

ENGLISH (PH.D.)

Admission Requirements

Admission to this program is contingent upon admission to the Graduate School (<https://bulletins.wayne.edu/graduate/general-information/admission/>).

Students may apply to the Ph.D. program with either a B.A. or M.A. degree. Students who apply with a B.A. will have the opportunity to receive an M.A. degree before the completion of their Ph.D.

The application deadline is **January 1**, and every Ph.D. student must begin the program in the fall semester.

The English Department requires that all applicants provide a statement of purpose indicating areas of research interest, two academic letters of reference, and a sample of the student's scholarly or critical writing. Applicants should also submit the English Department's Graduate Admissions form (<https://clas.wayne.edu/english/admissions/grad>).

Please note that graduate admissions decisions are made by a committee and not by individual faculty members.

The Ph.D. program requires sixty credits of course work beyond the B.A. degree. All course work must be completed in accordance with the regulations of the Graduate School (<https://bulletins.wayne.edu/graduate/general-information/academic-regulations/>) and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (<https://bulletins.wayne.edu/graduate/college-liberal-arts-sciences/academic-regulations/>).

Major Requirements

- Forty-two credits of course work (for students entering the program with an M.A., up to twelve credits may be transferred from another institution for the LCMW concentration and up to 25 credits may be transferred from another institution for the RWS concentration).
- Completion of distribution requirements as listed below.
- Eighteen credits of dissertation courses (ENG 9991, ENG 9992) taken in consecutive academic year semesters following the completion of regular course work and the Qualifying Exam.
- All courses must be at the 6000-, 7000- or 8000-level; permission from the Director of Graduate Studies is required to take courses at lower levels.

Concentrations

The Ph.D. program has two concentrations: Literature, Culture, Media, and Writing (LCMW); and Rhetoric and Writing Studies (RWS). Each doctoral student must select a concentration when they apply to the program and will not be able change their concentration after they file a Plan of Work.

An admissions moratorium has been approved for the Film and Media Studies concentration, effective Winter 2022.

Literature, Culture, Media, and Writing

Code	Title	Credits
ENG 7001	Introduction to Doctoral Studies in English	3
At least two 2-credit-hour teaching practica ¹		
At least one of the following:		
ENG 8001	Seminar in Literary and Cultural Studies (At least one of the following:)	3
ENG 8006	Seminar in Film and Media Studies	4
12 credits from graduate-level courses in English		

The remaining credits are elective and can be fulfilled with any combination of graduate-level courses from English or a related discipline (with approval from the Director of Graduate Studies), as well as approved transfer credits.

¹ Students who are Graduate Teaching Assistants may substitute ENG 7850, Pedagogical Practicum I, or ENG 7860, Pedagogical Practicum II, for this requirement.

Rhetoric and Writing Studies

Code	Title	Credits
ENG 7007	Composition Theory	3
ENG 7061	Rhetorical Theory	3
At least one of the following:		
ENG 7064	The Teaching of Writing	3
ENG 7065	Writing Technologies	3
One of the following:		
ENG 7062	Designing Research in Composition and Rhetoric	3
ENG 8007	Seminar in Rhetoric and Composition Studies	3
At least one of the following:		
ENG 7066	Writing in Multiple Settings	3
ENG 7840	Technical and Professional Communication	3
At least one of the following:		
ENG 7820	Graduate Internship Practicum	2
ENG 7850	Pedagogical Practicum I	2
ENG 7860	Pedagogical Practicum II	2

The remaining credits are elective and can be fulfilled with any combination of graduate-level courses from English or a related discipline (with approval from the Director of Graduate Studies) as well as approved transfer credits.

Graduate Teaching Assistants

Each Graduate Teaching Assistant must take ENG 7850, Pedagogical Practicum I, in the first semester in which they hold the assistantship, and ENG 7860, Pedagogical Practicum II, in the fourth semester in which they hold the assistantship.

Foreign Language Requirement

Demonstration of reading proficiency in at least one foreign language if directed to do so by an academic advisor based on the research topic of the dissertation. The preferred method for demonstrating proficiency is to pass a translation examination (for further details, consult the Director of Graduate Studies).

Final Qualifying Examination

One year before they plan to take the Qualifying Examination (QE), each student meets with their advisor to declare the field and emphasis in which they plan to be examined. Designated fields reflect the current division of the discipline as published by the Modern Language Association. Emphases are designed to underscore the necessity of embedding doctoral work in ongoing critical debates among the various disciplines and sub-disciplines that make up English studies. An emphasis should identify a topical or thematic category and/or articulate a theoretical or methodological approach. Students will also need to list two (or more) courses that support the declared emphasis. The student writes a brief description of their field and emphasis and the dissertation director presents this to the Department Graduate Committee, along with suggestions for the other two members of the QE Committee. Once approved by the Graduate Committee, the QE Committee then works with the student to construct a list of texts on which they are to be examined

(roughly 100-120 texts). The exam itself should be scheduled no later than the semester following the completion of course work. The QE Committee composes questions for a six-hour written examination. Within one week after taking the written exam, the student then takes a ninety-minute oral examination. The student passes or fails the exam in its entirety. No later than one month after successful completion of the Qualifying Examination, the student selects a dissertation committee consisting of at least two members of the English Department graduate faculty, an additional English faculty member (if needed), and one appropriately qualified individual who is not a member of the English Department. Members of this committee may or may not have been members of the student's QE Committee.

Dissertation Defense

A final Public Lecture Presentation-Defense, after the dissertation has been completed, is also required.