

ENGLISH - M.A.

College of Sciences and Humanities
 Department of English
www.kent.edu/english

About This Program

The English M.A. program offers advanced study of literature, writing and critical thinking. With a focus on small class sizes and mentorship from experienced faculty, you will hone your analytical and creative skills and advance your career opportunities. Read more...

Contact Information

- **Robert Sturr, Ph.D.** | rsturr@kent.edu | 330-672-4324
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- Connect with an Admissions Counselor

Program Delivery

- **Delivery:**
 - In person
- **Location:**
 - Kent Campus

Examples of Possible Careers and Salaries*

English language and literature teachers, postsecondary

- 0.0% little or no change
- 72,200 number of jobs
- \$78,270 potential earnings

Proofreaders and copy markers

- -0.6% little or no change
- 12,000 number of jobs
- \$49,210 potential earnings

Secondary school teachers, except special and career/technical education

- -1.6% decline
- 1,094,500 number of jobs
- \$64,580 potential earnings

* Source of occupation titles and labor data comes from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics' Occupational Outlook Handbook. Data comprises projected percent change in employment over the next 10 years; nation-wide employment numbers; and the yearly median wage at which half of the workers in the occupation earned more than that amount and half earned less.

For more information about graduate admissions, visit the graduate admission website. For more information on international admissions, visit the international admission website.

Admission Requirements

- Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university
- Minimum 2.750 undergraduate GPA on a 4.000-point scale
- Official transcript(s)
- Writing sample (8-15 pages) relevant to the field of study
- Goal statement (1-2 pages)¹
- Three letters of recommendation²
- *Starting with the spring 2027 admission term:* Interview with faculty (virtual) for applicants being considered for assistantships
- English language proficiency - all international students must provide proof of English language proficiency (unless they meet specific exceptions to waive) by earning one of the following:³
 - Minimum 94 TOEFL iBT score
 - Minimum 7.0 IELTS score
 - Minimum 65 PTE score
 - Minimum 120 DET score

- ¹ Goal statement should describe relevant preparation, research interests and long-range academic and career goals.
- ² Recommendation letters should be from current or recent professors/ advisors who can speak to the applicant's intellectual abilities and scholarly potential.
- ³ International applicants who do not meet the above test scores may be considered for conditional admission.

Application Deadlines

- **Fall Semester**
 - Funding deadline: December 1 (international student) and January 15 (domestic student)
 - All application materials (including applicable fee, transcripts, recommendation letters, etc.) must be submitted by this deadline to be considered for an assistantship or any other funded position.*
- **Spring Semester**
 - Rolling admissions
 - Applicants for the spring semester will **not** be considered for funded assistantships.*

Program Requirements

Major Requirements

| Code | Title | Credit Hours |
|---|---|--------------|
| Major Requirements | | |
| ENG 66705 | NARRATIVE FUNCTIONS AND CONSEQUENCES | 3 |
| ENG 66706 | UNDERSTANDING RESEARCH METHODS AND DESIGN IN LITERATURE AND WRITING STUDIES | 3 |
| ENG 66707 | PRACTICING NARRATIVE RESEARCH METHODS AND DESIGN | 3 |
| English Electives, choose from the following: | | 24 |
| ENG 61094 | INTRODUCTION TO RESEARCH IN THE TEACHING OF COLLEGE WRITING ¹ | |
| ENG 62291 | SEMINAR: BRITISH LITERATURE 1800 TO PRESENT | |
| ENG 63034 | SOCIOLINGUISTICS | |
| ENG 63041 | DESCRIPTIVE GRAMMAR OF ENGLISH | |
| ENG 65012 | READING AND INTERPRETING RESEARCH ON WRITING | |

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| ENG 65022 | RHETORICAL THEORY:GREEK AND ROMAN |
| ENG 65027 | ROLE OF COMPOSITION |
| ENG 65035 | LINGUISTICS FOR RHETORICIANS |
| ENG 65051 | LITERACY: FUNCTIONS, PRACTICES AND HISTORY |
| ENG 65052 | WRITING ACTIVITY AS SOCIAL PRACTICE |
| ENG 65053 | WRITING TECHNOLOGIES |
| ENG 66051 | SHAKESPEARE |
| ENG 66101 | LITERATURE OF THE UNITED STATES THROUGH THE CIVIL WAR |
| ENG 66103 | ETHNIC LITERATURE OF THE UNITED STATES |
| ENG 66104 | AFRICAN-AMERICAN LITERATURE |
| ENG 66302 | POST-COLONIAL LITERATURE IN ENGLISH |
| ENG 66491 | LITERARY MOVEMENTS |
| ENG 66501 | NARRATIVE LITERATURE |
| ENG 66502 | DRAMATIC LITERATURE |
| ENG 66595 | SPECIAL TOPICS:AUTHORS AND AUTHORSHIP |
| ENG 66791 | SEMINAR:BRITISH AND IRISH LITERATURE |
| ENG 66891 | SEMINAR:LITERATURE OF THE UNITED STATES |
| ENG 66895 | SPECIAL TOPICS |
| ENG 66991 | SEMINAR:GENRE |
| ENG 67104 | SOCIAL AND CULTURAL THEORY AND CRITICISM |
| ENG 67591 | SEMINAR: THEORY AND CRITICISM |
| ENG 67691 | SEMINAR:SCHOLARLY EDITING |
| Other Coordinator-Approved Electives | |

Minimum Total Credit Hours: 33

¹ Students who will serve as graduate assistants are required to take ENG 61094.

Graduation Requirements

| Minimum Major GPA | Minimum Overall GPA |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| - | 3.000 |

- Students are required to complete 33 credit hours of graded coursework to earn the M.A. degree.
- No more than one-half of a graduate student's coursework may be taken in 50000-level courses.
- Grades below C are not counted toward completion of requirements for the degree.

Program Learning Outcomes

Graduates of this program will be able to:

1. Analyze and interpret literary and non-literary texts and narratives.
2. Interpret and explain research in and connections between the fields of narrative theory, literary studies, rhetoric and writing studies.
3. Apply appropriate research methods to objects of study.
4. Communicate research clearly and effectively in written, oral and/or multi-modal formats.
5. Demonstrate effective teaching skills and knowledge of appropriate teaching theories, if on appointment.

Full Description

The Master of Arts degree in English offers students broad learning in the areas of literature, rhetoric and composition, writing studies and beyond, with a distinctive focus on narrative. The program provides a deep and nuanced understanding of the ways narratives not only represent the world but also make it and change it, for both good and ill.

Narrative is defined very broadly as a fundamental and ubiquitous mode of thought that guides perception, constructs feelings and directs actions, operating at varying scales, in all domains and through multiple media and modes of perception. Students acquire advanced skills in critiquing, revising and creating narratives in the service of more effective and socially responsible problem solving, decision making, innovation and action planning. These skills are useful in a range of professions both in and outside the university, including law, teaching and library and information science. The M.A. degree is also strong preparation for doctoral study.