ENGLISH, M.A.

The Department of English offers a Ph.D. in English (with specializations in composition and rhetoric, English language and linguistics, or literary studies); an MFA in creative writing; and a terminal M.A. in English with a specialization in applied English linguistics. Students enrolled in the literary studies Ph.D. specialization become eligible for an M.A. English degree in the literary studies area when they successfully complete the first-stage doctoral requirements. The literary studies specialization does not offer an M.A. apart from the doctoral program. Students enrolled in the composition and rhetoric track in English must have a master's degree in hand prior to matriculation in the doctoral program.

The M.A. program with a specialization in applied English linguistics provides broad training in applied English linguistics and second language acquisition (SLA). Students who graduate from this program will be well prepared to teach English as a second language, and those who do exceptionally well may apply for admission to the doctoral program in the English language and linguistics area.

Regarding catalog course listings: graduate seminars in English reflect the faculty's current areas of research and therefore change importantly from year to year. Please consult the department website for more detailed information.

ADMISSIONS

Please consult the table below for key information about this degree program's admissions requirements. The program may have more detailed admissions requirements, which can be found below the table or on the program's website. Graduate admissions is a two-step process between academic programs and the Graduate School. Applicants must meet the minimum requirements (https://grad.wisc.edu/apply/requirements/) of the Graduate School as well as the program(s).

Once you have researched the graduate program(s) you are interested in, apply online (https://grad.wisc.edu/apply/).
Online: These programs are offered 100% online. Some programs may require an on-campus orientation or residency experience, but the courses will be facilitated in an online format.

**CURRICULAR REQUIREMENTS**

**Requirements Detail**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Minimum Credit Requirement</th>
<th>M.A.–applied English linguistics track: 33 credits</th>
<th>M.A.–literary studies track: 30 credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Minimum Residence Credit Requirement</td>
<td>M.A.–applied English linguistics track: 16 credits</td>
<td>M.A.–literary studies track: 18 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum Graduate Coursework Requirement</td>
<td>M.A.–applied English linguistics track: All required courses in the MA track in applied English linguistics must be taken for graduate credit when available. At least 21 credits out of the required 33 taken in graduate level work.</td>
<td>M.A.–literary studies track: All coursework for this degree (30 credits) must be taken in graduate-level coursework. Courses with the Graduate Level Coursework attribute are identified and searchable in the university's Course Guide (<a href="https://registrar.wisc.edu/course-guide/">https://registrar.wisc.edu/course-guide/</a>).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Overall Graduate GPA Requirement**

3.00 GPA required.

**Other Grade Requirements**

The Graduate School requires an average grade of B or better in all coursework (300 or above, not including research credits) taken as a graduate student unless conditions for probationary status require higher grades. Grades of Incomplete are considered to be unsatisfactory if they are not removed during the next enrolled semester.

**Assessments and Examinations**

Contact the program for information on required assessments and examinations.

**Language Requirements**

Contact the program for information on any language requirements.

**REQUIRED COURSES**

All coursework for this degree (30 credits) must be completed in English courses numbered 700 or above (with the exception of ENGL/MEDIEVAL 520 Old English and ENGL/MEDIEVAL 521 Advanced Old English Literature).

**Applied English Linguistics (Terminal MA) track:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 314</td>
<td>Structure of English</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 315</td>
<td>English Phonology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 514</td>
<td>English Syntax</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 516</td>
<td>English Grammar in Use</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electives</td>
<td>English Language Variation in the U.S.</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 316</td>
<td>Second Language Acquisition</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Credits 33

1. These tracks are internal to the program and represent different pathways a student can follow to earn this degree. Track names do not appear in the Graduate School admissions application, and they will not appear on the transcript.

2. Of the 21 elective credits, at least six credits must be in 700 level courses and at least three credits in 900 level courses.

**Literary Studies Track**

Students interested in the M.A. track should refer to the Ph.D. (http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/english/english-phd/#requirementstext) for more information on requirements.

1. These tracks are internal to the program and represent different pathways a student can follow to earn this degree. Track names do not appear in the Graduate School admissions application, and they will not appear on the transcript.

**POLICIES**

**GRADUATE SCHOOL POLICIES**

The Graduate School's Academic Policies and Procedures (https://grad.wisc.edu/acadpolicy/) provide essential information regarding general university policies. Program authority to set degree policies beyond the minimum required by the Graduate School lies with the degree program faculty. Policies set by the academic degree program can be found below.

**MAJOR-SPECIFIC POLICIES**

**PRIOR COURSEWORK**

Graduate Work from Other Institutions

M.A.–applied English linguistics track: With program approval, students are allowed to count no more than 6 credits of graduate coursework
from other institutions. coursework earned five or more years prior to admission to a master’s degree is not allowed to satisfy requirements.

M.A.–literary studies track: With program approval, students are allowed to count no more than 6 credits of relevant coursework from other institutions. coursework earned five or more years prior to admission to a master’s is not allowed to satisfy requirements.

**UW–Madison Undergraduate**

M.A.–applied English linguistics track: With program approval, students are allowed to count no more than 6 credits of relevant coursework from UW–Madison undergraduate coursework. coursework earned five or more years prior to admission to a master’s degree is not allowed to satisfy requirements.

M.A.–literary studies track: No credits from a UW–Madison undergraduate degree are allowed to count toward the degree.

**UW–Madison University Special**

With program approval, students are allowed to count no more than 6 credits of coursework numbered 300 or above taken as a UW–Madison Special student. Coursework earned five or more years prior to admission to a master’s degree is not allowed to satisfy requirements.

**PROBATION**

The Graduate School regularly reviews the record of any student who earned grades of BC, C, D, F, or Incomplete in a graduate course (300 or above), or grade of U in research credits. This review could result in academic probation with a hold on future enrollment or in being suspended from the Graduate School.

**ADVISOR / COMMITTEE**

Every graduate student is required to have an advisor. To ensure that students are making satisfactory progress toward a degree, the Graduate School expects them to meet with their advisor on a regular basis.

An advisor generally serves as the thesis advisor. In many cases, an advisor is assigned to incoming students. Students can be suspended from the Graduate School if they do not have an advisor. An advisor is a faculty member, or sometimes a committee, from the major department responsible for providing advice regarding graduate studies.

A committee often accomplishes advising for the students in the early stages of their studies.

**CREDITS PER TERM ALLOWED**

12 credits

**TIME CONSTRAINTS**

Master’s degree students who have been absent for five or more consecutive years lose all credits that they have earned before their absence. Individual programs may count the coursework students completed prior to their absence for meeting program requirements; that coursework may not count toward Graduate School credit requirements.

**GRIEVANCES AND APPEALS**

These resources may be helpful in addressing your concerns:

- Bias or Hate Reporting (https://dos.o.students.wisc.edu/bias-or-hate-reporting/)
- Graduate Assistantship Policies and Procedures (https://hr.wisc.edu/policies/gapp/#grievance-procedure)
- Hostile and Intimidating Behavior Policies and Procedures (https://hr.wisc.edu/hib/)
- Office of the Provost for Faculty and Staff Affairs (https://facstaff.provost.wisc.edu/)
- Dean of Students Office (https://dos.o.students.wisc.edu/) (for all students to seek grievance assistance and support)
- Employee Assistance (http://www.eao.wisc.edu/) (for personal and professional counseling and workplace consultation around communication and conflict involving graduate assistants and other employees, post-doctoral students, faculty and staff)
- Employee Disability Resource Office (https://employeedisabilities.wisc.edu/) (for qualified employees or applicants with disabilities to have equal employment opportunities)
- Graduate School (https://grad.wisc.edu/) (for informal advice at any level of review and for official appeals of program/departmental or school/college grievance decisions)
- Office of Compliance (https://compliance.wisc.edu/) (for class harassment and discrimination, including sexual harassment and sexual violence)
- Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards (https://conduct.students.wisc.edu/) (for conflicts involving students)
- Ombuds Office for Faculty and Staff (http://www.ombuds.wisc.edu/) (for faculty and staff)
- Title IX (https://compliance.wisc.edu/titleix/) (for concerns about discrimination)

Students should contact the department chair or program director with questions about grievances. They may also contact the L&S Academic Divisional Associate Deans, the L&S Associate Dean for Teaching and Learning Administration, or the L&S Director of Human Resources.

**OTHER**

Graduate programs in English are full-time programs. Students are expected to enroll full-time until required coursework is completed. Funding available for students pursuing the M.F.A. and Ph.D. degrees.

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

**GRADUATE SCHOOL RESOURCES**

Take advantage of the Graduate School’s professional development resources (https://grad.wisc.edu/pd/) to build skills, thrive academically, and launch your career.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES**

1. Articulates research problems, potentials, and limits with respect to theory, knowledge, or practice within the field of study.
2. Formulates ideas, concepts, designs, and/or techniques beyond the current boundaries of knowledge within the field of study demonstrating breadth as well as depth.
3. Conducts research according to recognized standards in the field and crafts persuasive and original arguments that make a substantive contribution to the field.
4. Communicates complex ideas in a clear and understandable manner that advances and articulates the value of contributions of the field of study to society.
5. Demonstrates knowledge and practice of pedagogy consistent with discipline and with field of study
6. Fosters ethical and professional conduct.

**PEOPLE**

**Faculty:** Professors Castronovo (chair), Auerbach, Barry, Bearden, Begam, Bernard-Donals, Bow, Britland, Dharwadker, Foys, Friedman, Guyer, Hill, Johnson, Keller, Kercheval, Olaniyan, Ortiz-Robles, Purnell, Raimy, Sherrard-Johnson, Wanner, M. Young, R. Young, Zimmerman; Associate Professors Allewaert, Cooper, Fawaz, Olson, Samuels, Trotter, Vareschi, Yu, Zweck; Assistant Professors Amine, Calhoun, Cho, Druschke, Edoro, Fecu, Huang