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

**Concentration: Creative Writing**

Students electing this concentration:

- 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>Credit Hours</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>45</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.

**Concentration: English Studies for Teachers**

Students take 36 hours of graduate coursework, including core courses in creative writing, film, literature and rhetoric and professional communication, as well as additional courses in an area of specialization approved by an advisor. Students in the program develop individualized plans of study in consultation with an advisor. They conclude their program by developing a master’s portfolio or other approved capstone project and passing an oral examination. This portfolio may provide material for public schools’ Professional Development Dossier. With advisor approval, students may take up to two related courses (six credit hours) in other departments, such as Communication Studies, Education, Journalism, and Theatre, and may also develop an alternative capstone experience and enroll for appropriate credits (such as independent study).

**Required Coursework**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Core class in Composition, Rhetoric, and Professional Communication</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Core class in Creative Writing</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Core class in Literature</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Core class in Film</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Courses in core area of specialization</td>
<td>18-21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Courses typically meeting capstone requirement:</td>
<td>3-6</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.

**Concentration: Literature**

Students electing this concentration 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>Credit Hours</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></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 599 Master's Thesis</td>
<td>3-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or ENGL 598 Master's Essay</td>
<td></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.

**Concentration: Rhetoric and Professional Communication**

Students electing this concentration 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>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Core classes from an area of specialization:</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Composition</td>
<td></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>
</tbody>
</table>
Core classes in additional area(s) 6
Additional courses in area of specialization 12

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

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

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

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 12

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 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

Total Credits 54-57

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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.