New Mexico State University offers MA programs in four areas of emphasis; each one requires 36 hours of graduate-level work.

**Emphasis: Creative Writing**

Students electing this emphasis

- complete 36 hours of graduate-level course work including creative writing and literature;
- submit a creative writing portfolio (totaling 20-50 pages), depending on genre choices, that includes original creative work in more than one genre and either an essay describing the writer’s personal poetics or a critical piece of writing relevant to the portfolio; and
- pass an oral examination.

**Required Coursework**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Workshop courses in at least two genres</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate form and technique courses</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate literature courses in the Department of English</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective courses</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Credits</strong></td>
<td><strong>48</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 Graduate assistants must take 3 hours of ENGL 571 Composition Pedagogy and Practicum, during their first semester of teaching.

**Emphasis: Literature**

Students electing this emphasis can choose to work in various areas of literature, criticism and film. Students are required to

- complete 36 hours of coursework while satisfying area requirements (in early and modern literatures, in British and American Literatures, and in critical theory) with advisor-approved courses;
- demonstrate competency in a foreign language;
- deliver a public presentation on their research;
- write a master essay or thesis; and
- complete their program by passing an oral examination.

See advisor for list of courses satisfying theory and distribution requirements.

**Required Coursework**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Graduate course in critical theory</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Literature courses, including &quot;early&quot; and &quot;late&quot; periods, English and American</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective courses in English Department</td>
<td>9-12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Master's Thesis or Master Essay</strong></td>
<td><strong>3-6</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 599</td>
<td>Master's Thesis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or ENGL 598</td>
<td>Master's Essay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Credits</strong></td>
<td><strong>33-39</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 Graduate assistants must take 3 hours of ENGL 571 Composition Pedagogy and Practicum, during their first semester of teaching.

2 Students must take 6 credits of ENGL 599 Master's Thesis to complete this requirement.

**Emphasis: Rhetoric and Professional Communication**

Students electing this emphasis take core courses across a wide range of topics within rhetoric and professional communication and choose from one of four areas of specialization:

- Composition,
- Critical/Cultural Studies,
- Rhetoric and
- Professional and Technical Communication.

Students conclude their program by writing a thesis, composing a portfolio of work completed in the program, or writing a master essay and by passing an oral examination. Students develop individualized plans of study in consultation with an advisor.

**Required Coursework**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Core classes from an area of specialization: Composition</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Critical/Cultural Studies</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rhetoric</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional and Technical Communication</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Core classes in additional area(s)</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional courses in area of specialization</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Methods Course
Select one from the following: 3
ENGL 548 Graduate Study in Empirical Research
ENGL 601 Qualitative Research
ENGL 602 Quantitative Research
ENGL 603 Rhetorical Criticism and Methodology

Elective Courses
Select one from the following:
Advisor-approved electives in English and/or related fields
ENGL 597 Internship in Technical and Professional Communication
ENGL 599 Master's Thesis 1

Capstone Course
Select one from the following: 2  3-6
ENGL 585 Advanced Writing Workshop: RPC Capstone
ENGL 598 Master's Essay
ENGL 599 Master's Thesis 1

Core Courses
Select two core courses from area of specialization. 6
Select two core courses from any of the other three core areas: 6

Core Composition Courses
ENGL 564 History and Theory of Composition Studies
ENGL 570 Graduate Study in Approaches to Composition
ENGL 571 Composition Pedagogy and Practicum 3

Core Critical/Cultural Studies Courses
ENGL 517 Graduate Study in Critical Theory
ENGL 568 Rhetoric and Cultural Studies

Core Professional and Technical Communication Courses
ENGL 512 Graduate Study in Writing in the Workplace
ENGL 572 Technical-Professional Communication: Theory and Pedagogy

Core Rhetoric Courses
ENGL 518 History of Rhetoric
ENGL 519 Graduate Study in Modern Rhetorical Theory

Specialized Courses
Select four additional courses in area of specialization determined in consultation with an advisor. 4

Composition Courses
ENGL 549 Graduate Study in Writing
ENGL 550 Graduate Study in Literacy
ENGL 561 Topics in Writing Program Administration

Critical/Cultural Studies Courses
ENGL 511 Discourse and Theories
ENGL 549 Graduate Study in Writing
ENGL 550 Graduate Study in Literacy
ENGL 555 Graduate Study in Rhetoric of Scientific Literature
ENGL 590 Master's Seminar in Rhetoric

Professional and Technical Communication Courses
ENGL 451 Practicum in the Grammar of American English
ENGL 478 Document Design
ENGL 543 Multimedia Theory and Production
ENGL 549 Graduate Study in Writing
ENGL 562 Interdisciplinary, Client-Based Project Practicum
ENGL 565 Intercultural Rhetoric and Professional Communication
ENGL 577 Workshop: Advanced Technical and Professional Writing
ENGL 578 Topics in Rhetoric and Technology

Rhetoric Courses
ENGL 511 Discourse and Theories
ENGL 530 Argument Theory and Practice
ENGL 549 Graduate Study in Writing
ENGL 555 Graduate Study in Rhetoric of Scientific Literature
ENGL 590 Master's Seminar in Rhetoric

Total Credits 54-57

1 Students must take 6 credits of ENGL 599 Master's Thesis to complete this requirement. ENGL 599 Master's Thesis: in lieu of portfolio or master essay.
2 Graduate assistants must take 3 hours of ENGL 571 Composition Pedagogy and Practicum, during their first semester of teaching.
3 Students may take either ENGL 570 Graduate Study in Approaches to Composition or ENGL 571 Composition Pedagogy and Practicum as a core course. Taking a second course will count under the area of specialization.
4 Students are encouraged to take ENGL 510 Proseminar in Rhetoric and Professional Communication, early in their time as a graduate student. This course is appropriate for all areas of specialization. Appropriate courses for each specialization are suggested, though the lists are not inclusive of all options.