

ENGLISH (ENGL)

Degrees Offered: Ph.D., M.A., M.F.A., M.S.T.

This program is offered in Durham.

The Department of English offers four advanced degrees: master of arts with options in English studies or English language and linguistics# master of science for teachers# master of fine arts in writing# and doctor of philosophy.

Admission Requirements

- All applicants must submit writing samples in accordance with guidelines available from the English department graduate office.
- All applicants who wish to be considered for teaching assistantships or tuition scholarships must complete an application form, available from the website listed above, or from the graduate school forms page (see the Graduate Aid section).
- Master of Science for Teachers (M.S.T.) applicants must have completed education courses sufficient for certification, or have three years of teaching experience, or currently hold a full-time teaching position.
- Ph.D. Rhetoric, Literacy, and Composition Studies track applicants must hold an M.A. degree or be in the final stage of completing requirements for the degree.
- Ph.D. Literature track applicants may hold either a B.A. or M.A. or be in the final stage of completing requirements for the degree.

<https://cola.unh.edu/english>

Programs

- [English \(M.S.T.\)](#)
- [English \(Ph.D.\)](#)
- [English: Applied Linguistics and TESOL Option \(M.A.\)](#)
- [English: English Studies Option \(M.A.\)](#)
- [Writing \(M.F.A.\)](#)

Courses

English (ENGL)

ENGL 800 - Studies in Literature

Credits: 4

Students in the MAT, MEd, and MST programs, as well as non-degree students, can register for graduate course work in English under this number. The precise topics and focus of each section vary. Topics include Old English Literature, Medieval Literature, 16th century, 17th century, 18th century, English Romantic Period, Victorian Period, 20th and 21st Century, Drama, Novel, Poetry, Fiction, Nonfiction, A Literary Problem, Literature of the Renaissance, Postcolonial Literature, 20th to 21st Century American Literature. Barring duplication of subject, may be repeated for credit. Note: Students in the MA and PhD programs in English may not take English 800 for credit toward their degrees. English 800 will only be offered on the Manchester campus.

Grade Mode: Letter Grading

ENGL 804 - Advanced Nonfiction Writing

Credits: 4

This workshop embraces all forms of narrative nonfiction, including essays, memoir, literary journalism, and travel writing. Students write multiple pieces that serve as the heart of class discussion. In addition, the class discusses elements of craft and a myriad of selected readings that reflect the genre's range. May be repeated for credit with approval of the MFA director.

Repeat Rule: May be repeated for a maximum of 24 credits.

Grade Mode: Letter Grading

ENGL 805 - Advanced Poetry Workshop

Credits: 4

Workshop discussion of advanced writing problems and submitted poems. Individual conferences with instructor. Knowledge of writing poetry required. May be repeated for credit with the approval of the department chairperson.

Grade Mode: Letter Grading

ENGL 806 - The Art of Research for Creative Writers

Credits: 4

Many writers think that the heart of creative nonfiction is style, but in truth, the genre's soul is in its content. This course covers tools such as intimate reporting, periodicals, the Internet, and first-hand observation to research people, places, issues, and history. The skills learned will serve graduate students of all kinds of writing, from fiction to academic. Permission of instructor required.

Grade Mode: Letter Grading

ENGL 807 - Fiction: Form and Technique

Credits: 4

A writer's view of the forms, techniques, and theories of fiction. The novels, short stories, and works of criticism studied vary, depending on the instructor.

Repeat Rule: May be repeated for a maximum of 12 credits.

Grade Mode: Letter Grading

ENGL 808 - Nonfiction: Form and Technique

Credits: 4

A writer's view of contemporary nonfiction, emphasizing the choices the writer faces in the process of research and writing.

Repeat Rule: May be repeated for a maximum of 12 credits.

Grade Mode: Letter Grading

ENGL 809 - Poetry: Form and Technique

Credits: 4

A writer's view of the problems, traditions, and structures of poetry.

Repeat Rule: May be repeated for a maximum of 12 credits.

Grade Mode: Letter Grading

ENGL 810 - Teaching Writing: Seminar in English Teaching

Credits: 1-6

An introduction to various methods of teaching writing. Combines a review of theories, methods, and texts with direct observation of teaching practice.

Grade Mode: Letter Grading

ENGL 812 - Writing the Creative Nonfiction Book**Credits:** 4

In this course, students learn to flesh out an idea for a book of creative nonfiction, which could either be literary journalism - a tale based on reportage - or memoir. Students focus on pulling multiple themes together in a strong narrative. By semester's end, students have written a book proposal and a first chapter. Students are asked to arrive at the first class with a topic researched enough to begin the book process. Permission of instructor required.

Repeat Rule: May be repeated for a maximum of 8 credits.**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**ENGL 815 - Teaching English as a Second Language: Theory and Methods****Credits:** 4

A course on the linguistic, psychological, and sociological theories that inform our understanding of language acquisition and current best practices in the teaching of ESOL. Provides an overview of first and second language acquisition, bilingualism, learner individual differences (e.g. age, motivation, aptitude, learning strategies), and sociocultural contexts of ESL teaching and learning.

Grade Mode: Letter Grading**ENGL 816 - Curriculum, Materials and Assessment in English as a Second Language****Credits:** 4

A hands-on approach to developing curriculum and course material for teaching English as a Second Language. Students work on lesson plan development (needs analysis, objective writing, task sequencing, assessment of proficiency and objectives). Conduct ESL classroom observations, and engage in teaching demonstrations.

Grade Mode: Letter Grading**ENGL 818 - Morphology****Credits:** 4

Morphology is the study of word formation and the mental lexicon. This course explores processes of derivation, compounding and inflection that allow us to form new words. Students will become proficient in analyzing word formation processes in English and other languages, including deploying terminology used by morphologists. Students will learn and practice the conversations of "writing like a linguist".

Grade Mode: Letter Grading**ENGL 819 - Sociolinguistics Survey****Credits:** 4

How language varies according to the characteristics of its speakers: age, sex, ethnicity, attitude, time, and class. Quantitative analysis methods; relationship to theoretical linguistics. Focus is on English, but some other languages are examined. Introduction to linguistics required prior to registering for this course.

Grade Mode: Letter Grading**ENGL 827 - Issues in Second Language and Multilingual Literacy****Credits:** 4

Study of various issues in second language and multilingual literacy and writing theory, research, instruction and administration. Topics include, but are not limited to, the characteristics and needs of multilingual learners, L2 reading-writing interfaces, sociocultural influences on L2 literacy development, multilingual literacy instruction, and placement for emergent bilinguals. Writing intensive.

Grade Mode: Letter Grading**ENGL 828 - Language and Gender****Credits:** 4

This course will explore a variety of topics around the theme of language and gender, including the relationship between gender, language and power; the linguistic marking of gender; how people use language to construct and perform their gender; how gender intersects with other facets of identity, including sexuality and race and ethnicity.

Prerequisite(s): ENGL 405 with a minimum grade of D- or LING 405 with a minimum grade of D- or WS 401 with a minimum grade of D- or WS 405 with a minimum grade of D-.

Grade Mode: Letter Grading**ENGL 829 - Spec Top/Composition Studies****Credits:** 4

Advanced course on a topic chosen by the instructor. Precise topics and methods of each section vary. Possible topics include: alternative discourses and rhetorics; contrastive rhetoric; electronic discourse and digital rhetoric; women's rhetorics and feminist pedagogies; Montaigne and the essay tradition; theories of literacy; theories of persuasive writing; theories of transactional writing; and written discourse analysis. Barring duplication of subject, may be repeated for credit. For details see the course descriptions available in the English Department.

Grade Mode: Letter Grading**ENGL 852 - History of the English Language****Credits:** 4

Overview of the evolution of the English language from Proto-Indo-European until the present day. Topics to be covered include a general introduction to language change, the relationship between language and literary style, the impact of technology on language, and the state of English in the world today.

Grade Mode: Letter Grading**ENGL 879 - Linguistic Field Methods****Credits:** 4

Devoted to the study, with use of an informant, of some non-Indo-European language that is unfamiliar to both the students and the instructor at the beginning of the class. The primary aim of the course is to give students a practical introduction to linguistic analysis without the support of a text. Theoretical concepts are introduced as needed.

Grade Mode: Letter Grading**ENGL 889 - Special Topics in English Teaching****Credits:** 4

Advanced theories and practices course on English Teaching. Topics such as A) Teaching Young Adult Literature, C) Teaching English in Diverse Contexts, D) Teaching Drama, N) Teaching Nonfiction, R) English Teachers as Researchers, and T) Alternate Literacies and Teaching Technologies. Barring duplication of subject, course may be repeated for credit. For details see course descriptions available in the English department.

Repeat Rule: May be repeated for a maximum of 8 credits.**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**ENGL 890 - Special Topics in Linguistics****Credits:** 4

An advanced course on a topic to be chosen by the instructor. Inquire at the English department office for a full course description each time the course is offered. Topics such as word formation, dialectology, linguistic theory and language acquisition, language and culture, cross-disciplinary studies relating to linguistics. Barring duplication of subject, may be repeated for credit. (Not offered every year.)

Repeat Rule: May be repeated up to unlimited times.**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

ENGL 891 - English Grammar**Credits:** 4

An introduction to the terminology and major concepts in English grammar. Covers descriptive vs. prescriptive grammar, parts of speech, phrase structure, clause types, and basic sentence patterns. Useful for pre-service teachers seeking to acquire the background knowledge needed to make informed decisions about the teaching of English grammar.

Grade Mode: Letter Grading**ENGL 892 - Teaching Literature and Literacy: Seminar in English Teaching****Credits:** 4

This course introduces theories and practices of teaching literature and literacy, including teaching reading and writing as well as teaching literary analysis at the secondary level. Students also learn to plan lessons, choose texts, and create learning activities for speaking, listening, and viewing in grade five through twelve. The course is designed for students who are interested in teaching as a possible career.

Grade Mode: Letter Grading**ENGL 893 - Phonetics and Phonology****Credits:** 4

The sounds and sound systems of English in the context of linguistic theory: comparisons of English to other languages. A basic linguistic course required prior to taking this course.

Grade Mode: Letter Grading**ENGL 894 - Syntax****Credits:** 4

The relationship of grammar and meaning as viewed from the standpoint of modern linguistic theory. Emphasis on the syntax and semantics of English, with special attention to the construction of arguments for or against particular analyses. A basic linguistic course required prior to taking this course.

Grade Mode: Letter Grading**ENGL 897 - Special Studies in Literature****Credits:** 4

A) Old English Literature; B) Medieval Literature; C) 16th Century; D) 17th Century; E) 18th Century; F) English Romantic Period; G) Victorian Period; H) 20th Century; I) Drama; J) Novel; K) Poetry; L) Nonfiction; M) American Literature; N) A Literary Problem; O) Literature of the Renaissance. The precise topics and methods of each section vary. Barring duplication of subject, may be repeated for credit. For details, see the course descriptions available in the English department.

Grade Mode: Letter Grading**ENGL 898 - Special Studies in Creative Writing****Credits:** 4

Courses offered under this number focus on topics within creative writing, such as poetic influences, the short story form, and writing the novel. The precise topics and methods of each section vary. Barring duplication of subject, course may be repeated for credit. For details, see the course descriptions available in the English Department.

Repeat Rule: May be repeated for a maximum of 12 credits.**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**ENGL 899 - Master of Fine Arts in Writing Thesis****Credits:** 1-8

Eight credits required, that can be taken in any combination during the student's academic coursework. IA (Continuous grading).

Repeat Rule: May be repeated for a maximum of 8 credits.**Grade Mode:** Graduate Credit/Fail grading**ENGL 901 - Advanced Writing of Fiction****Credits:** 4

Workshop discussion of advanced writing problems and readings of students' fiction. Individual conferences with instructor. May be repeated for credit with the approval of the department chairperson.

Grade Mode: Letter Grading**ENGL 910 - Practicum in Teaching College Composition****Credits:** 6

Seminar focuses on composition practical and theoretical issues of significance to the teaching writing to first-year students. A mentorship component creates opportunities for close supervision and support by experienced teachers in the writing program. Open only to teachers in the First-year Writing program.

Grade Mode: Letter Grading**ENGL 911 - Writing for Teachers****Credits:** 2-6

Opportunity for teachers of composition in K-12 settings to work intensively on their writing, to read as writers, and to discover the principles appropriate to the writing genre they are teaching. Because of its special focus, this course may not be applied to the M.A. in English Studies/M.F.A. option. Topics may vary.

Repeat Rule: May be repeated for a maximum of 6 credits. May be repeated up to 3 times.**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**ENGL 912 - Historical and Theoretical Studies in Rhetoric****Credits:** 4

The rhetorical tradition in Western culture, with a special focus on three critical periods: the classical period (Aristotle, Cicero, Quintillian), the eighteenth century (Blair and Campbell), and the modern era (Burke, Booth, Perelman, Ong, Weaver).

Grade Mode: Letter Grading**ENGL 913 - Theory and Practice of Composition****Credits:** 4

Examination of major theoretical and pedagogical works in the field of composition. To include works on the writing process, writing development, response to writing, and other topics.

Grade Mode: Letter Grading**ENGL 914 - Special Topics in Composition and Rhetoric****Credits:** 4

Topics chosen by instructor may include: A) Political, Philosophical, and Ethical Issues in Composition; B) Gender and Writing; C) Cognition and Composition; and D) Ethnographics of Literacy. May be repeated for credit, barring duplication of topic.

Grade Mode: Letter Grading**ENGL 916 - History of Composition****Credits:** 4

Composition teaching and theory in American colleges and academics from the 18th century to the present.

Grade Mode: Letter Grading**ENGL 918 - Research Methods in Composition****Credits:** 4

Overview of major research approaches including historical, case study, ethnographic, and textual; special emphasis on research design.

Grade Mode: Letter Grading

ENGL 919 - Teaching the Writing Process**Credits:** 2-6

Focus both on the writing of the participants and on the teaching of writing in grades K-12. Special attention is given to strategies for prewriting, revision, evaluation, and conducting writing conferences. Course is offered through the NH Literacy Institutes.

Repeat Rule: May be repeated for a maximum of 6 credits. May be repeated up to 2 times.

Grade Mode: Letter Grading

ENGL 920 - Issues in Teaching English and the Language Arts**Credits:** 1-6

Special topics in the teaching of English and the language arts. Inquire at the English department to see what topics in the teaching of reading, writing, literature, or language arts may be scheduled. Open only to graduate students with a professional interest in teaching or to practicing teachers. 1-6 credits depending on the specific course.

Grade Mode: Letter Grading

ENGL 921 - Special Topics in Teacher Leadership in Literacy and Writing**Credits:** 2-6

This special topics course is designed to equip literacy/language arts teachers with the advanced knowledge, skills, and tools to become effective leaders within their schools/communities. Through readings, exploration, practicum and/or research, and discussions, participants develop various leadership qualities. Special Topics may focus on the following (1) advocating for student literacy and writing, (2) fostering a positive school culture for literacy and writing, (3) building writing centers or WAC initiatives, (4) explorations and collaborations for broader literacy impacts, or (5) teachers contributing and conducting research for the overall improvement of literacy and language arts education. This course is for practicing K16 teachers with licensure and experience in any area. Interested teachers must seek approval from the Program Coordinator of the NH Literacy Institutes to register.

Repeat Rule: May be repeated for a maximum of 9 credits. May be repeated up to 3 times.

Grade Mode: Letter Grading

Special Fee: Yes

ENGL 922 - Advanced Topics in Literacy Instruction**Credits:** 1-6

Specialized study of literacy topics that may include: A) Nature Journaling; B) Gender and Literacy; C) Digital Storytelling; D) Multigenre Writing; E) Assessment; F) Capstone Project; and G) Literacy Problem.

Grade Mode: Letter Grading

ENGL 924 - Professional Preparation**Credits:** 2

This 2-credit course, offered in alternate years, is designed primarily to help doctoral students prepare to enter the profession. It takes up such topics as writing a resume or curriculum vitae, presenting a conference paper, submitting an article, applying for a job, and interviewing.

Grade Mode: Graduate Credit/Fail grading

ENGL 925 - Graduate Study of Literature**Credits:** 4

Techniques, resources, and purposes of literary study: close reading; practical criticism; critical theories and their values; pertinence of intellectual and historical backgrounds. Approaches applied to a specific area of literary study, which varies from year to year.

Grade Mode: Letter Grading

ENGL 938 - Seminar: Studies in 20th Century American Literature**Credits:** 4

Seminar: Studies in 20th Century American Literature. May be repeated barring duplication of subject.

Repeat Rule: May be repeated up to unlimited times.

Grade Mode: Letter Grading

ENGL 974 - Seminar: Studies in 20th Century British Literature**Credits:** 4

Seminar: Studies in 20th Century British Literature. May be repeated barring duplication of subject.

Repeat Rule: May be repeated up to unlimited times.

Grade Mode: Letter Grading

ENGL 981 - Seminar: Studies in Post-Colonial Literatures in English**Credits:** 4

Seminar: Studies in Post-Colonial Literatures in English. May be repeated barring duplication of subject.

Repeat Rule: May be repeated up to unlimited times.

Grade Mode: Letter Grading

ENGL 995 - Independent Study**Credits:** 1-8

To be elected only with permission of the director of graduate studies and of the supervising faculty member.

Grade Mode: Letter Grading

ENGL 996 - Reading and Research**Credits:** 2-8

Reading and Research.

Grade Mode: Graduate Credit/Fail grading

ENGL 998 - Master's Paper**Credits:** 4

Master's Paper. IA (Continuous grading).

Grade Mode: Graduate Credit/Fail grading

ENGL 999 - Doctoral Research**Credits:** 0

Doctoral Research.

Grade Mode: Graduate Credit/Fail grading

Special Fee: Yes

Faculty

[English Department Faculty](#)