsibility to be informed of these requirements. Changes in academic regulations enacted between catalog publications are published in various ways; students are responsible for knowing these changes.

For a listing of graduate degrees and certifications, see The University chapter of this catalog.

Admission to the Graduate School

Applicants for admission to Northwestern State University shall not be denied admission on the basis of sex, race, creed, or national origin.

Apply on-line at the Graduate School website. Application fee should accompany the application.

Admission to the Graduate School does not imply admission to any specific degree program. See information about admission requirements for a specific program posted on each department's webpage.

Students who do not attend Northwestern State University for three consecutive (including summer) semesters or longer and who then returns to the University must complete the course work prescribed in the catalog in effect at the time of the return. A lapse in enrollment of 12 calendar months, or more, will require reapplication and payment of an additional admission fee.

Graduate students are responsible for reading and following the regulations and requirements of the Graduate School.

ADMISSION CRITERIA

Admission requirements vary by each degree program. Go to Graduate School website at www.graduateschool.nsula.edu and click on the "*Graduate School Admissions Guide*" for individual program requirements.

ADMISSION CATEGORIES

REGULAR ADMISSION

1. Bachelor's degree from a recognized accredited college or university with a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.5 (applicants must furnish official transcripts from each college or university attended);
2. Completed online application must be submitted to the Graduate School at <https://www.applyweb.com/nsula/index.ftl>;

3. As specified by the department/program, satisfactory scores on a national standardized test, such as Graduate Record Examination (GRE) or PRAXIS, or a required professional license, such as Registered Nurse (RN) or Registered Radiologic Technologist. (See specific program admission requirements below. Note that some programs do not require the GRE for regular admission.);

4. Recommendation letters submitted by individuals who can attest to the applicant's academic background or professional experience. (Note: the number of letters vary; see program admission requirements below.)

All students applying for entry or re-entry to graduate study at Northwestern State University must be eligible to return to their former institutions to be considered for admission to Northwestern. No credit will be granted to a student by Northwestern for work done while suspended or dismissed from any institution.

Non-degree students meeting the requirements for admission may enroll for graduate credit. However, no more than 12 semester hours of graduate credit earned as a non-degree student may be subsequently applied toward a graduate degree program.

MASTER'S PROGRAM

PROVISIONAL ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Some degree programs allow provisional admission to a master's degree program may be granted for one semester or summer term for students whose records have not been received. Failure to remove provisional status after one semester or summer term will result in a registration hold, preventing further enrollment in graduate studies or a degree program. Upon submitting all required records, a student may later be admitted with regular or conditional status to a degree program, providing all requirements for that program are met. Only 12 hours or coursework earned in non-degree status may be applied to degree requirements.

MASTER'S PROGRAM

CONDITIONAL ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Graduate degree programs requiring the GRE allow conditional admission for the first nine semester hours of approved graduate study for students whose GRE score does not meet program minimum requirements on verbal and quantitative sections for regular admission.

Students conditionally admitted to a master's program may be expected to meet other program specific admission requirements. Check specific departmental degree requirements at the end of this Graduate School Section.

Conditional status in a master's degree program may be changed to regular status by earning nine semester hours of approved graduate degree credit at Northwestern State University with a grade of B or better on all graduate work pursued.

ADMISSION FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

To be admitted to the Graduate School, international students must present to Northwestern State University an evaluation of their educational credentials by a United States professional evaluating service that has been approved by the university. International students must also meet all requirements for admission to the Graduate School.

In addition, other documents required are:

1. Official Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) scores (minimum score of 525 paper and 194 computer or 74 internet based) or Duolingo with minimum score of 100 or IELTS with minimum 6.0 score;
2. Official Financial Statement Certification verifying bank funds available in U.S. dollars;
3. Educational Experience by Years list;
4. Health Form;
5. Immunization Record.

All admission records must be on file at least 30 days prior to the date of registration. International students are only admitted on a provisional basis for the first 12 hours (see provisional admission).

PROVISIONAL FOR UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS TO TAKE GRADUATE LEVEL COURSES

Graduating seniors at Northwestern who have a minimum cumulative undergraduate grade point average of 3.2 on all undergraduate work attempted may be allowed to register for graduate credit if they meet the following requirements:

1. Registration for graduate courses must be approved by the student's academic dean and the Dean of the Graduate School. The permit form may be obtained in the Graduate School Office and posted on the Graduate School webpage at <https://graduateschool.nsula.edu/>.
2. Students must be within their last 30 semester hours of completing baccalaureate degree requirements.
3. While in the concurrent program, students shall maintain a minimum cumulative graduate grade point average of 3.0.

No more than twelve graduate credit hours may be earned while completing baccalaureate requirements.

GRADUATE ASSISTANTSHIPS

Graduate assistantships are available for highly qualified graduate students. To be eligible for graduate assistantships, students must:

1. Be accepted into a graduate degree program (master's, specialist, or doctorate);
2. Achieve "regular admission" status;
3. Be considered "full-time" at Northwestern State University.

The minimum credit course load for graduate assistants in the fall/spring semesters is nine semester hours of which at least six semester hours must be for graduate credit. The maximum course load for graduate assistants is twelve semester hours. To be eligible to retain the assistantship, the student must:

1. Maintain a B average in all graduate courses;
2. Meet all other stated requirements of the Graduate School.

Out-of-state tuition, if applicable, is waived for graduate assistants.

Applications for assistantships are located on the Graduate School's webpage. Completed applications should be directed to the Dean of the Graduate School.

[Graduate Assistants work 300 hours each semester or 20 hours per week.]

MINIMUM AND MAXIMUM COURSE LOAD

During a regular 16-week semester, the full-time course load for a graduate student is 9 hours; the maximum number of hours allowed is 12 hours. Additional hours require approval from the major professor/advisor via email.

During an 8- or 11-week summer session, the full-time course load for a graduate student is 6 hours; the maximum number of hours allowed is 9 hours. Additional hours require approval from the major professor/advisor via email.

PLAN OF STUDY AND GRADUATE COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT

When a student is admitted to graduate study, the Graduate School notifies the college/department in which the student plans to major. The department should notify the student of their committee chair and members.

GENERAL DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

The minimum credit requirements for the master's degree is 30 semester hours of graduate work. Not more than six hours may be allowed for the thesis course and completion of a thesis. All courses taken toward completion of a degree must be 5000-level or above (courses open only to graduate students).

The graduate program must include a major area of concentration of not less than 18 semester hours. To fulfill the course requirements for a degree, a student must maintain:

- A minimum GPA of a 3.0 on all graduate work pursued
- No grade lower than "C"
- Not more than six hours of credit with a grade of "C".

ADVANCING TO CANDIDACY

To be eligible to advance to candidacy for the master's degree, a student must:

- Have achieved regular admission status.
- Have an approved major professor and committee form on file.
- Have an approved plan of study on file.
- Have completed a minimum of 24 semester hours of graduate work at Northwestern.
- Have earned a B average on all graduate work pursued.

After being eligible to advance to candidacy, a student must earn a minimum of six additional semester hours of graduate credit and/or complete the research requirement at Northwestern State University.

The Thesis, Research Project, or Field Study

The Graduate School updates its policies and procedures for theses, field studies, creative research, and research papers-in-lieu-of-thesis annually in its publication General Guidelines for Theses, Field Studies, Creative Research, or Research Papers-in-Lieu-of-Thesis. This publication is available on the Graduate School's web page.

Eligibility to Remain in the Graduate School

Academic Probation

- Students whose graduate cumulative average or semester average falls below 3.0 shall be placed on probation.
- A student will remain on probation until the cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or higher is achieved. While on probation, a student must earn at least a 3.0 semester grade point average to remain in school.

Academic Suspension

- Students on probation will be suspended at the conclusion of any semester in which the student fails to earn a semester grade point average of at least 3.0.
- A student suspended for the first time will be suspended for a period of one semester. All subsequent suspension periods are for one full calendar year.
- A student suspended at the end of the spring semester may attend summer school without appeal. If the student raises the cumulative grade point average to 3.0 or higher, the suspension period is lifted, and the student is placed in academic good standing. The student may then attend the fall semester without appeal. If the student does not raise the cumulative grade point average to 3.0 or higher in the summer session, the suspension for the fall semester is in effect. In this case, only one suspension is counted against the student.
- A student must appeal to be readmitted to any semester other than the summer session.
- A student with two previous suspensions who does not make a 3.0 on all hours attempted for the semester will be dismissed. Such dismissal is a final action.

Readmission from Suspension

- Students with an academic standing of suspension may appeal to be considered for readmission. Appeals may be granted or denied.
- To appeal: submit the appeal of suspension form to the Graduate School. The form is available at <https://graduateschool.nsula.edu/>. The Graduate School will submit the form to your major professor for review. Final decision will be made by the Dean of the Graduate School.
- Students who have completed a suspension period may reapply for admission to the Graduate School. Applications for readmission may be granted or denied.

Time Limit to Complete a Graduate Degree

All work applied toward the degree must have been earned in the six years immediately preceding the completion of the graduate program.

Revalidation of Courses

In special cases, upon approval of the Dean of the Graduate School, expired credits may be revalidated by examination. **TRANSFERRED CREDITS MAY NOT BE REVALIDATED.** The examination must include a written test or demonstrated performance that measure those topics currently taught in the course and must be evaluated as if the student had just completed the course. The written examination paper, portfolio, or performance document with accompanying instructions, course learning outcomes, and designated activities with completed rubrics must be filed in the Graduate School office. Test construction and evaluation of the assessment instrument will be done by the instructor currently teaching the course or who has most recently taught the course.

Revalidation will be on a satisfactory/unsatisfactory basis. For grade point average purposes, the initial grade will be utilized. Revalidation of Expired Course Form must be completed by the applicant and then submitted to the graduate advisor and the college dean for approval. Once signatures have been obtained the form is then submitted to the Dean of the Graduate

School for final approval. The cost of revalidation is \$35 per course and must be paid and the receipt on file in the Dean of the Graduate School's office prior to taking the examination paper, portfolio, or performance document.

Residence Requirement/Transfer Credit

At least two-thirds of the hours required for a master's degree must be earned at Northwestern. The remaining hours required for the degree may be transferred from another institution provided the institution, including its Graduate School, is accredited by a recognized accreditor; the grade earned is "B" or above; the course is completed within the six years immediately preceding the completion of the graduate program; and the credits are accepted as applicable to the student's degree program. An appropriate course description and syllabus must accompany the request. **All transfer credits must be reviewed by the major professor and college dean and approved by the Dean of the Graduate School within the first term of enrollment.**

Transferred graduate credits may not be used to satisfy conditional admission requirements or to raise a student's GPA to meet regular admission requirements. See also the policies related to Concurrent Registration.

The Application for Transfer of Graduate Credits Form may be obtained in the Graduate School Office or online at www.nsula.edu on the Graduate School webpage.

Concurrent Registration

Graduate students registered at Northwestern may not receive degree credit for any work taken concurrently at another college or university without PRIOR approval from the major professor and the Dean of the Graduate School. Any degree-seeking Northwestern graduate student who wishes to take courses at another college or university during a summer session, or during a regular semester when not enrolled at Northwestern, must also obtain PRIOR approval from the major professor and the Dean of the Graduate School.

It is the responsibility of graduate students pursuing continuing enrollment at Northwestern to submit to the Office of the Dean of the Graduate School an official transcript of work pursued at every University attended, regardless of whether or **not a degree was** awarded. Northwestern will not grant credit for coursework taken while suspended or dismissed from any college or university.

Completing a Master's and Baccalaureate Degree Simultaneously

Northwestern State University will only confer a master's and baccalaureate degree simultaneously (during the same semester) on completion of an accelerated Bachelor/Master's program. Students pursuing a master's degree may, however, simultaneously take coursework toward an undergraduate degree.

Second Master's Degree

A student seeking a second master's degree may be allowed to apply graduate credits from a previous graduate degree, if the credits were completed with grades of "B" or better and completed within the last six years of pursuing the second degree. A maximum of 12 graduate hours may apply to a second master's degree, only if the hours are applicable to the second master's degree.

Grades and Quality Points

Grades

Students are graded in their studies on the quality of work. Five grades are in use, as follows: “A” (excellent), “B” (good), “C” (average), “D” (below average), and “F” (failure). A course with a grade of “Pass” or a grade of “D” may not be used to satisfy a course requirement for a graduate degree.

A grade of “I” (Incomplete) means that course work is incomplete due to circumstances beyond the control of the student and that successful completion of this work could lead to a passing grade. A grade of “IP” (In progress) means that work in a research or thesis course is incomplete, but in progress. Continuous registration in courses where “IP” grades are awarded is required. Except for thesis courses or those courses in which the student is writing a formal research project-in-lieu of a thesis, incomplete grades must be removed within 60 calendar days after the end of the term in which the grade was assigned. If the work is not completed within the allotted time, the grade of “I” will be changed to “F”. Students enrolled in a course for which a grade of “IP” is allowed must remain continuously enrolled (except summer) or a grade of “F” will be given. A waiver of this policy may be given by the Dean of the Graduate School.

If a student earns more than six hours in thesis the student’s transcript will provide only six hours of grades for thesis. All other “IP” grades will remain “IP” on the transcript. The student’s thesis director and the Dean of the Graduate School will determine which six hours of “IP” will be changed to the letter grade assigned by the thesis director when the thesis is satisfactorily completed.

A grade of “W” represents an official withdrawal from the course.

Quality Points

In addition to earning credit hours for courses satisfactorily completed, students earn quality points according to the semester grades they make in the courses pursued. The following table is used in computing quality points:

- Grade “A” yields four points per semester hour of credit represented.
- Grade “B” yields three points per semester hour of credit represented.
- Grade “C” yields two points per semester hour of credit represented.
- Grade “D” yields one point per semester hour of credit represented.
- Grade “F” yields no credit.

Note: Earning the grade of F in any graduate-level course will result in dismissal from the student’s degree program, regardless of the student’s overall grade point average. This dismissal is subject to appeal.

Grade Appeal

Graduate students who receive grades they believe do not reflect the quality of their work may appeal these grades within 120 days following the academic period in which the grades were earned. The procedure for appeal is as follows:

1. The student should consult the instructor to see if an understanding can be reached. The student is entitled to an explanation as to how the grade was determined and to examine any tests, papers, or other information pertinent to the appeal.

2. If the conference with the instructor is not satisfactory, the student should secure a Grade Appeal Form from the Dean of the Graduate School. The student may discuss the appeal informally with the Dean of the Graduate School if the student so desires.
3. In filing a formal appeal, the student should complete the appeal form, 1. stating the nature of the appeal, 2. providing a detailed description of the justification, and 3. requesting a specific action. Since the written appeal will be the basis for the ultimate decision, the student should ensure that it is clear, complete, and inclusive of all documentation the student wishes to have considered in the appeal process. It is the student’s responsibility to present written evidence that the instructor made an error or acted arbitrarily or capriciously in assigning the grade.
4. The student should submit the completed appeal form to the instructor for review. If a solution is not found, the instructor should provide a written response to the student’s appeal, providing documentation as to how the grade was determined. The instructor’s response should include a copy of the course outline or syllabus provided to the student’s class at the beginning of the semester or term.
5. After having met with the instructor and obtaining his or her written response to the appeal, the student may submit the form to the head of the academic department that owns the course. Following a review of the student’s appeal and the instructor’s response, the department head or dean of the college should provide his or her written opinion of the appeal along with any additional, pertinent information.
6. If the student is unsatisfied with the opinion of the department head (or dean of the college), he or she may submit the appeal to the Dean of the Graduate School. The Dean of the Graduate School may make a decision, which would be final, or refer the appeal to the University Graduate Council for review and recommendation. The Council’s report would be a recommendation to the Dean of the Graduate School, whose decision would be final. The Dean of the Graduate School will notify the student of the final decision.

Grades of “C” and “F” in Graduate School

Only 2 grades of “C” may be applied toward completion of most graduate degree program. The student should consult the departmental policy of their degree program.

A grade of “F” in any graduate level course will cause the student to be dismissed from said degree program; however, the student is not dismissed from the Graduate School. The student may opt to choose to apply to another degree program offered, or the student may appeal the dismissal to the head of the academic department offering the degree program. Readmission decisions, which are considered final, rest with the Dean of the Graduate School.

Comprehensive Final Examination

All students must pass a comprehensive final examination – oral, written, or both – which may also include a defense of the thesis or field study, if a thesis or field study is written. Students who do not pass comprehensive examinations (COMPS) on the first testing may only take COMPS for a maximum of three times.

[Completion of a Master’s Capstone fulfills this requirement.]

Application for Graduation

An application for graduation must be filed at the beginning of the semester or summer session during which degree requirements will be completed. Students must apply online for graduation through myNSU at <https://my.nsula.edu>. Students who fail to complete graduation requirements as planned or who want to change the date of graduation must reapply for graduation by filing another online Application for Graduation.

Graduation with Special Honors

Scholastic honors represent the highest form of recognition that can be bestowed upon a student by a university. As a means of acknowledging the efforts and accomplishment of students whose scholastic performances are most worthy, Northwestern State University is pleased to grant special distinction to Graduate School graduates who have a grade point average of 4.0 in their degree program.

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH, LANGUAGES, AND CULTURAL STUDIES

318 Kyser Hall
318-357-6272
languages@nsula.edu

Department Head: Thomas Reynolds, *Associate Professor*

Professors Emeritus: Julie Kane, Helaine D. Razovsky

Professors: McFarland, Rasmussen

Associate Professors: Briseño, Forkner, Jarvis, Macijeski, Mischler, Rittmayer

Assistant Professors: Berberyan, Crawford, Enoch, Gordy

Instructors: Davis, Doolan, El Nahhas, Ferrell, Jenkins, Masson, Montgomery, Salter Dromm, Shelton, Wilson, Zbitkovskis

Mission of the Department of English, Languages, and Cultural Studies

As scholars, students, and teachers, we strive to be engaged, compassionate, curious learners and to engender the same passion in every student we teach. The critical study of texts, languages, and textual production is vital for our development as critical thinkers, effective communicators, and thoughtful community members. As a department, we offer these interdisciplinary experiences in diverse but complementary areas of study.

Degree Programs Available Through the Department of English, Languages, and Cultural Studies

Bachelor of Arts program in: English, with concentrations in creative writing, film studies, folklife/southern culture, literature, and professional writing

Master of Arts program in: English, with concentrations in composition and rhetoric, creative writing, folklife/southern culture, generalist, literature, and teaching English to speakers of other languages

Certificate Programs offered through the Department of English, Languages, and Cultural Studies

Undergraduate Certificate (UC) in:
Second Language Teaching

Graduate Certificate (GC) in:
Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL)

Northwestern State University has been authorized by the Louisiana Board of Regents to offer the above certificate programs. Refer to the Department of English, Languages, and Cultural Studies web page at <https://www.nsula.edu/english/> for detailed information on these programs.

English

- a letter of intent of about 500 words describing career goals and rationale for pursuing graduate study in English (This statement should demonstrate a substantial and specific commitment to graduate study, and discussion of specific research interests is recommended); and
- two letters of recommendation from people who have supervised the applicant in an academic or similar setting.

International Applicants

The Graduate School requires TOEFL scores for international applicants; the Department of English, Languages, and Cultural Studies will consider an IELTS score of 6.0 in lieu of the TOEFL.

Degree Requirements

Students in the M.A. in English program must fulfill the requirements outlined below (30 hours):

1. **Required Courses:** Students must successfully complete ENGL 5800 and 5280 (6 hours).
2. **Concentration:** Students must successfully complete the requirements for one of the concentrations listed under areas of study (18 hours),
3. **Completion Project:** Students complete ENGL 6950 in which they prepare one research report, identified by the graduate school as a paper-in-lieu of thesis. The project may be critical, creative, or practical, as appropriate to their concentration and should be article- or chapbook-length or the equivalent. Students must submit the Master's capstone research report, once approved by their major professor, to the Graduate School prior to graduation.

Available Concentrations

Students in the M.A. in English program will select one of the following concentrations (30 hours each):

1. **Literature (529B):** Students in the Literature concentration must complete 30 hours as follows:
 - ENGL 5800 and 5280;
 - 18 hours in literature or related courses from the following: ENGL 5250 (subtitles 01-03), 5300 (subtitles 01-04), 5350 (subtitles 01-04), 5360, 5400 (subtitles 01-05), 5450 (subtitles 01-06), 5500, 5560, 5570, 5590, 5710, 5900¹, 5920², 6010, 6030, 6100 (subtitle 01), 6110 (subtitles 01-04), 6120 (subtitles 01-04), 6200, 6230, 6300 (subtitles 01-02), 6310, or 6373;
 - 3 additional hours of any graduate level ENGL course; and;
 - 3 hours of 6950.
2. **Folklife/Southern Culture (529C):** Students in the Folklife/Southern Culture concentration must complete 30 hours as follows:
 - ENGL 5800 and 5280;
 - 3 hours from ENGL 5580 or 6480;
 - 3 hours from ENGL 5590 or 6310;
 - 12 additional hours in folklore, Southern literature, American literature, linguistics, and grant writing from the following: ENGL 5320, 5340, 5350, 5360, 5400, 5450, 5560, 5570, 5580, 5590, 5600, 5710, 5720, 5721, 5870, 5900¹, 6200, 6230, 6310, 6373, 6470, 6480, 6600, or 6890;
 - 3 additional hours of any graduate level ENGL course; and;
 - 3 hours of 6950.

Graduate Program

Master of Arts Program in: English (529)

Admission Requirements for the M.A. in English program

Successful applicants to the M.A. in English program, in addition to fulfilling admission criteria and requirements established by the Graduate School, generally have an undergraduate GPA of 3.0 or higher. Applicants also must submit the following:

- a writing sample of 10-15 pages demonstrating facility in analysis, argument, research, citation, and coherence (Work from a past course is recommended, although that is not required. The writing need not be from an English course: We prefer writing samples that demonstrate sophisticated use of sources and analyses to English- specific essays, particularly from applicants who did not do extensive upper-level coursework in English);

3. **Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) (529E):** Students in the TESOL concentration must complete 30 hours as follows:
- ENGL 5800 and 5280;
 - ENGL 5240, 6610, and 6640;
 - 6 hours of TESOL and linguistics courses from the following: ENGL 5040, 5050, 5060, 5280, 5540, 5900¹, 5920², 6600, 6620, 6650, 6740 or 6890;
 - 6 hours of any graduate level ENGL course; and
 - 3 hours of 6950.
4. **Creative Writing (529F):** Students in the Creative Writing concentration must complete 30 hours as follows:
- ENGL 5800 and 5280;
 - ENGL 6020;
 - 9 hours of creative writing workshops from the following: ENGL 5070, 5550 (subtitles 01-03), 6090, or 6210;
 - 9 hours of any graduate level ENGL course; and
 - 3 hours of 6950.
5. **Generalist (529G):** Students in the Generalist concentration must complete 30 hours as follows:
- ENGL 5800 and 5280;
 - 6 hours of literature courses from the following: ENGL 5250 (subtitles 01-03), 5300 (subtitles 01-04), 5350 (subtitles 01-04), 5400 (subtitles 01-05), 5450 (subtitles 01-06), 5500, 5560, 5570, 5590, 5710, 5900¹, 5920², 6010, 6030, 6100 (subtitle 01), 6110 (subtitles 01-04), 6120 (subtitles 01-04), 6200, 6230, 6300 (subtitles 01-02), 6310, or 6373;
 - 6 hours of writing and linguistics courses from the following: ENGL 5040, 5050, 5060, 5090, 5220, 5230, 5240, 5260, 5270, 5540, 5900¹, 5920², 6540, 6560, 6600, 6610, 6620, 6640, 6650, 6740, 6880, or 6890;
 - 6 hours of folklife/southern culture courses from the following: ENGL 5320, 5340, 5350, 5400, 5450, 5560, 5570, 5580, 5590, 5600, 5710, 5720, 5721, 5870, 5900¹, 5920², 6200, 6230, 6310, 6373, 6470, 6480, or 6600;
 - 3 additional hours of any graduate level ENGL course; and
 - 3 hours of 6950.
6. **Composition and Rhetoric (529H):** Students in the Composition and Rhetoric concentration must complete 30 hours as follows:
- ENGL 5800 and 5280;
 - 15 hours of composition, rhetoric, and writing courses from the following: ENGL 5050, 5060, 5090, 5220, 5230, 5240, 5260, 5270, 5900¹, 5920², 6540, 6560, 6880, or 6890;
 - 6 additional hours of any graduate level ENGL course; and
 - 3 hours of 6950.

Footnotes

ENGL 5900: SPECIAL PROBLEMS IN RESEARCH is designed to allow students to pursue guided independent research on topics not covered in course offerings. Topics must be approved by a major professor and the Department Head and must be relevant to the concentration in which it will be applied for credit. Permission of instructor required.

ENGL 5920: ENGLISH INTERNSHIP is designed to allow students the opportunity to intern with an organization connected to their professional goals. Internships must be approved by a major professor and the Department Head and must be relevant to the concentration in which it will be applied for credit. Permission of instructor required.

Accelerated Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts Programs:

- Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts with a Concentration in Humanities and Social Thought (820B) and Master of Arts in English (529)
- Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts with a Concentration in Classical Studies (820H) and Master of Arts in English (529)

The combined B.A. in Liberal Arts and M.A. in English programs offer qualified students of the Louisiana Scholars' College an accelerated curriculum that allows them to earn both a bachelor's and master's degree in five years. Students may apply for formal admission to the program in their junior year. If accepted into the program, students can begin taking graduate courses in their senior year. After completing all the requirements of the program, the student will be awarded both the B.A. and M.A. Complete curriculum and admission requirements are found within the Louisiana Scholars' College chapter [included on the following pages].

Students must complete all the common curriculum requirements of the Louisiana Scholars' College except SLSC 4900 and the following requirements of the concentration in Classical Studies (820H): 40 hours – SLTN 1810, 2810, 2840 (8 hours counted in core); SGRK 1810, 2810, 2840; 6 hours of SLTN at the 3000/4000 level¹; 6 hours of SGRK at the 3000/4000 level¹; 3 additional hours of SLTN or SGRK; 15 hours of concentration electives chosen from: SENG 3000, ENGL 3400, HIST 4140, 4150; SHIS 3880 (Augustus), SPHI 2000, 3710, 3880 (Plato, Aristotle), SART 3820, or the prefixes SCLA SHST, SLTN, SGRK; 14 hours of academic electives (at least 6 hours of which must be from Scholars' College prefixes) and ENGL 2070.

Students in the combined degree program must complete the requirements of an area of study from the M.A. in English program and complete all other requirements of the M.A. in English. All students in the combined degree program are required to complete a thesis. A fully approved thesis proposal must be on file in the Department and the Graduate School prior to registration for thesis hours (ENGL 5980). Thesis students must successfully defend the thesis prior to graduation.

Students in the combined program are awarded both the B.A. and M.A. degrees upon completion of all the program's requirements.

¹ One course poetry and one course prose at the 3000-4000 level.

Curriculum for Concentration in Classical Studies (820H) and Master of Arts in English (529)

FIRST YEAR	SEM. HRS.
SCTT 1810, 1820.....	7
SLTN ² , SGRK ³ , or Classics courses ⁴	9
ENGL 1010, SCRT 181W.....	6
1 from: SSOT; EPSY 2020; PSYC 1010, 2050.....	3
SBIO/SECL/SCHM/SPHY ¹	4
SOR 1010.....	1
	30
SECOND YEAR	SEM. HRS.
SCTT 2810, 2820.....	8
SBIO/SECL/SCHM/SPHY ¹	8
SLTN ² , SGRK ³ , or Classics courses ⁴	9
1 from SMAT 1820, 1830, 2000 or SSTA 3810.....	3
ENGL 2070.....	3
	31
THIRD YEAR	SEM. HRS.
SLTN ² , SGRK ³ , or Classics courses ⁴	21
1 from SMAT 1820, 1830, 2000 or SSTA 3810.....	3
Academic Elective ⁵	6
	30
FOURTH YEAR	SEM. HRS.
ENGL 5800.....	3
ENGL 5280.....	3
ENGL (5000/6000 level) ⁶	3
SLTN ² , SGRK ³ , Classics courses ⁴	9
Academic Electives ⁵	8
	26
FIFTH YEAR	SEM. HRS.
ENGL (5000/6000 level) ⁶	15
ENGL 5980.....	6
	21
Total Semester Hours for Degree.....	138

Footnotes:

¹ Two of one discipline (life or physical science) and one semester of the other.

² SLTN 1810, 2810, 2840, and a minimum of 2 courses at the 3000-4000 level (one course must be prose and one poetry).

³ SGRK 1810, 2810, 2840, and a minimum of 2 courses at the 3000-4000 level (one course must be prose and one poetry).

⁴ An additional 3 hours of SLTN or SGRK courses with the remaining 18 hours chosen from: ART 3520; ENGL 3400, 4620; HIST 4140, 4150; THEA 2360; SENG 3000; SHIS 3880 (Augustus), SPHI 2000, 3710, 3880 (Plato, Aristotle); SART 3820, or the prefixes SCLA SHST, SLTN, SGRK.

Accelerated Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts with a Concentration in Classical Studies (820H) and Master of Arts in English (529)

Admission Requirements for the Accelerated B.A. in Liberal Arts and M.A. in English

Successful applicants of the accelerated B.A./M.A. program in Liberal Arts with a concentration in Classical Studies (B.A.) and English (M.A.) will meet the following criteria, in addition to the admission criteria established by the Graduate School:

- Student in the Louisiana Scholars' College.
- Junior standing.
- ENGL 2070 and at least 3 credit hours of upper-level SENG or upper-level ENGL courses with grades of B or better (at least 6 more hours of upper-level SENG or upper-level ENGL courses are required to fulfill undergraduate requirements).
- A writing sample of not more than 15 pages demonstrating facility in analysis, argument, research, and coherence.
- An undergraduate GPA of 3.2 or higher.
- A letter of intent of about 500 words describing career goals and/or rationale for pursuing graduate study in English. This statement should demonstrate a substantial commitment to graduate study.
- Two letters of recommendation from people who have supervised the applicant in an academic or similar setting.

⁵ A minimum of 6 credit hours of academic electives must be courses with Scholars' prefixes. A minimum of 9 credit hours of upper-level SENG or upper-level ENGL courses must be taken to satisfy the Concentration requirements and/or the Academic Electives.

⁶ To be distributed according to the chosen area of study for the English Master of Arts program.

Accelerated Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts with a Concentration in Humanities and Social Thought (820B) and Master of Arts in English (529)

The accelerated B.A. in Liberal Arts and M.A. in English program offers qualified students of the Louisiana Scholars' College an accelerated curriculum that allows them to earn both a bachelor's and master's degree in five years. Students may apply for formal admission to the program in their junior year. If accepted into the program, students can begin taking graduate courses in their senior year. Students not accepted into the program can complete all the requirements of the Humanities and Social Thought concentration (820B) and graduate with a B.A. in four years. After completing all the requirements of the program, accepted students will be awarded both the B.A. and M.A.

Admission Requirements for the Accelerated B.A. in Liberal Arts with a Concentration in Humanities and Social Thought and M.A. in English

Successful applicants to the accelerated B.A./M.A. program in Liberal Arts with a concentration in Humanities and Social Thought (B.A.) and English (M.A.) will meet the following criteria, in addition to the admission criteria established by the Graduate School:

- Student in the Louisiana Scholars' College.

- Junior standing.
- ENGL 2070 and at least 3 credit hours of upper-level SENG or upper-level ENGL courses with grades of B or better (at least 6 more hours of upper-level SENG or upper-level ENGL courses are required to fulfill undergraduate requirements).
- An undergraduate GPA of 3.2 or higher.
- A writing sample of not more than 15 pages demonstrating facility in analysis, argument, research, and coherence.
- A letter of intent of about 500 words describing career goals and/or rationale for pursuing graduate study in English. This statement should demonstrate a substantial commitment to graduate study.
- Two letters of recommendation from people who have supervised the applicant in an academic or similar setting.

Students must complete all the common curriculum requirements of the Louisiana Scholars' College except SLSC 4900 and the following requirements of the concentration in Humanities and Social Thought: 4 additional hours of core language to bring total to 12; 42 hours of humanities or social science electives (27 hours must be courses with Scholars' College prefixes; 36 hours must be at the 3000/4000 level), including ENGL 2070; one of SART 3820; SECO 3840, 3850, 3860; SHIS 3700, 3710; SLSC 3800, 3810, 3820, 3830, or 4820; SPHI 3910 (interdisciplinary); and one of SBIO 3880; SENG 3810, 3880; SHIS 3880; or SPHI 3880 (major figure; this requirement may be fulfilled by ENGL 6100, 6110, 6120, or 6200); 11 hours of academic electives (6 hours must be courses with Scholars' prefixes).

Students in the combined degree program must complete the requirements of an area of study from the M.A. in English program and complete all other requirements of the M.A. in English. All students in the combined degree program are required to complete a thesis. A fully approved thesis proposal must be on file in the Department and the Graduate School prior to registration for thesis hours (ENGL 5980). Thesis students must successfully defend the thesis prior to graduation.

Students in the combined program are awarded both the B.A. and M.A. degrees upon completion of all the program's requirements.

Curriculum for Concentration in Humanities and Social Thought (820B) and M.A. in English (529)

FIRST YEAR	SEM. HRS.
SCTT 1810, 1820	7
SSPN/SFRE/SGRK/SLTN/SRUS ³	6
SBIO/SECL/SCHM/SPHY ²	8
ENGL 1010, SCRT 181W	6
SOR 1010	1
Humanities and Social Thought courses ⁴	3
	31

SECOND YEAR	SEM. HRS.
SCTT 2810, 2820	8
SBIO/SECL/SCHM/SPHY ²	4
SSPN/SFRE/SGRK/SLTN/SRUS ³	6
1 from SMAT 1820, 1830, 2000 or SSTA 3810	3
ENGL 2070	3
Humanities and Social Thought courses ⁴	6
	30

THIRD YEAR	SEM. HRS.
1 from SMAT 1820, 1830, 2000, 2010 or SSTA 3810	3
1 from SSOT, PSYC 1010, 2050, EPSY 2020	3
Humanities and Social Thought courses ⁴	16
Academic Electives ¹	6
	28

FOURTH YEAR	SEM. HRS.
ENGL 5800	3
ENGL 5280	3
ENGL (5000/6000 level) ⁵	3
Humanities and Social Thought courses ⁴	14
Academic Electives ¹	5
	28

FIFTH YEAR	SEM. HRS.
ENGL (5000/6000 level) ⁵	15
ENGL 5980	6
	21

Total Semester Hours for Degree..... 138

Footnotes:

- ¹ A minimum of 6 credit hours of academic electives must be courses with Scholars' prefixes.
- ² Two of one discipline (life or physical science) and one semester of the other.
- ³ All 12 credit hours must be of the same language. Consult your advisor about the timing of course rotations in the languages.
- ⁴ Chosen from the Scholars' prefixes SART, SCLA, SECO, SFRE, SGRK, SHIS, SHPS, SHUM, SLSC, SLTN, SMUS, SPHI, SRUS, SSOT, and SSPN; the University prefixes ANTH, COMM, CJ, ENGL, GEOG, GLST, HIST, HUM, PSCI, PSYC, SST, SOWK, SOC, SPAN; and the courses ART 3520, 3530, 3540, BUAD 3250, 3260, MUS 2030, 2040, 3030, 3040, 4130, THEA 2360, 3380, 4330. At least nine hours must be in upper-level ENGL or upper-level SENG courses.
- ⁵ To be distributed according to the chosen area of study for the English Master of Arts program.

ENGLISH GRADUATE COURSES

The specific field of study in the following courses is determined by the instructor. Texts and subjects are changed at the discretion of the instructor.

- 5040. INTRODUCTION TO PHONOLOGY.** (3-3-0). The course presents a basic introduction to speech and speech production from the point of view of linguistics. The basic features of speech system and production are discussed in detail. Students will also learn a phonetic transcription system to describe and analyze the speech sounds of English and other languages. Prerequisite: Graduate standing.
- 5050. QUALITATIVE RESEARCH METHODS FOR LANGUAGE AND COMMUNICATION STUDIES.** (3-3-0). Introduces and examines commonly accepted procedures and epistemological foundations for qualitative research in language and communication studies such as participant observation, interviewing, and ethnography. Both doing and reporting qualitative research studies will be stressed.
- 5060. INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION.** (3-3-0). This course will examine principles and theories of communication across cultures. Topics to be discussed include intercultural communication competence, cultural patterns of communication, verbal and nonverbal dimensions of intercultural communication, and obstacles to intercultural communication.
- 5070. STUDIES IN FLASH FICTION.** (3-3-0). This course provides intensive study and practical application in the writing and study of flash fiction, including form and theory, history of the genre, and publication. Prerequisite: ENGL 5550.
- 5090. MEDIEVAL THROUGH 18TH CENTURY RHETORIC.** (3-3-0). Survey of rhetorical theory from medieval times through 1700s. Application of theories to scholarship in the history of rhetoric and the teaching of writing.

- 5220. TECHNICAL WRITING.** (3-3-0). This course focuses on rhetorical technique and writing skills for analyzing, producing, and editing technical documents for a variety of audiences and purposes in business, industrial, scientific, and technological fields.
- 5230. ADVANCED TECHNICAL WRITING AND EDITING.** (3-3-0). Practice and theory of technical writing and editing, organization, presentation and style of reports, articles, etc. that emerge in technical fields.
- 5240. PRINCIPLES OF SECOND LANGUAGE LEARNING, INSTRUCTION AND METHODOLOGY.** (3-3-0). Examines a number of second language learning/teaching paradigms and focuses on the changing forms and functions of methodology and technique as the emphasis of language pedagogy has shifted from teacher directed, drill and pattern practice to learner focused, task-based instruction.
- 5250. STUDIES IN THE 18th CENTURY.** (3-3-0). Focused study of 18th century literature. May be repeated for a maximum of 6 hours of credit when topic varies.
Subtitles:
01-Essays, Poetry and Drama
02-Novels
03-Special Topics
- 5260. CLASSICAL RHETORIC.** (3-3-0).
- 5270. CONTEMPORARY RHETORIC.** (3-3-0).
- 5280. GENERAL COMPOSITION THEORY.** (3-3-0).
- 5300. STUDIES IN THE 19th CENTURY.** (3-3-0). Focused study of 19th century literature. May be repeated for a maximum of 6 hours of credit when topic varies.
Subtitles:
01-The Romantics
02-The Victorians
03-Novel since 1800
04-Special Topics
- 5320. FOLK AND FAIRY TALES.** (3-3-0). Students will employ folklore theory to critically analyze folk and fairy tales selected from a variety of cultures and times, explore how and in what contexts these tales are told and retold, as well as the function the performance of these tales play in various societies. Students will also examine how the incorporation of folk and fairy tales enrich modern literary texts and films. Prerequisite: 2000 level literature.
- 5340. ETHNOGRAPHIC AND DOCUMENTARY FILM-MAKING.** (3-3-0). Course will focus upon a definition of ethnography and will incorporate the best practices in documentary filmmaking. Issues to be addressed will include editorial choices, inclusion of contextual information, cultural ownership and culture as commodity/product, and the best ways in which to depict cultures on their own terms.
- 5350. STUDIES IN THE 20th CENTURY.** (3-3-0). Focused study of the 20th century literature. May be repeated for a maximum of 6 hours of credit when topic varies.
Subtitles:
01-Novels
02-Poetry
03-Drama
04-Reading Film and/as Literature
- 5360. STUDIES IN THE 21ST CENTURY.** (3-3-0). In this course we will study a variety of literary forms to get a sense of what evolutions in form and content writers have been exploring in the 21st century. We will also examine how writers negotiate contemporary personal, political, and philosophical issues. Our readings will be accompanied by scholarly essays that will help spark conversations and serve as models for your own writing.
- 5400. STUDIES IN AMERICAN LITERATURE I.** (3-3-0). Focused study of American literature since 1865. May be repeated for a maximum of 6 hours of credit when topic varies.
Subtitles:
01- Colonial
02- Nationalism and Romanticism
03-Poetry
04-Novels
05-Drama
- 5450. STUDIES IN AMERICAN LITERATURE II.** (3-3-0). Focused study of American literature to 1865. May be repeated for a maximum of 6 hours of credit when topic varies.
Subtitles:
01-Rise of Realism
02-Modern
03-Poetry
04-Novels
05-Drama
06-African-American
- 5500. STUDIES IN LITERARY CRITICISM.** (3-3-0). The study of contemporary literary movements from their critical and aesthetic base in the study of rhetoric through 21st century writers to examine the historical and philosophical foundations of key concepts in literary criticism, including, mimesis, rationalism, empiricism, representation, authorship, interpretation, identity and selfhood, agency, and others.
- 5540. SECOND LANGUAGE TESTING AND ASSESSMENT.** (3-3-0). The course will study the theory and practice of designing and implementing various types of tests and assessments to measure student learning outcomes in second language educational programs, focusing especially on English as a Second Language (ESL) courses. Tests designed for the academic program level, including placement and exit tests, will also be considered.
- 5550. CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOP.** (3-3-0). Students will engage with literature from a creative perspective, including study of the form, theory, and practice of creative writing. May be repeated for a maximum of 9 credit hours when topic varies.
Subtitles:
01-Fiction
02-Poetry
03-Creative Nonfiction
- 5560. SOUTHERN WOMEN WRITERS.** (3-3-0). A focus on the tradition of Southern fiction as demonstrated in selected writings by Southern women authors.
- 5570. SOUTHERN LITERATURE BEFORE 1920.** (3-3-0). Provides introduction to Southern Literature written prior to 1920. The Literature of the American South prior to 1920 includes a wide variety of diaries, political documents, poetry, drama, and fiction. The course will also focus on a genre of literature, the Humor of the Old Southwest.
- 5580. FOLKLORE OF THE SOUTHERN UNITED STATES.** (3-3-0). Introduces folklore of major folk groups in the southern United States including Anglo-American, Afro-American, Native American, French and Spanish. Emphasis placed on verbal lore such as folk language, proverbs, tales, songs, legends, and myths.
- 5590. CONTEMPORARY SOUTHERN LITERATURE.** (3-3-0). Focuses upon trends in Southern writing from 1950 to the present, placing particular emphasis on the pivotal forms of this era, the novel and short story. Addresses contemporary critical and theoretical methodologies as aids in reading contemporary Southern texts.

- 5600. USES OF FOLK MATERIALS IN TEACHING.** (3-3-0). Basic concepts and materials of folklore; analysis of folk materials as resources for instruction. Folk materials as a resource for writing.
- 5710. LOUISIANA FICTION.** (3-3-0). Representative 20th Century Louisiana writers of fiction such as George Washington Cable, James Aswell, Robert Penn Warren, Lafcadio Hearn, Shirley Ann Grau, Kate Chopin, Lyle Saxon, Ernest Gaines, and Arna Bontemps.
- 5720. HISTORY, THEORY, AND PRACTICE OF PUBLIC FOLKLORE.** (3-3-0). Provides introduction to history, theory, and practice of public folklore programming. Examines applied folklore projects in national, state, and regional contexts while encouraging students to develop expertise in specific areas of public folklore such as publication, audio/video documentation, crafts, exhibits, education and festivals. Prerequisite: Undergraduate or graduate level introduction to folklore. (Same as Anthropology 5720).
- 5721. INTERNSHIP IN PUBLIC FOLKLORE.** (3-0-0). Internship in Public Folklore. Seventeen hours per week and completion of a project defined by Director of the Louisiana Folklife Center. Possibilities include but are not limited to editing Louisiana Folklife, coordinating major components of Natchitoches/Northwestern State University Folk Festival, completing surveys of folk cultural resources, writing and coordinating grants, and helping develop small community folk cultural events such as silent exhibits and folklore performances. Prerequisites: 5600 (or approved senior/graduate folklore course) and 5720.
- 5800. BIBLIOGRAPHY AND LITERARY RESEARCH.** (3-3-0).
- 5870. FOLKLORE AND FILM.** (3-3-0). Students will employ folklore theory to critically analyze the incorporation of folklore and “the folk” in both narrative and ethnographic documentary film. Prerequisite: 2000 level literature.
- 5900. SPECIAL PROBLEMS IN RESEARCH.** (1 to 4-3-0). A maximum of three hours of credit may be applied toward a degree.
- 5920. ENGLISH INTERNSHIP.** (3-0-0). For graduate students in English. Interning with an organization approved by the instructor and completion of a project defined by the instructor. Permission of instructor required.
- 5980. THESIS FOR ACCELERATED BA-MA.** (3 to 6-0-0). Research, writing, and revision leading to a thesis which fulfills the Scholars thesis and MA completion project requirements. Projects may be critical, creative, or practical and should consist of multiple chapters or the equivalent. 18 credit hours of the degree must be completed to register for this course. Maximum, six hours. Continuous enrollment required until the thesis is accepted by the graduate school.
- 6010. YOUNG ADULT FICTION.** (3-3-0). Critical exploration of a range of Young Adult Literature written by award-winning authors from the perspectives of style, theme, representations of adolescence and adulthood, and approaches to interpretation, censorship, and canonicity.
- 6020. WRITING AS A PROFESSION.** (3-3-0). This course is a devoted to learning how to maintain a meaningful and productive writing practice – both an abstract and a practical sense. This course will ask students to explore deeply about their own motives and tendencies as literary writers in order to prepare for literary publishing. Course work and discussions will include attention on the following: print vs. online publishing, social media, diversity in editorial practice and publication, career options for writers, cover letters, and submission practices, etc. Students will leave this course with a fuller understanding of what it means to be a writer in relation to their own career and/or creative goals. Particular emphasis will be placed on preparing essays, poems, short stories, and longer manuscripts for publication.
- 6030. ECOCRITICISM.** (3-3-0). This class is an introduction to the theory and practice of ecocriticism, a form of literary analysis that examines the role of the environment in texts. Ecocriticism assumes that human culture is connected with the physical world and takes as its subjects the interconnections between the cultural and the natural; as a theoretical discourse, it negotiates between the human and the nonhuman, the self and the other.
- 6090. ADVANCED POETRY WRITING.** (3-3-0). This course provides intensive study and practical application of modes and strategies available to the contemporary poet.
- 6100. STUDIES IN MEDIEVAL LITERATURE.** (3-3-0).
Subtitle:
01-Chaucer
- 6110. STUDIES IN RENAISSANCE LITERATURE.** (3-3-0). Focused study of Renaissance literature. May be repeated for a maximum of 6 hours of credit when topic varies.
Subtitles:
01-Shakespeare’s Tragedies
02-Shakespeare’s Comedies
03-Shakespeare
04-Non-dramatic Literature
- 6120. STUDIES IN THE 17th CENTURY.** (3-3-0). Focused study of 17th century literature. May be repeated for a maximum of 6 hours of credit when topic varies.
Subtitles:
01-Milton
02-Poetry
03-Prose
04-Drama
- 6200. MAJOR AUTHORS SEMINAR.** (3-3-0). Intensive study of the works of a major literary figure or figures in American or British literature. American authors may include William Faulkner, Edgar Allan Poe, Emily Dickinson, or Zora Neale Hurston. British authors may include Charles Dickens, George Eliot, Thomas Hardy, James Joyce, D.H. Lawrence. May be repeated for credit as course content varies.
- 6210. FORMS OF POETRY.** (3-3-0). The major forms of contemporary poetry will be examined in their historical, critical, and political contexts, and students will demonstrate their understanding of the various forms by writing their own original poems in response. Prerequisite: Admission to the graduate program in English or another discipline.
- 6230. LITERATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT.** (3-3-0). This course explores the vital relationship between literature and the environment, asking how changing perspectives about land and animals have influenced our perceptions of and relationships to the natural environment and our political priorities relative to environmental problems and solutions in fiction and nonfiction literature.
- 6300. LITERATURE AND CULTURE.** (3-3-0). Interdisciplinary course that examines the intersections of various literatures and cultures. May be repeated for credit when topic varies.
Subtitles:
01 – Literature and Food
02 – The Literature of Health and Healing
- 6310. THE LITERATURE OF THE SOUTHERN RENASCENCE.** (3-3-0). Focuses upon literary trends of the Southern Renaissance from 1920-1950, with particular emphasis on the novel and short fiction. Also addresses relevant critical and theoretical methodologies as aids to reading contemporary Southern texts.
- 6373. LOUISIANA CREOLE LITERATURE.** (3-3-0). This course is a survey of Louisiana French Creole literature from 1848 to the present encompassing both French-language texts in translation and texts originally written in English. The literary genres covered will include poetry, drama, fiction, nonfiction, and children’s literature.
- 6470. LOUISIANA CREOLE FOLKWAYS.** (3-3-0). This course is a study of folk traditions within Louisiana Creole communities; fieldtrips to these communities will be part of the course as will interaction with traditional artists.

- 6480. INTRODUCTION TO FOLKLORE AND FOLKLIFE.** (3-3-0). This course presents an overview of folklore and folklife and addresses multiple genres and practices.
- 6540. COMPUTERS & COMPOSITION.** (3-3-0). This course will give students experience in working with a totally online writing environment. Students will gain experience writing for the web, writing in MOO rooms and blog spaces. This course will also investigate our changing notions of literacy as a result of digital technologies.
- 6560. DIGITAL CULTURE THEORY AND PRACTICE.** (3-3-0). This course explores emerging practices and trends in digital culture and how those practices influence online writing and communication. Topics may include social networking sites, multi-player online environments, the blogosphere, the open source movement and online fan composition, and grassroots video and audio productions such as vlogs, web series, and podcasts. Students will learn the theoretical backgrounds of contemporary theories of digital culture and will create their own digital artifacts based on their theoretical and cultural knowledge.
- 6600. ADVANCED STUDIES IN LANGUAGE IN SOCIETY.** (3-3-0). Regional and social variation in language use and language variation and change will be the primary areas of study in the course. Additionally, ethnographic methods and survey methodology will be addressed. Prerequisite: Admission to graduate program in English or related field.
- 6610. FUNDAMENTALS OF LINGUISTICS.** (3-3-0). This course provides an overview of the fields of linguistics, linguistic terminology, and the underlying philosophies of the study of language. Prerequisite: Admission to graduate program in English or related field.
- 6620. THE HISTORY AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE.** (3-3-0). Study of the historical development of the English language from its beginnings to contemporary forms. Prerequisite: Graduate standing.
- 6640. SYNTACTICAL THEORIES AND APPLICATIONS.** (3-3-0). Study in current formal, functional, and cognitive theories of syntax within the field of linguistics. Practice in applying theoretical perspectives to the analysis of language data in English and other languages. Explore the application of syntactic theories to other areas of knowledge.
- 6650. ADVANCED STUDIES IN LANGUAGE AND GENDER.** (3-3-0). This course examines the connections between human gender and communication with emphasis upon sociolinguistic analysis. The course will include a survey of pertinent research from the beginning of linguistic studies regarding gender and communication to current research in the field. Prerequisite: Admission to graduate program in English or related field.
- 6740. CORPUS LINGUISTICS: AN INTRODUCTION.** (3-3-0). The course serves to present the underlying theories, basic principles, and standard methods of developing and using digital text corpora for a variety of practical applications in linguistics and language research, teaching and learning, and writing. Students will study existing digital text corpora, including their purposes, advantages, and uses. For the final class project, each student will develop an application that can be employed for their own research, teaching/learning, or writing projects.
- 6880. WRITING FOR BUSINESS, INDUSTRY, AND TECHNOLOGY.** (3-3-0). This course focuses on the many roles of the technical writer in the workforce, including the development, dissemination, and evaluation of workplace communication standards and strategies, from planning documents and manuals to training sessions and supervision of others. It also introduces content/information management plans, data analysis, and use of mark-up languages.
- 6890. GRANT WRITING.** (3-3-0). This course provides an overview of grant writing. Topics covered will include funding sources, grant writing, grant reviews, sound grant management practices, and grant submission. Prerequisite: Admission to graduate program in English or related field.
- 6950. MASTER'S CAPSTONE.** (3-3-0). Research, writing, and revision leading to a research report which constitutes the degree completion project. Projects may be critical, creative, or practical, as appropriate to concentration. 21 credit hours of the degree must be completed to register for this course. Continuous enrollment required until project is accepted by the graduate school. May not be repeated for credit.

Accountability & Student Conduct

Complete information about accountability and student conduct is available online at <https://www.nsula.edu/studentexperience/studentconduct/>.

This online information includes the following:

- Student Code of Conduct
- Student Handbook
- Missing Student Policy
- Student Complaints and Grievances
- Academic Integrity
- Conduct Report Forms
- Threat Assessment

Master's Capstone for MA in English

Northwestern State University's Graduate School requires a completion project as part of all the MA degrees it confers. The MA in English culminates in a Master's Capstone which follows the Graduate School's guidelines and procedures for "Research Paper-In-Lieu-Of-Thesis" in the *Guidelines Manual* posted on the Graduate School's web page under "Guidelines for Thesis, Research Projects, and Field Studies." Note that "Research Paper-In-Lieu-Of-Thesis" is an administrative distinction. Despite what the term might suggest, it includes creative work and scholarship.

All students in the accelerated BA/MA program earning a BA through the Louisiana Scholars' College complete a thesis rather than the Master's Capstone: this thesis fulfills both the Scholars' College BA requirement for a thesis and the Graduate School's requirement of a completion project. See "Thesis for Accelerated BA-MA in English" for information about that process.

Overview of the Master's Capstone

For the Master's Capstone, a student enrolls in ENGL 6950, a three-credit-hour course. In this class, the student completes a writing project that emerges from content covered in or a writing assignment completed in a concentration-specific course taken as part of the MA in English. Because ENGL 5800 is not concentration specific, the Master's Capstone should originate from a class other than ENGL 5800.

For the Master's Capstone, most students substantially expand, develop, and revise writing initiated in a previous course. This work should result in a composition of publishable quality. In Creative Writing and special cases in other concentrations, the project takes the form that the student and director agree to prior to initiating ENGL 6950; options include a chapbook, novella, and part of a novel. In most other concentrations, the project takes the form of an essay modelled on a scholarly journal article.

The Master's Capstone is generally completed in one semester, a student's final semester. In special cases, it can be completed in a student's penultimate semester. Such cases require the student to have completed 18 hours of coursework prior to their penultimate semester and to have the approval of the graduate coordinator and capstone director.

Preparation for the Master's Capstone

Plans for the Master's Capstone are established prior to the semester in which the student first enrolls in ENGL 6950. The Master's Capstone Proposal should be completed and approved by the following dates:

For Fall and Summer semesters	April 1
For Spring semesters	December 1

A student first identifies a project they plan to pursue for their Master's Capstone. They then communicate with a concentration-appropriate professor, asking if the professor will direct their capstone. Typically, the professor who taught the course from which the project emerges also serves as capstone's director. Additionally, a student identifies a potential second reader, often doing so in collaboration with the professor who has agreed to direct the capstone. The student communicates with a potential second reader, asking if they will serve in this capacity. The graduate coordinator, as advisor to all English graduate students, supports all students in deciding on a capstone project and communicating with potential directors and readers.

Once a professor agrees to direct a capstone project, they advise the student in preparation of the Master's Capstone Proposal. The student, director, and second reader sign and approve the completed proposal. The director and second reader may require changes to the proposal before they sign it. The director submits the signed, approved proposal to the graduate coordinator. Upon receipt of the signed, approved proposal, the coordinator permits the student into a section of ENGL 6950 taught by the director.

A student may not register for ENGL 6950 until the signed, approved proposal is complete.

Roles and Responsibilities

The director facilitates, guides, and supports the student in their work on the Master's Capstone Proposal and the Master's Capstone project. They also assign the grade for the course.

The student is responsible for meeting the expectations outlined in the Master's Capstone Proposal and in the course more generally. ENGL 6950 requires a student to manage and oversee the required research and writing. As such, the course is different from a standard class whose structure and collective operation support successful work habits. Note that face-to-face courses of three credit hours are traditionally understood to consist of three hours of class time each week and to require an additional six hours of homework. A student is encouraged to conceptualize, schedule, and conduct their work for ENGL 6950 with these guidelines in mind. Although a director may offer support in time management, the student is responsible for prioritizing and completing the work as agreed.

The second reader is expected to read and approve both the Master's Capstone Proposal and a complete draft of the project. The reader may make recommendations or request changes to either of these and may stipulate that their approval is contingent on requested alterations. They are not required to be further involved in the capstone project, but that does not preclude additional contributions and involvement. The second reader should receive a complete draft at least two weeks before the official deadline for completion projects, discussed below.

Completion and Continuous Enrollment

In fall and spring semesters, the Graduate School specifies a deadline for the official submission completion projects. This deadline is listed on the respective semester's academic calendar, posted on the Registrar's web page. In summer semesters, the Graduate School's deadline is the final day of the eight-week session.

If a student does not fulfill the requirements of the course or otherwise complete and submit the final approved draft by the Graduate School's deadline, they will receive a grade of IP (In Progress) for ENGL 6950 that semester. They must re-enroll in English 6950 continuously (every semester) until the requirements are fulfilled, at which point the IP grade is changed to reflect the assessment of the directing professor. Summer semesters are not included in the requirement for continuous enrollment; however, a student may enroll in and complete ENGL 6950 in a summer semester. With a grade of IP, a student may not enroll in other courses in a summer semester without also enrolling in ENGL 6950.

Master's Capstone Proposal
MA in English, Northwestern State University

Before completion of this form, students identify a project that emerges from a concentration-specific course. They secure a director and second reader, and they meet or otherwise communicate with the director regarding plans for the Master's Capstone project. To take ENGL 6950 in the upcoming fall or summer, this form is due April 1. For spring Master's Capstones, it is due Dec 1.

NAME

TITLE

ABSTRACT

(Provide a 300- to 400-word summary of the project.)

PROJECT ORIGIN

(List the course and specific assignment or component from which the project emerges.)

INITIAL DEVELOPMENT & REVISION PLAN

(Articulate specific actions for the initial phase of ENGL 6950. Examples of these include the following: “I will better support the claim _____, to determine if I can prove _____ or if I need to reframe that argument”; “To support better informed engagement with the genre of my creative work, I will read and synthesize contemporary publications in that genre.”; and “I will add a new component [interpretive, argumentative, or creative] in order to _____.” Following the initial plan specified below, the student will respond to feedback and guidance from the project director and, if appropriate, the second reader.)

INITIAL READING LIST

(Include bibliographic entries for three or more sources to be read in support of development and revision of the project. The student, director, and second reader may add to this list following initial work in ENGL 6950.)

TIMELINE

(Include a schedule for the reading, writing, revisions, submission of drafts to director and second reader, and final submission to the Graduate School. Note the plan for meeting with the project director. This timeline becomes the schedule of assignments and due dates for the course.)

AGREEMENT, COMMITMENT, & APPROVAL

We agree to and approve the Master's Capstone as proposed above. We each agree to the responsibilities related to the role indicated by our signature below. In particular, the director agrees to facilitate, guide, and support the project, and the student. Takes responsibility for managing the reading, research, and writing of the project and meeting the expectations and deadlines outlined here.

Student

Director

Second Reader

Thesis for Accelerated BA-MA in English

Northwestern State University's Graduate School requires a completion project as part of all the MA degrees it confers. A student in an accelerated Scholars' BA – MA in English program writes a thesis rather than a Master's Capstone. This thesis fulfills both the Graduate School's completion project requirement and the Scholars' College BA requirement of a thesis for graduation. The thesis follows the Graduate School's guidelines and procedures for a "Thesis" in the *Guidelines Manual* posted on the Graduate School's web page under "Guidelines for Thesis, Research Projects, and Field Studies." "Thesis" is an administrative distinction. Despite what the term might suggest, it encompasses creative work and scholarship

Overview of the Thesis for Accelerated BA-MA

For the thesis, a BA-MA student completes six credit hours of ENGL 5980 over the course of two semesters—three credit hours each semester. During these two semesters, the student completes a writing project that emerges from content covered in or a writing assignment completed in a concentration specific course taken as part of the MA in English. Because ENGL 5800 is not concentration specific, the thesis should originate from a class other than ENGL 5800.

For the thesis, most students substantially expand writing initiated in a previous course, developing expanding that into a composition of three to four chapters totaling 50 to 100 pages of writing. This typically requires integration of new content or research in addition to that covered in the original course. In Creative Writing and special cases in other concentrations, such chapter distinctions and length expectations may not apply: creative theses take a form agreed to by the student and thesis committee; options include a poetry collection or a novel with a critical introduction. In most other concentrations, the thesis is modelled after the scholarly monograph, with an overarching argument developed through individual chapters, although the thesis takes a shorter, more limited form than most published monographs.

The Thesis Process

Plans for a thesis are established prior to the semester in which the student first enrolls in ENGL 5980. The student secures a thesis committee—a director and two readers— and submits a completed and signed the Thesis Plan by the following deadlines:

For Fall and Summer semesters	April 1
For Spring semesters	December 1

A student first identifies a project they plan to pursue for their thesis. They then communicate with a concentration-appropriate professor, asking if the professor will direct their thesis. Typically, the professor who taught the course from which the project emerges also serves as the thesis director. The student also identifies two readers, often doing so in collaboration with the professor who has agreed to direct the thesis. Readers need not be specialists in the topic or concentration specific to the thesis. The student communicates with potential readers, asking if they will serve in this capacity. The graduate coordinator, as advisor to all English graduate students, supports all

students in deciding on a thesis project and communicating with potential directors and committee members.

Once a professor agrees to direct a thesis, they advise the student in preparation for the thesis and completion of the Thesis Plan. The student may not register for ENGL 6980 until the signed, approved Thesis Plan is complete. The readers do not sign the Thesis Plan.

A formal thesis proposal is due to the Graduate School at the end of the first five weeks of the first semester of ENGL 5980. This thesis proposal is approved by all thesis committee members, any of whom may require changes to the proposal before they sign it. The title page of the formal proposal must follow the specifications available under “Guidelines for Thesis, Research Projects, and Field Studies” on the Graduate Schools web page— particularly the “Template for Thesis Proposal.”

Roles and Responsibilities

The director facilitates, guides, and supports the student in their work on the Thesis Plan, thesis proposal and the thesis itself. They also assign the grade for the course.

The student is responsible for meeting the expectations outlined in the Thesis Plan and the syllabus for ENGL 5980. ENGL 5980 requires the student to manage and oversee the required research and writing. As such, the course is different from a standard class whose structure and collective operation support successful work habits. Note that face-to-face courses of three credit hours are traditionally understood to consist of three hours of class time each week and to require an additional six hours of homework. The student is encouraged to conceptualize, schedule, and conduct their work for ENGL 5980 with these guidelines in mind. Although the director may offer support in time management, the student is responsible for prioritizing and completing the work as agreed. See also the student’s responsibilities regarding readers, including meeting readers’ requested involvement beyond the standard requirement, as noted below.

The thesis committee (director and two readers) is expected to read and approve both the formal proposal and a complete draft of the thesis. They also participate in a thesis defense, discussed further below. Readers may make recommendations or request changes to the formal proposal or final draft of the thesis, and they may stipulate that their approval is contingent on requested alterations. Readers agree to read a complete draft of the thesis and provide feedback at the defense. They are not required to be further involved in the thesis process, but that does not preclude additional contributions and involvement. Readers who request or require additional involvement are responsible for communicating this to the student and the director, and the student is responsible for managing and meeting any requests, requirements, and expectations specified by a reader.

Readers should receive a complete draft of the thesis at least two weeks before the scheduled defense.

Completion, Formatting, and Continuous Enrollment

The deadline for holding a thesis defense is published for all fall and spring semesters in the official academic calendar posted on the Registrar's website. These calendars also include the deadline for the official submission completion projects. Use these calendars to plan and schedule the defense date and the date two weeks prior to that when a full draft is due to the committee. These deadlines are not included on the academic calendars for summer semesters, although theses may be completed in a summer semester. The deadline for official submission of completion projects in summer is the last day of the 8-week session. There is no deadline for completion of defenses in summer semesters; however, defenses should be scheduled to allow time for revisions and changes the committee may require.

The approved final version of the thesis must follow all formatting specifications for a "Thesis" in the *Guidelines Manual* posted on the Graduate School's web page under "Guidelines for Thesis, Research Projects, and Field Studies." This includes a left margin of 1.5 inches and pagination that begins only after the "Table of Contents." The Graduate School's webpage includes templates for the title page, signature page, and abstract page.

The Graduate School requires the submission of two copies of the thesis, printed on white bond paper of 20-pound substance and 25 percent cotton fiber content. Both copies are retained by NSU. A student may choose to submit one or more additional copies which the Graduate School will ship to them once bound.

The student pays binding fees for all copies of the thesis, including the two required copies retained by NSU. The cost is \$32 for each copy. The student may pay with check at the time of submitting the printed copies to the Graduate School. They may also pay the NSU Cashiering Office on the 3rd floor of the Student Services Building and submit the receipt to the Graduate School along with the printed copies of the thesis.

Once a student enrolls in ENGL 5980, they must continue to enroll in the course continuously (every semester) until the requirements are fulfilled. Summer semesters are not included in the requirement for continuous enrollment; however, the student may enroll in summer semesters and complete ENGL 6950 in summer semesters.

Until the thesis is completed, approved by the committee, and submitted to the Graduate School, students receive a grade of IP (In Progress) for each semester of ENGL 6950. Once the thesis is complete, the grade for the previous semester(s) is changed by the thesis director to reflect their assessment of the project. However, with a grade of IP in ENGL 5980, a student may not enroll in other courses in a summer semester without also enrolling in ENGL 5980.

Thesis Plan

Accelerated Scholar's BA - MA in English, Northwestern State University

Before completion of this form, the student identifies a project that emerges from a concentration-specific course. They secure a director and two additional readers, and they meet or otherwise communicate with the director regarding initial plans for the thesis. To initiate ENGL 5980 in the upcoming fall or summer semester, submit this form by April 1. For theses beginning in spring, the form is due Dec 1.

NAME

TITLE

ABSTRACT (Provide a 300- to 400-word summary of the project.)

PROJECT ORIGIN

(List the course and specific assignment or component from which the project emerges.)

INITIAL DEVELOPMENT & REVISION PLAN

(Articulate specific actions for the initial phase of ENGL 5980. Examples of these include the following: “The thesis will include two literary works, _____ and _____, not addressed in the original composition”; “To support better informed engagement with the genre of my creative work, I will read and synthesize contemporary publications in that genre”; and “I will add a new component [interpretive, argumentative, or creative] in order to expand the content and form of the thesis as follows: _____.” Following the initial plan specified below, the student will respond to guidance and feedback and guidance from the project director to complete a formal thesis proposal, due at the end of the fifth week of the first semester of ENGL 5980.)

INITIAL READING LIST

(Include bibliographic entries for three or more sources to be read in support of development and revision of the project. The student, director, and committee readers will add to this list following initial work in ENGL 5980.)

TIMELINE

The student will complete a formal proposal by the end of Week 5 of the first semester of ENGL 5980. Additional plans may be noted below, and sample schedules for ENGL 5980 deadlines appear immediately following this form.

Readers who have agreed to participate in the thesis committee (Two are required.)

AGREEMENT, COMMITMENT, & APPROVAL

We agree to and approve the plan for the thesis as described above. We each agree to the responsibilities related to the role indicated by our signature below. In particular, the director agrees to facilitate, guide, and support the project. The student takes responsibility for managing the reading, research, and writing of the project and meeting the expectations and deadlines outlined above and in other materials regarding the thesis—guidelines from both the English program and NSU’s Graduate School.

Student

Director

Sample Schedules for Theses

The thesis is completed only by students in the accelerated Scholar's BA–MA in English program.

Fall Semester

- Aug 19 – Semester begins
- Sept 15 – Full proposal to committee
- Sept 23 – Revised approved proposal to Graduate School
- Oct 28 – Full draft of chapter 1 to director
- Nov 22 – Revision of chapter 1 to director
- Dec 8 – Report on chapter 2 progress to director

Spring Semester

- Jan 13 – Semester begins
- Jan 21 – Full draft of chapter 2 to director
- Feb 10 – Full draft of chapter 3 to director
- March 1 – Revisions of Chapters 2 & 3 to director
- March 15 – Introduction and conclusion drafts to director
- April 6 – Complete draft (fully revised) of thesis due to committee members
- April 21 – Thesis defense
(Apr 25 – Deadline for All Defenses)
- May 2 – Complete, approved thesis due to Graduate School, fully revised based on committee feedback and expectations

Fall Semester

- Week 2 – Full proposal to committee and IRB
- Week 4 – Approved proposal to Graduate School
- Week 5 – Initiate interviews
- Week 7 – Draft of introduction to director
- Week 9 – Complete interviews
- Week 14 – Literature review and methods full drafts to director

Spring Semester

- Week 2 – Revision of lit review and methods sections to director
- Week 3 – Results section full draft to director
- Week 5 – Analysis section full draft to director
- Week 6 – Conclusion draft to director
- Week 7 – Revisions of intro and results to director
- Week 8 – Revisions of analysis to director
- Week 10 – Thesis due to committee
- Week 12 – Thesis Defense
- Week 15 – Complete, approved thesis due to Graduate School

Fall Semester

- Week 1 – Committee approves proposal written over the summer
- Week 2 – Initiate reading plan developed with the director
- Week 4 – Progress report to director
- Week 6 – Initiate Chapter 1
- Week 9 – Chapter 1 full draft due to director
- Week 10 – Initiate Chapter 2
- Week 15 – Revision of Chapter 1 OR Chapter 2 full draft due to director

Spring Semester

- Week 1 - Revision of Chapter 1 OR Chapter 2 full draft due to director
(See Fall Semester Wk 15 above).
- Week 2 – Initiate revision of proposal to develop it into the introduction.
- Week 3 – Introduction full draft due.
- Week 4 – Flex week for additional research if necessary.
- Week 5 – Second revision of Chapter 1 due.
- Week 8 – First revision of introduction and second revision of Chapter 2 due.
- Week 10 – Full draft of thesis to committee, including early draft of conclusion
- Week 12 – Thesis Defense
- Week 15 – Revised, approved thesis due to the Graduate School

**Master of Arts in English
Literature Concentration**
Degree Requirements Checklist

36

Student Name _____

CWID #: _____

Literature Concentration

The M.A. in English with a concentration in Literature requires a total of 30 credit hours. ENGL 5800, ENGL 5280, and the Master's Capstone are required courses. Additionally, students complete 18 credit hours from approved literature electives and 3 credit hours of any one graduate English course.

Required Courses (6 hours)

- ENGL 5800: Bibliography & Research
- ENGL 5280: General Composition Theory

**Literature Electives
(18 hours)**

Complete six courses from the following options:

- ENGL 5090: Medieval to 18th C Rhetoric
- ENGL 5250: Studies in the 18th Century*
- ENGL 5300: Studies in the 19th Century*
- ENGL 5350: Studies in the 20th Century*
- ENGL 5360: Studies in the 21st Century
- ENGL 5400: Studies in American Lit I*
- ENGL 5450: Studies in American Lit II*
- ENGL 5500: Studies in Literary Criticism
- ENGL 5560: Southern Women Writers
- ENGL 5570: Southern Lit Before 1920
- ENGL 5590: Contemporary Southern Lit
- ENGL 6030: Ecocriticism
- ENGL 6100: Studies in Medieval Literature
- ENGL 6110: Studies in Renaissance Lit*
- ENGL 6120: Studies in the 17th Century*
- ENGL 6200: Major Authors Seminar*
- ENGL 6210: Forms Of Poetry

Literature Electives cont'd

- ENGL 6230: Literature and the Environment
- ENGL 6290: Studies in Modern Am. Novel
- ENGL 6300: Literature And Culture*
- ENGL 6310: Lit of the Southern Renaissance

* Course can be taken under different subtitles (topics) with each different iteration of the course counting separately toward this requirement.

Free Graduate English Electives (3 hours)

Complete any one 3-credit-hour graduate level ENGL course.

Master's Capstone (3 hours)

Complete in the final semester to fulfill the Graduate School requirement for a graduate completion project:

- ENGL 6950: Master's Capstone

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Master of Arts in English
Folklife and Southern Culture Concentration
Degree Requirements Checklist

Student Name _____

CWID #: _____

Folklife & Southern Culture Concentration

The M.A. in English with a concentration in Folklife and Southern Culture requires a total of 30 credit hours. ENGL 5800, ENGL 5280, and the Master's Capstone are required courses. Students complete a course in folklore, one in Southern literature, and 12 credit hours from Folklife and Southern Culture electives.

Required Courses (6 hours)

- ENGL 5800: Bibliography and Research
- ENGL 5280: General Composition Theory

**Folklore & Southern Literature
Required Courses (6 hours)**

Complete one of the following folklife courses:

- ENGL 5580: Folklore of the Southern US
- ENGL 6480: Introduction to Folklore & Folklife

Complete one of the following Southern literature courses:

- ENGL 5590: Contemporary Southern Literature
- ENGL 6310: Lit of the Southern Renaissance

**Folklife & Southern Culture Electives
(12 hours)**

Complete four courses from the following options, not including those completed for the requirement immediately above:

- ENGL 5320: Folk & Fairy Tales
- ENGL 5340: Ethnographic and Documentary Filmmaking
- ENGL 5350: Studies in the 20th Century
- ENGL 5400: Studies in American Lit I
- ENGL 5450: Studies in American Lit II
- ENGL 5560: Southern Women Writers

Folklife & S. Culture Electives cont.

- ENGL 5570: Southern Literature before 1920
- ENGL 5870: Folklore and Film
- ENGL 5580: Folklore of the Southern US
- ENGL 5590: Contemporary Southern Lit
- ENGL 5710: Louisiana Fiction
- ENGL 5720: History, Theory, and Practice of Public Folklore
- ENGL 5721: Internship in Public Folklore
- ENGL 5900: Special Problems in Research
- ENGL 6230: Literature and the Environment
- ENGL 6310: Lit of the Southern Renaissance
- ENGL 6480: Intro to Folklore and Folklife
- ENGL 6600: Advanced Studies in Language and Society
- ENGL 6890: Grant Writing

Free Graduate English Elective (3 hours)

Complete any one 3-credit-hour graduate level ENGL course.

Master's Capstone (3 hours)

Complete in the final semester to fulfill the Graduate School requirement for a graduate completion project:

- ENGL 6950: Master's Capstone

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Master of Arts in English
Generalist Concentration
Degree Requirements

38

Student Name _____

CWID #: _____

Generalist Concentration

The MA in English requires 30 credit hours. ENGL 5800, ENGL 6280, and the Master's Capstone are required courses. Students also complete 6 credit hours of electives from each of the following three specifications: Folklife & Southern Culture; Composition, Rhetoric, & Linguistics; and Literature.

Required Courses (6 hours)

- ENGL 5800: Bibliography and Research
- ENGL 5280: General Composition Theory

**Folklife & Southern Culture
Electives (6 hours)**

Complete any two literature courses noted below:

- ENGL 5320: Folk & Fairy Tales
- ENGL 5340: Ethnographic and Documentary Filmmaking
- ENGL 5350: Studies in the 20th Century
- ENGL 5400: Studies in American Lit I
- ENGL 5450: Studies in American Lit II
- ENGL 5560: Southern Women Writers
- ENGL 5570: Southern Lit before 1920
- ENGL 5870: Folklore and Film
- ENGL 5580: Folklore of the Southern US
- ENGL 5590: Contemporary Southern Lit
- ENGL 5710: Louisiana Fiction
- ENGL 5721: Internship in Public Folklore
- ENGL 5900: Special Problems in Research
- ENGL 6230: Literature & the Environment
- ENGL 6310: Lit of the Southern Renaissance
- ENGL 6480: Intro to Folklore and Folklife
- ENGL 6600: Adv. Studies in Language & Soc
- ENGL 6890: Grant Writing

**Composition, Rhetoric, & Linguistics
Electives (6 hours)**

Complete any two of the following courses:

- ENGL 5040: Introduction to Phonology
- ENGL 5050: Qualitative Methods for Language and Communication Studies
- ENGL 5060: Intercultural Communications
- ENGL 5090: Medieval - 18th C Rhetoric
- ENGL 5220: Technical Writing
- ENGL 5230: Advanced Technical Writing
- ENGL 5240: Principles of Second Language Learning
- ENGL 5260: Classical Rhetoric
- ENGL 5270: Contemporary Rhetoric
- ENGL 5540: Second Language Testing and Assessment
- ENGL 5900: Special Problems in Research
- ENGL 5920: English Internship
- ENGL 6540: Computers and Composition
- ENGL 6560: Digital Culture Theory and Practice
- ENGL 6600: Advanced Studies in Language in Society
- ENGL 6610: Fundamental Of Linguistics
- ENGL 6620: The History and Development of the English Language
- ENGL 6640: Syntactical Theories and Applications
- ENGL 6650: Advanced Studies in Language and Gender
- ENGL 6740: Corpus Linguistics: An Introduction
- ENGL 6880: Writing for Business, Industry, and Technology
- ENGL 6890: Grant Writing

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Literature Electives (6 hours)

Complete any two courses noted below:

- ENGL 5090: Medieval to 18th C Rhetoric
- ENGL 5250: Studies in the 18th Century*
- ENGL 5300: Studies in the 19th Century*
- ENGL 5350: Studies in the 20th Century*
- ENGL 5360: Studies in the 21st Century
- ENGL 5400: Studies in American Lit I*
- ENGL 5450: Studies in American Lit II*
- ENGL 5500: Studies in Literary Criticism
- ENGL 5560: Southern Women Writers
- ENGL 5570: Southern Lit Before 1920
- ENGL 5590: Contemporary Southern Lit
- ENGL 6030: Ecocriticism
- ENGL 6100: Studies in Medieval Literature
- ENGL 6110: Studies in Renaissance Lit*
- ENGL 6120: Studies in the 17th Century*
- ENGL 6200: Major Authors Seminar*
- ENGL 6210: Forms Of Poetry
- ENGL 6230: Literature & the Environment
- ENGL 6290: Studies in Modern Am. Novel
- ENGL 6300: Literature And Culture*
- ENGL 6310: Lit of the Southern Renaissance

* Course can be taken under different subtitles (topics) with each different iteration of the course counting separately toward this requirement.

Free Graduate English Electives (3 hours)

Complete any one 3-credit-hour graduate level ENGL course.

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Master's Capstone (3 hours)

Complete in the final semester to fulfill the Graduate School requirement for a graduate completion project:

- ENGL 6950: Master's Capstone

Student Name _____

CWID #: _____

TESOL Certificate

The Graduate Certificate in TESOL (15 credit hours) consists of 9 hours of required courses and 6 hours of TESOL electives.

Certificate Required Courses (9 hours)

- ENGL 5240: Principles of Second Language Learning, Instruction, and Methodology
- ENGL 6610: Fundamental of Linguistics
- ENGL 6640: Syntactical Theories and Applications

TESOL Electives (6 hours)

Complete any two courses of the following options:

- ENGL 5040: Introduction to Phonology
- ENGL 5050: Qualitative Research Methods for Language and Communication Studies
- ENGL 5280: General Composition Theory*
- ENGL 5540: Second Language Testing and Assessment
- ENGL 5900: Special Problems in Research
- ENGL 5920: English Internship
- ENGL 6600: Advanced Studies in Language in Society
- ENGL 6620: The History and Development of the English Language
- ENGL 6650: Advanced Studies in Language and Gender
- ENGL 6740: Corpus Linguistics: An Introduction

MA in English, TESOL Concentration

The MA with TESOL Concentration consists of the TESOL Certificate as described in the left column and 15 credit hours as noted below.

- TESOL Certificate (5 courses or 15 hours)

Required MA Courses (6 hours)

- ENGL 5800: Bibliography & Research
- ENGL 5280: General Composition Theory*

* Students who complete ENGL 5280 as part of the TESOL Certificate complete an additional TESOL Elective in its place here.

Free Graduate English Electives (6 hours)

Complete any two 3-credit-hour graduate level ENGL course.

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Master's Capstone (3 hours)

Complete in the final semester to fulfill the Graduate School requirement for a graduate completion project:

- ENGL 6950: Master's Capstone

Graduate Program Coordinator
Dr. J. Ereck Jarvis
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Graduate School
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Master of Arts in English
Creative Writing Concentration
Degree Requirements

Student Name _____

CWID #: _____

Creative Writing Concentration

The M.A. in English with a concentration in Creative Writing requires a total of 30 credit hours. Required courses include ENGL 5800; 5280; 6020; 9 hours of creative writing workshops; 6 additional hours of any graduate level ENGL course; and a 6-hour Degree Completion option.

Required Courses (9 hours)

- ENGL 5800: Bibliography and Research
- ENGL 5280: General Composition Theory
- ENGL 6020: Writing as a Profession

Creative Writing Electives (9 hours)

Complete any three of the following:

- ENGL 5070: Studies in Flash Fiction
- ENGL 5550-01: CW Workshop: Fiction
- ENGL 5550-02: CW Workshop: Poetry
- ENGL 5550-03: CW Wkshop: Creative Nonfiction
- ENGL 6090: Advanced Poetry Writing
- ENGL 6210: Forms of Poetry

Free Graduate English Electives (9 hours)

Complete three 3-credit-hour graduate level ENGL courses. With advisor approval, a graduate art course may be substituted for one of these three.

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Degree Completion Option (3 hours)

Complete in the final semester to fulfill the Graduate School requirement for a graduate completion project:

- ENGL 6950: Master's Capstone

Graduate Program Coordinator

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Master of Arts in English
Composition and Rhetoric Concentration
Degree Requirements Checklist

42

Student Name _____

CWID #: _____

Composition and Rhetoric Concentration

The M.A. in English with a concentration in Composition and Rhetoric requires a total of 30 credit hours. ENGL 5800, ENGL 5280, and the Master's Capstone are required courses. Additionally, students complete 15 credit hours from approved electives and 6 credit hours of any graduate English courses.

Required Courses (6 hours)

- ENGL 5800: Bibliography & Research
- ENGL 5280: General Composition Theory

**Composition and Rhetoric Electives
(15 hours)**

Complete five courses from the following options:

- ENGL 5050: Qualitative Methods for Language and Communication Studies
- ENGL 5060: Intercultural Communications
- ENGL 5090: Medieval - 18th C Rhetoric
- ENGL 5220: Technical Writing
- ENGL 5230: Advanced Technical Writing
- ENGL 5240: Principles of Second Language Learning
- ENGL 5260: Classical Rhetoric
- ENGL 5270: Contemporary Rhetoric
- ENGL 5900: Special Problems in Research
- ENGL 5920: English Internship
- ENGL 6540: Computers and Composition
- ENGL 6560: Digital Culture Theory and Practice
- ENGL 6880: Writing for Business, Industry, and Technology
- ENGL 6890: Grant Writing

Free Graduate English Electives (6 hours)

Complete any two 3-credit-hour graduate level ENGL courses.

-
-

Master's Capstone (3 hours)

Complete in the final semester to fulfill the Graduate School requirement for a graduate completion project:

- ENGL 6950: Master's Capstone

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