

Department of English and Literary Arts
University of Denver
Degree Requirements

MA in English & Literary Arts – Literary Studies

- 45 hours of course credit (total) needed to graduate, up to 13 hours of which may be taken in graduate tutorials (ENGL 4100) or independent research (ENGL 4995) or cognate courses outside the English Department.
- An MA thesis project of original scholarship (approximately 60 pages in length) is required.
- A minimum of 32 classroom hours (8 graduate-level courses) is required. Students must register for a minimum of 8 credit-hours per quarter in order to maintain full-time status.
- All coursework for the MA should be taken at the University of Denver, but, in rare exceptions, a maximum of 10 credit hours taken elsewhere may count for the requirements if approved by the Director of Graduate Studies.
- While students have no specific course requirements beyond the 32-hour minimum within the English Department and the 13 hours of graduate tutorials or cognate courses, they are advised to work closely with an advisor to determine a balance between coverage and focus. Please see the Graduate Handbook for full details about thesis and credit hour requirements.

Accelerated Admission for Majors to the MA

The Department offers accelerated admission to our MA in English & Literary Arts - Literary Studies for current DU students majoring in English and Literary Arts.

Extraordinarily high-performing majors with a 3.75 GPA or above and good Departmental standing are fast-tracked for admission into the MA and will have several admission requirements waived (including the GRE). For further information, please contact the Director of Graduate Studies, Prof. Eleanor McNees.

Ph.D. in English & Literary Arts — Literary Studies

- 90 hours of course credit (total) needed to graduate.
- 48 hours of foundational coursework must be in formal 4.0 credit English Department classes (excluding ENGL 4100, ENGL 4120, ENGL 5995, and non-ENGL courses [cognates]).
- The First-Year GTA Professional Development Sequence (see below) contributes to these 48 hours.
- 5 courses (20 hours) distributed over three periods of literary study: before 1700, 1700-1900, and after 1900. Students must take at least one course in one period,

and at least two courses in the other two periods. In trans-historical courses, the approved emphasis for a student's work in the class may determine the appropriate time period designation toward satisfying this program requirements.

- No single course may satisfy more than one requirement.
- After completing 60 credits, including the 48 hours of foundational coursework, by the end of year two, Ph.D. students take comprehensive examinations during Fall Quarter of their third year of study.
- For the remaining credits (beyond the foundational 48) needed to graduate, doctoral students may take a combination of regular 4.0 classes, tutorials, cognates or independent research hours. However, these limitations also apply: 8 hours maximum for cognates, 10 hours maximum for tutorials (ENGL 4100), and 32 hours maximum for independent research (ENGL 5995).
- No single course may satisfy more than one requirement.

GTA [Graduate Teaching Assistant] Professional Development Sequence

During Fall Quarter, all first-year Writing Center GTAs will take ENGL 4830 Section 1, Teaching and Writing Literature, as a 2.0 credit course. During Winter Quarter, all first-year ENGL GTAs and Writing Center GTAs will register for a 4.0 credit course on The Critical Imagination. All of the above first-year GTA credits will count toward the required 48 hours of foundational ENGL coursework within the total 90 hours of credits needed to graduate.

Ph.D. in English & Literary Arts — Creative Writing

- 90 hours of course credit (total) needed to graduate.
- 48 hours of foundational coursework must be in formal 4.0 credit English Department Classes (excluding ENGL 4100, ENGL 4120, ENGL 5995, and non-ENGL courses [cognates]). The First-Year GTA Professional Development Sequence (see below) contributes to these 48 hours.
- 5 courses (20 hours) distributed over three periods of literary study: before 1700; 1700–1900; and after 1900. Students must take at least one course in one period and at least two courses in the other two periods. In trans-historical courses, the approved emphasis for a student's work in the class may determine the appropriate time period designation toward satisfying this program's requirements.
- Beyond the required periods of literary study, Creative Writing students must take three 4.0 credit English Department writing workshops. Students are required to take the Fall Quarter workshop in the genre in which they applied to the program. Thereafter, students may fulfill their workshop requirements in the genre(s) of their choice (12 credits total).

- After completing 60 credits, including the 48 hours of foundational coursework, by the end of year two, PhD students take comprehensive examinations during Fall Quarter of their third year of study.
- For the remaining credits (beyond the foundational 48) needed to graduate, doctoral students may take a combination of regular 4.0 classes, or tutorials, or cognates, or independent research hours. However, these limitations also apply: 8 hours maximum for cognates, 10 hours maximum for tutorials (ENGL 4100), and 32 hours maximum for
- independent research (ENGL 5995).
- No single course may satisfy more than one requirement.

Graduate Teaching Assistant (GTA) Professional Development Sequence

During Fall Quarter, all first-year Writing Center GTAs will take ENGL 4830 Section 1, Teaching and Writing Literature, as a 2.0 credit course. During Winter Quarter, all first-year ENGL GTAs and Writing Center GTAs will register for a 4.0 credit course on The Critical Imagination. All of the above first-year GTA credits will count toward the required 48 hours of foundational ENGL coursework within the total 90 hours of credits needed to graduate.