

ENGLISH - MASTER OF ARTS

New Mexico State University offers MA programs in four areas of emphasis; each one requires 33 hours of graduate-level work.

Emphasis: Creative Writing

Students electing this emphasis:

- complete 33 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.

Prefix	Title	Credits
Required Coursework ¹		
Workshop courses in at least two genres		12
Graduate form and technique courses		6
Graduate literature courses in the Department of English		9
Elective courses		6
In the final term, take one of the following:		
ENGL 574	Workshop: Advanced Writing Prose	
ENGL 575	Workshop: Advanced Writing Poetry	
ENGL 576	Workshop: Advanced Writing Playwriting	
Total Credits		33

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

Emphasis: English Studies for Teachers

Students take 33 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).

Prefix	Title	Credits
Required Coursework		
Core class in Composition, Rhetoric, and Professional Communication		3
Core class in Creative Writing		3
Core class in Literature		3
Core class in Film		3
Courses in core area of specialization		18-21
Courses typically meeting capstone requirement:		3-6
ENGL 577	Workshop: Advanced Technical and Professional Writing	
Or Portfolio		
Total Credits		33-39

Emphasis: Literature

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

- complete 33 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.

Prefix	Title	Credits
Required Coursework ¹		
Graduate course in critical theory		3
Literature courses, including "early" and "late" periods, English and American		18
Elective courses in English Department		9-12
Master's Thesis or Master Essay		
ENGL 599	Master's Thesis ²	3-6
or ENGL 598	Master's Essay	
Total Credits		33-39

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.

Prefix	Title	Credits
Required Coursework		
Methods Course		
Select one from the following:		3
ENGL 548	Graduate Study in Empirical Research	
ENGL 601	Qualitative Research	
ENGL 604	Digital Research Methods	
Elective Courses		
Select one from the following:		3-6
Advisor-approved electives in English and/or related fields		

ENGL 597	Internship in Technical and Professional Communication	
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
<i>Core Composition Courses</i>		
ENGL 564	History and Theory of Composition Studies	
ENGL 570	Graduate Study in Approaches to Composition ³	
ENGL 571	Composition Pedagogy and Practicum ³	
ENGL 583	Critical Writing Studies	
<i>Core Critical/Cultural Studies Courses</i>		
ENGL 517	Graduate Study in Critical Theory	
ENGL 568	Rhetoric and Cultural Studies	
ENGL 583	Critical Writing Studies	
<i>Core Professional and Technical Communication Courses</i>		
ENGL 502	Critical Conversations in Technical and Professional Communication	
ENGL 512	Graduate Study in Writing in the Workplace	
ENGL 543	Multimedia Theory and Production	
ENGL 572	Technical-Professional Communication Pedagogies	
<i>Core Rhetoric Courses</i>		
ENGL 518	History of Rhetoric	
ENGL 519	Graduate Study in Modern Rhetorical Theory	
ENGL 568	Rhetoric and Cultural Studies	
Specialized Courses		
Select four additional courses in area of specialization determined in consultation with an advisor. ⁴		12
<i>Composition Courses</i>		
ENGL 549	Graduate Study in Writing	
ENGL 550	Graduate Study in Literacy	
ENGL 561	Topics in Writing Program Administration	
<i>Critical/Cultural Studies Courses</i>		
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	
<i>Professional and Technical Communication Courses</i>		
ENGL 478	Document Design	
ENGL 503	Web Design and Development	
ENGL 504	User Experience and Assistance	
ENGL 531	Technical Editing	
ENGL 543	Multimedia Theory and Production	
ENGL 549	Graduate Study in Writing	
ENGL 560	Proposal and Grant Writing	
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 549	Graduate Study in Writing	
ENGL 555	Graduate Study in Rhetoric of Scientific Literature	
ENGL 590	Master's Seminar in Rhetoric	
Total Credits		33-39

- 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 (for example, students may take additional core courses as part of their specialization).