



Graduate Student Handbook 2023-2024

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Arizona State University**

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Overview of the Department of English

With a degree in English from ASU, you can do just about anything. Students in our diverse programs learn how to express themselves through traditional disciplines--creative writing, education, film, linguistics, literature, and rhetorics and writing--while exploring themes of contemporary relevance, including environmental concerns, medical writing, human rights philosophies, digital humanities, cultural as well as critical enquiries, and performance. A degree from the Department of English at ASU is applicable to just about any career and is a great springboard into further graduate school, law school, medical school, and more.

At ASU, we have one of the largest English departments in the nation, offering doctoral, master's and certificate programs, which enables us to provide students with a greater diversity of offerings than most universities. Our goal is to educate citizens who can think, read, write and act in robust and significant ways to meet new challenges. The critical thinking, reading comprehension and analytic expression skills that are cultivated while earning a degree in English are transferable into any endeavor. Earning a graduate English degree from ASU will serve you in any art form, any discipline, and any profession.

Graduate students in the Department of English frequently present at national, international and local conferences and have received many prestigious awards. Approximately 600 graduate students are enrolled each semester. The program awards excellence by offering outstanding financial packages, including travel funds for professional development and teaching assistantships on a competitive basis. Class sizes are small, giving students the opportunity to work closely with professors in a variety of fields. Reading groups, guest lectures, workshops and other events help bring students and faculty together. Opportunities for [professional development](#) and [mentoring](#), such as [Preparing Future Faculty and Scholars](#) and [Knowledge Mobilization](#), prepare graduate students for successful careers within and beyond academia. In addition, there are several internship opportunities for English graduate students as well as study abroad opportunities.

Purpose of the Handbook and Student Responsibility

This handbook provides necessary information for students in each of the Department of English's graduate degree programs. It includes outlines of specific degree requirements and resources for helping students to have the most beneficial experience as they work toward fulfilling these requirements. It also provides information on policies and procedures established by Arizona State University, the Graduate College, The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and the Department of English. Key resources for policies beyond the Department of English are the [ASU Graduate College](#) website, the [ASU Academic Catalog](#), and the [Graduate Policies and Procedures Manual](#).

It is the responsibility of each student to be familiar with and abide by all pertinent policies and regulations. This handbook will help students fulfill that obligation and also prepare them to thrive in their chosen degree program. The handbook is updated annually, and past handbooks are archived on the [Graduate Handbook website](#).

If students have questions about any of the information covered in this handbook – or about any aspect of their graduate student experience – they are encouraged to

contact their [graduate advisor](#).

Additionally, time-sensitive information about deadlines, scholarships, jobs, workshops, and events will be sent to current students via an email. All ASU students are required to have an active ASU email. Students may forward their ASU email to another preferred account. **It is important to check your ASU email, at a minimum, twice per week so that you do not miss important notices.** Arizona State University and the Department of English conduct their business via ASU email only. Graduate students will be added to an email distribution list upon admission. Graduate students not receiving emails should contact enggrad@asu.edu to ensure that they are on the email list. Additionally, students should check their MyASU account regularly.

ASU Charter

ASU is a comprehensive public research university, measured not by whom it excludes, but by whom it includes and how they succeed; advancing research and discovery of public value; and assuming fundamental responsibility for the economic, social, cultural and overall health of the communities it serves.

ASU is guided by [nine design aspirations](#):

1. Leverage Our Place
2. Enable Student Success
3. Transform Society
4. Fuse Intellectual Disciplines
5. Value Entrepreneurship
6. Be Socially Embedded
7. Conduct Use-Inspired Research
8. Engage Globally
9. Practice Principled Innovation

Culture of Respect

ASU is a community and a professional work environment. Graduate students are expected to treat their peers and all students, faculty, staff, administrators and members of the ASU community with respect and work with them in a professional manner. English graduate students are representatives of the Department of English and the University; we have every expectation that our students will be good representatives who recognize that poor behavior on the part of one student impacts all by creating negative experiences and a negative perception of our program.

Students are valued members of a highly professional research university. You can expect to be treated with courtesy, kindness, and professionalism at all times and the same is expected of you. In particular it is very important to note that University staff members do not work for the students. They work to support the students in their goals and endeavors within the university structure. It is never admissible to treat staff with anything less than respect, courtesy, kindness, and professionalism. Any type of disrespectful or abusive behavior on the part of our students toward any member of the ASU community will not be tolerated. This includes ignoring responsibilities as a student, such as failure to adhere to program deadlines, failure to respond to communication, and failure to fully perform teaching duties. Conversely, if you feel that you are not being properly treated, please work with your advisor or administrators in your unit to resolve this problem.

Academic Integrity

Graduate students are expected to be ethical in their multiple roles as students, researchers, teachers or supervisors of undergraduate students and representatives of the Department, College and University. **When in doubt about appropriate conduct, students should consult the program manager or faculty advisor to seek clarification. Students may also check the Office of the University Provost [Academic Integrity](#), Dean of Students [Student Code of Conduct](#) and The College [Discussing Policy Violations](#).** Breaches of academic integrity include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Engaging in any form of academic deceit, e.g., referring to materials, sources or devices (camera phones, text messages, crib sheets, solution manuals, materials from previous classes or commercial research services) not authorized by the instructor for use during an evaluation or assignment;
- Providing inappropriate aid to another student in connection with any evaluation or assignment;
- Engaging in plagiarism by using the ideas, words or data of another person or persons without full and appropriate attribution;
- Engaging in plagiarism by claiming credit for the ideas, words or data of another;
- Failing to follow ethical procedures for research involving human subjects, such as violating participants' confidentiality, or failing to maintain confidential or sensitive research data in a secure location;
- Knowingly using data that do not meet appropriate standards for reliability and validity;
- Failing to meet responsibilities to undergraduate students, such as failing to provide assistance during designated office hours;
- Engaging in a romantic relationship with an undergraduate student whom the student supervises or evaluates in a classroom or research setting;
- Falsifying or misrepresenting hours or activities in relationship to an internship, externship, research assistantship, field experience, workshop or service learning experience;
- Repeatedly failing to meet commitments and responsibilities, such as chronically missing deadlines, or failing to provide work promised to colleagues; and
- Behaving in a way that reflects poorly on the Department, College and University while conducting research or participating in community activities as a representative of the Department.

Newly admitted students will receive a "priority task" on their MyASU directing them to complete a Canvas module on academic integrity. The module consists of a PowerPoint that outlines academic integrity and students must take a quiz and pass with an 80% or higher. The Department of English has a zero-tolerance policy for any form of academic malfeasance. Penalties for unethical behavior range from being placed on academic probation to dismissal from the program. Additional information about academic integrity policies of the University is available on the [Student Rights and Responsibilities website](#).

Sexual Harassment

The University prohibits sexual harassment by employees and students and will not tolerate sexual harassment that interferes with an individual's work or educational performance or creates an intimidating, hostile or offensive working, learning or residential environment. [Additional information about sexual harassment can be found online.](#)

Campus Safety

To report an emergency on campus, students can simply dial 911 or use one of the emergency call boxes found on campus. Non-emergency ASU Police or campus-safety matters should be directed to 480-965-3456. ASU offers a [LifeSafe Mobile app](#) that includes a variety of safety features and benefits. For additional safety resources and contacts, such as Counseling Services, Police and Safety Escort Services, visit the [Safety Resources](#) website.

Graduate Degrees Offered

Doctoral programs

- [Doctor of Philosophy in English \(Literature\)](#)
- [Doctor of Philosophy in English \(English Education\)](#)
- [Doctor of Philosophy in English \(Writing, Rhetorics, and Literacies\)](#)
- [Doctor of Philosophy in Linguistics and Applied Linguistics](#)

Online Master's programs

- [Master of Advanced Study in Film and Media Studies](#)
- [Master of Arts in English - English Studies](#)
- [Master of Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages \(MTESOL\) Online](#)

Master's programs

- [Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing](#)
- [Master of Arts in English - Literature](#)
- [Master of Arts in English - Writing, Rhetorics, and Literacies](#)
- [Master of Arts in English - Comparative Literature](#)
- [Master of Arts in English Education](#)
- [Master of Arts in Linguistics and Applied Linguistics](#)
- [Master of Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages \(MTESOL\)](#)

Accelerated programs

- [Accelerated BA English \(linguistics\) to MTESOL](#)
- [Accelerated BA English \(literature\) to MA English - literature track](#)
- [Accelerated BA English \(linguistics\) to MA Linguistics and Applied Linguistics](#)
- [Accelerated BA English \(creative writing\) to MA English - creative writing track](#)
- [Accelerated BA English \(secondary education\) to MA English Education](#)
- [Accelerated BA English \(writing, rhetorics and literacies\) to MA English - writing, rhetorics and literacies track](#)

Certificates

- [Graduate Certificate in Critical Theory](#)
- [Graduate Certificate in Computer-Assisted Language Learning](#)
- [Graduate Certificate in Digital Humanities](#) (in conjunction with the School of

- International Letters and Cultures)
- [Graduate Certificate in Linguistics](#)
- [Graduate Certificate in Medieval Studies](#) (webpage coming soon)
- [Graduate Certificate in Translation Studies](#) (in conjunction with School of International Letters and Cultures)

ASU's Department of English Degree Types

In ASU's Department of English, we offer several graduate programs with different degrees. It is important students understand the degree they are earning and the differences in the type of degrees offered. After students graduate, they should ensure they are referring to the correct title of their degree, especially when applying for academic and professional programs and jobs.

- **Doctor of Philosophy (PhD):** A Doctor of Philosophy is a terminal degree in the field. Students demonstrate the ability to conduct original research as well as a mastery of scholarly methodologies, theories and tools of the discipline. Candidates must demonstrate that they can address a major intellectual problem and propose meaningful hypotheses. The ASU Department of English has four PhD degree programs.
- **Master of Arts (MA):** A Master of Arts degree focuses on a specific field in the humanities, preparing students academically through research and discussion based learning. These programs are not generally terminal in that students use the MA as a stepping-stone to continue into a doctoral program in the same or similar field. ASU's Department of English offers several MA degree programs.
- **Master (M):** A Master's degree in a specific field is a professional degree preparing students to work in the field of that program. It is generally a terminal degree; however, students may still pursue a related doctorate. ASU's Department of English offers one Master's degree program. The Master of TESOL (MTESOL) program (in-person or online) prepares students for professional jobs in teaching ESL (English as a second language)/EFL (English as a foreign language) through a combination of strong academic background in TESOL theories and practical experiences that emphasizes professional development and participation in the field. Note: The MTESOL program does not offer certification to teach in US K-12 public schools.
- **Master of Fine Arts (MFA):** A Master of Fine Arts prepares students for a career in a specific creative area of study. It is generally a terminal degree; however, students can still pursue a related doctorate with it. ASU's Department of English offers one MFA degree program in Creative Writing with a focus in either Fiction or Poetry.
- **Master of Advanced Study (MAS):** A Master of Advanced Study is a professional degree with a focus on practical experience. It is generally a terminal degree; however, students can still pursue a related doctorate with it. ASU's Department of English offers one MAS degree program in Film and Media Studies.

ASU's Department of English Culminating Experiences

Each graduate program ends with a culminating experience. Some programs allow students to choose between two culminating experiences while others have one option. It is important for students to distinguish which one they completed in their program and use the correct title, especially when referencing it in applications for academic programs and jobs.

- **Dissertation:** PhD students are required to write and defend a dissertation based on original and independent research/creative activity. The student works under the guidance of a dissertation director and at least two additional committee members.
- **Thesis:** The MA student who chooses this option works with their faculty supervisory committee (chair and at least two members) on a 35- to 60-page paper examining a well-focused question or problem through an informed context that is critical, theoretical and/or historical. An oral presentation on the completed work is required. For more

information, see our main [webpage](#).

- **Applied Project:** The MA student who chooses this option will produce a project under the supervision of an Applied Project Director (chair of the supervisory committee) and invited to present their work at the end of the semester to the public at an oral presentation. Students choose to either complete a research paper, curriculum-design project, or a professional portfolio. For more information, see our main [webpage](#).
- **Capstone Course:** MTESOL and MA English Online students are required to complete a capstone course for their culminating experience. In a final project under the supervision of the Capstone Instructor, [MTESOL students](#) will synthesize what they have learned in prior courses in a way that is meaningful and relevant to their professional goals. [MA English Online students](#) will critically reflect on what they have learned through their English Studies coursework and will be guided through a culminating project by the Capstone Instructor.
- **Exam:** MAS students are required to complete a written exam. This is a pass/fail exam. Students will choose to write on two of the three provided questions. Students will be expected to write a five-page essay responding to each of the two questions. Further details can be found on the [MAS in Film and Media Studies](#) webpage.

Timeline for Degree Completion

Timeline for Master's Programs

Full-time students should be able to complete the MA in English Education in one year, with coursework during the Fall, Spring, and Summer semesters. Full-time students should be able to complete the MA in English, MA in Linguistics and Applied Linguistics, MAS in Film and Media Studies, or MTESOL in two years. Full-time students should be able to complete the MFA in Creative Writing in three years.

Students should familiarize themselves with the requirements of each program and consult with an advisor before enrolling in classes each year to plan the timeframe in which specific requirements will be fulfilled.

Timeline for PhD Programs

The following timeline is recommended for full-time students to complete a PhD program in 5 years:

Year 1:

Students will generally take approximately 5 classes / 15 credit hours to work towards fulfilling degree requirements. Students in a program with a language requirement should determine how and when they plan to fulfill this requirement.

Year 2:

Students will generally complete required classes by taking approximately 5 classes / 15 credit hours of classes. Students should meet with faculty members who might serve as the chair for their exams and begin preparing for these exams. Students in a program with a language requirement must fulfill this requirement before taking PhD exams and so are encouraged to do so no later than the end of year 2.

Year 3:

Some students might have remaining class requirements to fulfill, and all students may enroll in elective classes at any point. However, starting in year 3, students will

generally register for research hours, rather than taking classes, as they complete their exams and begin to work on their dissertations. Students should aim to have exams finished in the first semester of year 3 and a dissertation prospectus defended in the second semester of year 3.

Year 4:

Students generally work closely with their dissertation chairs to complete research for their dissertations and draft individual chapters.

Year 5:

Students should aim to have a full draft of the dissertation ready for review by the dissertation chair and appropriate committee members by the first semester of year 5 so that they can complete any necessary revisions before scheduling the dissertation defense in the second semester of year 5. The deadline to complete a dissertation defense is usually mid-April (see annual calendar), and the final draft of the dissertation should be submitted for circulation to all committee members no later than one month before the scheduled defense.

Application Process and Admission Requirements

The Department of English [How to Apply](#) webpage lists current application requirements and deadlines for applying. There is also an Admission [FAQs](#) webpage.

Who Should Apply?

The Department of English encourages applications from individuals with educational backgrounds and experience relevant to the field of English studies. Before applying, a prospective student may discuss qualifications and degree requirements with the program director in the area of interest

Please see the Department of English website for answers to [frequently asked questions](#) about the application process or applicants can contact enggrad@asu.edu.

Application Deadlines

The Department of English has several graduate programs with different application deadlines. Please see the [Application Deadlines](#) section for accurate dates.

Teaching Assistantships

[Teaching Assistantships](#) are available in the Department of English on a competitive basis. Admission to the program does not guarantee a TA. TAs are given to PhD and MFA students in English. MA and MTESOL students are not funded. The TA application is submitted with the PhD/MFA application for the program. **Application Deadline: January 1st** TAs teach three classes per year.

Graderships

Gradership positions are available in the Department of English on a competitive basis. Currently this opportunity is made available to new applicants and students enrolled in the [MA English \(English Studies\)](#) online program. Applicants will first

submit a *Gradership Interest Form* for consideration. Students interested in grading during fall semester must submit the form by **June 15th**. Students interested in grading during spring semester must submit the form by **October 15th**. For more information, visit the [Gradership](#) webpage.

Competencies

Transcripts will be used to evaluate basic competencies for graduate study in English. Students with inadequate preparation may be required to remediate deficiencies as part of their program requirements.

International Students

The Department of English welcomes applications from international students. [International students](#) who are from countries whose native language is not English (regardless of where they may now reside) must meet [English proficiency requirements](#) for the Department of English and ASU. [International Teaching Assistants](#) must also meet specific requirements to serve as TAs.

Review Process

Graduate Admissions Committees for in-person graduate programs review only completed applications after the specific deadlines. With the exception of the in-person MTESOL, MA English (Literature) and MA English (Comparative Literature) programs where applications are reviewed once complete within 14 days. Online graduate program applications will be reviewed once complete and within 14 days of receipt. Applicants can check the status of their application through [MyASU](#).

Pre-admission Credits

Pre-admission credits are classes applied toward degree completion but were taken prior to admission to the graduate program. These classes can be transfer courses from another institution or classes taken at ASU as a non-degree seeking student or as an admitted graduate student of another program.

Pre-admission credits cannot have been used toward another awarded degree. Students can use up to 12 credit hours of pre-admission credits with the program director or faculty advisor's approval. Pre-admission credits must meet the following requirements:

- taken at an accredited college or university
- graduate-level
- must have obtained a grade of "B" or better (or the equivalent) in the course(s)
- completed within three years of being admitted to this graduate program

Taking courses for graduate credit as an undergraduate or [non-degree student](#) does not ensure admission to the program or acceptance of the acquired graduate credits as part of the plan of study.

In order to apply these to the plan of study, ASU must have official transcripts from the accredited transfer institution.

The Graduate College has extensive rules regarding pre-admission credits. For

complete details, consult the [ASU Graduate Policies and Procedures](#) handbook.

Deferring Start Date

Graduate students in their first semester who need to defer their start date to a future semester may make this change through the Request a Change system. The deadline to defer for immersion students is the drop/add deadline for session C and the deadline to defer for online students is the drop/add deadline for session B. Please discuss with your advisor before requesting a deferral.

Curriculum Requirements

PhD English (Literature)

The PhD program is a total of 84 credit hours. When approved by the student's supervisory committee and the Graduate College, this program allows 30 credit hours from a previously awarded master's degree to be used for this degree. If not approved, the 30 credit hours of coursework will be made up of electives and research.

Approaches to Research (3 credits / one class): Students must take the core class ENG 501 Approaches to Research.

Theory (6 credits / two courses): Appropriate courses for filling this requirement must be in the area of the history of criticism, literary theory, rhetorical theory, linguistic theory or cultural theory. Examples of courses which meet this requirement, if the specific topic is appropriate, include the following: ENG 502, 503, 504, 550, 551, 552, 554, 556, 602, 604, 651, LIN 510, 516, 517; however, an equivalent or more advanced course in linguistic, rhetorical or literary theory would also be acceptable.

Additional Required Courses (24 credits / 8 classes): Students must complete eight graduate courses in any of the following categories: cultural studies, ethnic studies, gender studies, genre, history and structure of the English language, literature to 1500, literature 1500-1660, literature 1660-1900, literature since 1900, postcolonial or anglophone literatures.

A minimum of five courses counted toward the PhD, which may include those listed above, must be taken at the 600-level (three of which must be taken in the doctoral program at ASU). Students wishing to take courses outside of the department may count up to 12 credit hours toward the degree. These courses may also fulfill some of the above degree requirements. Students should consult with an advisor or their committee chair when choosing electives.

PhD Examinations: Essay, oral exam, colloquy on the dissertation prospectus.

Dissertation: Students must take 12 credit hours of ENG 799.

Language: Students must demonstrate evidence of a competent knowledge of a natural language other than modern English.

MA English - Literature

To earn the Master of Arts degree in English with an emphasis in literature, a candidate must complete the following MA requirements* (30 credit hours total):

- ENG 501 Approaches to Research: Literature (3 credit hours)
- One course in literary theory (3 credit hours)
- Two distribution requirements (6 credit hours)^: one course in literature before 1800 and one course in literature since 1800
- Electives (12-15 credit hours depending on culminating experience choice): 9 credit hours of graduate credit in the English department (ENG literature courses); 3-6 credit hours of graduate credit can consist of other ENG courses, or with prior approval, courses outside the English department.
- Culminating Experience: Thesis (6 credit hours) or Applied Project (3 credit hours)

*At least two courses must be graduate seminars at the 600 level.

^Prior to Fall 2021, students completed three distribution requirements (one course in literature before 1660, one course in literature from 1660-1900, and one course in literature from 1900). Those admitted before Fall 2021 can follow these requirements or the new requirements.

Note: Those doing a thesis must take 24 hours of coursework and 6 hours of thesis. Those doing an applied project must take 27 hours of coursework and 3 hours of an applied project.

ENG 590 Reading and Conference will not ordinarily be used as a portion of the 30-hour MA in English, especially when it would duplicate study available through regularly scheduled courses.

PhD English (English Education)

The PhD program is a total of 84 credit hours. When approved by the student's supervisory committee and the Graduate College, this program allows 30 credit hours from a previously awarded master's degree to be used for this degree. If not approved, the 30 credit hours of coursework will be made up of electives and research. Required coursework for PhD English Education must include the following:

- Approaches to Research (3 hours): Students will complete ENG 501: Research Methods in English Education.
- Foundational Distribution (12 hours): Students must take 12 hours at the 500 level selected from a list of approved courses in education, English, linguistics, and applied linguistics.
- Advanced Studies Distribution (12 hours): Students must take 12 hours at the 600 level from a list of approved courses in education, English, indigenous studies, linguistics, and applied linguistics.
- Internships (6 hours): Students will complete two internships (ENG 784). Each internship will focus on either the supervision of secondary English language arts teachers, research in collaboration with their faculty advisor in a secondary English language arts classroom setting, or assisting in the teaching of an under-graduate English education methods course (i.e. young adult literature, methods of teaching secondary writing, or teaching the interpretation of texts of various genres in the secondary English

- language arts classroom).
- **Specialization:** Students will complete at least three courses focused on their area of specialization, which will provide them with an intensive background in their selected area of expertise in English education.
- **PhD Examinations:** The examination includes a portfolio, an oral or written exam, and a colloquy on the dissertation prospectus
- **Dissertation:** Students must include 12 hours of 799 on the doctoral plan of study. An oral defense of the dissertation is required.

MA English Education

To earn the Master of Arts degree in English Education, a candidate must complete at least 30 hours of graduate courses (i.e., courses that carry 500-level credit).

Required Core (12 credit hours)

ENG 501 Approaches to Research (3)

ENG 506 Methods and Issues in Teaching Language (3)

ENG 507 Methods and Issues in Teaching Composition (3)

ENG 606 Advanced Studies in English Education (3)

Electives or Research (12 credit hours)

Other Requirements (3 credit hours)

ENG 594 Conference and Workshop (3)

Culminating Experience (3 credit hours)

ENG 593 Applied Project (3)

PhD English (Writing, Rhetorics, and Literacies)

The PhD program is a total of 84 credit hours. When approved by the student's supervisory committee and the Graduate College, this program allows 30 credit hours from a previously awarded master's degree to be used for this degree. If not approved, the 30 credit hours of coursework will be made up of electives and research.

Approaches to Research (3): Students are required to take ENG 501 Approaches to Research during their first semester in the program.

Concentration Coursework (9): Students are expected to complete the following courses within their first three semesters.

- ENG 551 Rhetorical Traditions
- ENG 552 Composition Studies
- ENG 556 Theories of Literacy

Focus Area (9): Students are encouraged to consult with their advisor when selecting additional courses for their focus area as these courses provide the depth of training needed for dissertation research. Students should take at least two 600-level courses.

Research Methods (3): Students are expected to take at least one additional course in research methods (beyond ENG 501)

Electives (15)

Writing for Publication/Scholarly Writing (3): Students are encouraged to enroll in ENG 598 Topic: Writing for Publication/Scholarly Writing after they have completed both 15-18 credits of coursework at ASU and an acceptable draft paper.

Dissertation: Students must include 12 (and only 12) credit hours of ENG 799 on the doctoral plan of study.

Language: Students must demonstrate evidence of a competent knowledge of a natural language other than modern English.

MA English - Writing, Rhetorics, and Literacies

To earn the MA in English with an emphasis in writing, rhetorics, and literacies, a candidate must complete at least 30 hours of graduate courses. Included in that number must be the following courses:

1. ENG 501 Approaches to Research
2. One course in rhetoric theory:
 - ENG 551 Rhetorical Traditions
 - ENG 554 Rhetorics of Race, Class, and Gender
 - ENG 556 Theories of Literacy
3. One course in composition theory:
 - ENG 552 Composition Studies
 - ENG 553 Technologies of Writing
4. Electives: at least two of the following courses at the 600 level:
 - ENG 651 Advanced Studies in the History and Theories of Rhetoric
 - ENG 652 Advanced Composition Studies
 - ENG 654 Advanced Studies in Rhetoric, Writing, Technology, and Culture
 - ENG 655 Disciplinary Discourses
 - ENG 656 Studies in Cross-Cultural Discourse
5. Thesis (6 credits) or Applied Project (3 credits) for non-thesis option.
6. Language Requirement

PhD Linguistics and Applied Linguistics

The PhD program is a total of 84 credit hours. When approved by the student's supervisory committee and the Graduate College, this program allows 30 credit hours from a previously awarded master's degree to be used for this degree. If not approved, the 30 credit hours of coursework will be made up of electives and research.

Required Core Courses for the Degree:

- LIN 511 Phonetics and Phonology
- LIN 514 Syntax
- LIN 515 American English or LIN 516 Pragmatics and Discourse Analysis
- APL 555 Disciplinary Discourses
- APL 601 Introduction to Applied Linguistics
- LIN 655 Disciplinary Discourses

Elective/Research Courses:

- LIN 501 Approaches to Research

Research Specialization (21 hours): Students choose a research specialization, which can be formal linguistics, applied linguistics or a combination.

Dissertation: LIN or APL 799 Dissertation: Students must take 12 (and only 12) hours of dissertation on their doctoral plan of study.

Language: Students must demonstrate evidence of a competent knowledge of a natural language other than modern English.

Miscellaneous: Students have the option of taking APL/LIN 792 Research, on an individual basis, for the purpose of working independently in preparation for the doctoral examination. This is an alternative to be selected by the student with the approval of the chair and members of the supervisory committee. Satisfactory completion of APL/LIN 792 is indicated by the grade of "Y."

MA Linguistics and Applied Linguistics

The Master of Arts in Linguistics and Applied Linguistics consists of 30 semester hours of graduate courses. Two tracks are available in the program. The general linguistics track is designed to provide training in core areas of the field including phonetics, phonology, morphology and syntax, semantics, pragmatics, sociolinguistics, and discourse analysis. The applied linguistics track must include a linguistics core and additional training in applied linguistics drawn from different areas in the field, such as second language acquisition, TESOL, English language policy, World Englishes.

Required Core Class for both tracks (3 credit hours):

LIN 515 American English or LIN 516 Pragmatics and Discourse Analysis

Track I: General Linguistics

Required Courses (nine credit hours):

- LIN 511 Phonetics and Phonology
- LIN 514 Syntax
- LIN 501 Approaches to Research

Electives (12-15 credit hours):

- One 500-level linguistics course
- One 600-level linguistics course
- Two or three additional electives, depending on the student's choice of thesis or applied project.

Culminating Experience: Students may choose between a thesis or an applied project: LIN 599 [Thesis](#) (6) or LIN 593 Applied Project (3) for [non-thesis option](#)

Track II: Applied Linguistics: Second Language Acquisition

Required Courses (nine credit hours):

- LIN 511 Phonetics and Phonology or LIN 514 Syntax
- LIN 520 Second language Acquisition Theories or APL 601 Introduction to

- Applied Linguistics
 - LIN 501 Approaches to Research
- Electives (12-15 credit hours):
- One 500-level linguistics course
 - One 600-level linguistics course
 - Two or three additional electives, depending on the student's choice of thesis or applied project.
- Culminating Experience: Students may choose between a thesis or an applied project: LIN 599 Thesis (6) or LIN 593 Applied Project (3) for non-thesis option

Language: Students must demonstrate evidence of a competent knowledge of a natural language other than modern English.

MA English - Comparative Literature

At least 30 hours at the graduate level are required, with a minimum of 12 hours in a language other than English. In addition, special needs can be met with reading and conference (ENG 590).

Program Requirements (30 credit hours total):

- ENG 501 Approaches to Research (3 credits)
- One course in concept and methods (course in comparative literature, criticism, or translation) (3 credits)
- Four courses in a language other than English (12 credits)
- Electives (6-9 credits)*
- Culminating Experience: Thesis (6 credits) or Applied Project (3 credits)

*Depending on chosen culminating experience, Applied Project students take 9 electives and Thesis students take 6 electives.

Thesis (24 hours of coursework and 6 hours of Thesis ENG 599) OR Non-thesis Option (27 coursework and 3 hours of Applied Project ENG 593)

Master of Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (MTESOL)

The MTESOL program is offered in-person or fully online. Once admitted to the ASU MTESOL program, students need to complete a minimum of 30 hours of approved graduate-level coursework, which must include the following:

- LIN 501 Approaches to Research
- LIN 510 Linguistics
- LIN 520 Second Language Acquisition Theory
- LIN 521 Methods of Teaching English as a Second Language
- LIN 584 MTESOL Practicum Internship
- Electives: 3 credit hours of graduate credit in the English department (LIN courses); 9 credit hours of graduate credit can consist of other LIN or APL courses, or with prior approval, ENG courses or courses outside the English department (e.g., education, school of international letters and cultures, speech and hearing science, psychology).
- LIN 597 MTESOL Capstone

Language: Students must demonstrate evidence of a competent knowledge of a natural language other than modern English.

The LIN 584 MTESOL Practicum Internship is a required, supervised independent-study (self-driven) academic course for 3 credit hours. Students in the course are expected to complete 150 hours of TESOL practicum internship work in order to earn the required credit hours. LIN 584 is a course in which students are expected to apply their MTESOL academic knowledge and training and technical TESOL skills, and so the course cannot be taken in the first two semesters of the MTESOL program.

The MTESOL program does not offer certification to teach in US K-12 public schools. For more information on certification to teach in the Arizona public school system, current students may contact the [Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College](#) at GradEdPrep@asu.edu. You may also want to view [ASU's licensure information](#) or [MLFTC's student success site](#). For other licensure requirements, please contact your state's Department of Education.

When students list their degree and other credentials on a CV or other documents, it is important that they use the official degree name: MTESOL, Master of TESOL, Master of Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages. Using a similar but incorrect name such as "MA in TESOL" or "MA in ESL" creates not only confusion but may be interpreted as falsely representing credentials.

MAS in Film and Media Studies

The program requires students to complete 30 credits. This is a 2-year program. Students are advised to take no more than 2 or 3 courses in the fall and spring semester.

Core Courses: (9 credits - 3 courses)**

- FMS 504 Film Analysis*
- FMS 510 Digital Media Studies
- FMS 520 Cultural History of US Television: Theory and Method

Elective Courses: (21 credits - 7 courses)

Culminating Experience: (0 credits)

- Written Exam - Students must be registered for at least one graduate-level credit the semester they are taking the exam. The recommendation is to take the exam in the last semester of the program when registered for other courses.

*Please note this course cannot be substituted with MLS 504.

**These are the core courses starting Fall 2021. Students admitted prior to Fall 2021 have the option to keep FMS 502 as a core course as previously offered OR take FMS 510 instead.

MA English - English Studies

Specific information for the Master of Arts in English with an online track in English Studies can be found in the online [guidebook](#) updated regularly.

The program requires students to complete 30 credits:

- ENG 501 Approaches to Research (3 credit hours)
- One course in Linguistics (3): LIN 510, LIN 517, LIN 520, LIN 521, LIN 522, LIN 523, LIN 524, LIN 591 (topics vary)
- One course in Literature (3): ENG 502, ENG 504, ENG 534, ENG 535, ENG 536, ENG 560, ENG/WWS 568, ENG 598 (Environmental Humanities)
- One course in Writing, Rhetorics, and Literacies (3): ENG 551, ENG 552, ENG

553, ENG 556

- One course in English Education (3): ENG 507, ENG 540, ENG 598 (Teaching Literacy for Action and Change)
- Electives (12): 6 of these credits should be additional courses from those listed above and 6 of these credits can be taken outside of the department (A Foreign Language* course is an example or they can be taken from other online courses in the department with an ENG, LIN or FMS prefix)
- Culminating Experience: ENG 597 Graduate Capstone Seminar (3)

Language: Students must demonstrate evidence of a competent knowledge of a natural language other than modern English.

*Foreign Language (SPA/GER/FRE/ITA) graduate courses are pre-approved electives; however, other courses (i.e. BLE, History, etc.) will need to be approved on a case-by-case basis by the online director.

MFA in Creative Writing

For details on MFA procedures and timeline, contact the Creative Writing Program Manager Justin Petropoulos. This program is 48 credit hours, a written comprehensive exam, and an applied project (ENG 593):

- Coursework (39 credit hours)
- Other Requirement (6 credit hours): ENG 592 Research
- Culminating Experience (3 credit hours): ENG 593 Applied Project

Additional Curriculum Information:

The creative writing program requires 48 credit hours of study evenly divided between writing courses and literature courses designed to inform that writing.

While students are expected to satisfy these requirements in the genre in which they were accepted (fiction or poetry), the program encourages cross-genre study and electives can include courses taken outside of the creative writing program, even outside the English department.

MA English - Creative Writing

The Master of Arts creative writing track is only available in the Accelerated BA English (creative writing) and MA English - creative writing track program. Students will complete all requirements for the BA English (Creative Writing Concentration) and for the MA English (creative writing track). Done separately, these degrees involve a total of 150 credit hours (120 for the BA, then 30 for the MA); however, the accelerated BA/MA program involves 12 credit hours that are shared between the bachelor's and master's programs, so the total number of credit hours to complete the accelerated BA/MA program is 138. The requirements for the BA English (creative writing track) are:

- ENG 501 Approaches to Research (3 credit hours)
- ENG 538 Studies in Modern and Contemporary American Literature (3)
- ENG 539 Studies in Modernist and Postmodernist Literature and Theory (3)
- ENG 584 Internship (3)
- ENG 594 Graduate Workshop (3)
- Electives (12):

- o 2 ENG 500/600 level Graduate Creative Writing or Literature Electives
 - o 2 ENG 400-level Literary Studies Courses
- ENG 593 Applied Project (3)

Language: Students must demonstrate evidence of a competent knowledge of a natural language other than modern English.

Accelerated Programs

Accelerated programs (4+1) allow students the flexibility of taking Master's level courses during their Bachelor's senior year. This means students can complete a BA and MA in 5 years. The Department of English currently offers five programs with more planned.

Accelerated BA English (linguistics) and MTESOL: The MTESOL program prepares students for teaching English to speakers of other languages in the US or abroad by providing training in research, theories, and teaching methodologies.

Accelerated BA English (literature) and MA English - literature track: The MA in English with a track in Literature program teaches students how to conduct dynamic new research, sharpen their analytical reading skills, argue persuasively, publicly present their work, understand cultural heritage, and become professional writers.

Accelerated BA English (linguistics) and MA Linguistics and Applied Linguistics: The MA in Linguistics and Applied Linguistics at ASU provides students who love language with foundational training in linguistics and applied linguistics research.

Accelerated BA English (creative writing) and MA English - creative writing track: The MA in English with a track in Creative Writing program offers poets and fiction writers the opportunity to work with outstanding faculty through small classes, intimate workshops or one-to-one mentoring, and access to a variety of professional development opportunities in creative writing.

Accelerated BA English (secondary education) to MA English Education: The MA in English Education is designed to prepare in-service teachers for careers as exemplary educators and leaders in English language instruction. Students develop a deep understanding of the language arts by learning how to access, analyze, and apply theoretical frames and best practices for teaching students in grades 7-12.

Accelerated BA English (writing, rhetorics and literacies) to MA English - writing, rhetorics and literacies track: The MA Writing, Rhetorics and Literacies program emphasizes rhetorical strategies of oral, written, material, and digital texts through classical and contemporary theories, methods, and contexts.

Graduate Certificates

Graduate Certificate in Critical Theory: The certificate requires 15 credit hours and a portfolio.

- Core Requirement (3 credit hours):
 - o ENG 502 Contemporary Critical Theories (offered every spring semester) (3)
- Electives (12 credit hours):

- Choose 4 courses in consultation with certificate advisor (12)
- Culminating Experience:
 - Portfolio (check the [webpage](#) for instructions)

Graduate Certificate in Linguistics: The certificate requires 18 credit hours.

- Required Core (9 credit hours):
 - discourse analysis and pragmatics (3)
 - phonology (3)
 - syntax (3)
- Electives (9 credit hours) chosen in consultation with certificate advisor

Graduate Certificate in Computer-Assisted Language Learning: The certificate requires 15 credit hours.

- Require Core (6 credit hours):
 - ENG/APL 557 Computer-Assisted Language Learning (3)
 - APL 558 or SLC 510 Computer-Assisted Language Learning Praxis (3)
- Restricted Electives (3 credit hours):
 - students select a second language acquisition course with department approval
- Electives (6 credit hours) chosen in consultation with certificate advisor

Medieval Studies Certificate: The certificate requires 15 credit hours.

- Require Core (3 credits) choose one course from the following:
 - ARS 514, ENG 530, ENG 531, ENG 532, ENG 632, FRE 521
- Electives (12 credits)

Graduate Certificate in Digital Humanities (in conjunction with the School of International Letters and Cultures): The certificate requires 15 credit hours.

- Require Core (3 credit hours):
 - CDH 501 Digital Humanities: Critical Theory and Methods (3)
- Electives (6 credit hours)
- Other Requirement (3 credit hours)
 - CDH 580 Practicum (3)
- Culminating Experience (3 credit hours)
 - CDH 593 Applied Project (3)

Graduate Certificate in Translation Studies (in conjunction with School of International Letters and Cultures): The certificate requires 15 credit hours.

- Required Core (6 credit hours)
 - ENG 550 Translation (3)
 - SLC 551 Global Approaches to Translation (3)
- Electives (6 credit hours) chosen in consultation with certificate advisor
- Culminating Experience (3 credit hours)
 - ENG 593 Applied Project (3) or SLC 593 Applied Project (3)

Note to current students: According to Graduate College policy, "No more than 40% of coursework towards the requirements of a graduate certificate can be completed prior to admission to the certificate program." This means that a student who is in a master's program cannot get towards the end of their program and request to use their credits earned to get a certificate too. However, if a student starts a certificate and a degree at the same time, they could finish both in 30 hours.

The Graduate Student Journey

Continuous Enrollment

Once admitted to a graduate degree program, students must be registered for a minimum of one graduate credit hour (not audit) during all phases of their graduate education. This includes periods when they are engaged in research; working on or defending their thesis, applied project or dissertation; or in any other way using university facilities or faculty time including the term in which they graduate.

Registration for every fall and spring semester is required. Summer registration is required for students who have been admitted for summer, are completing culminating experiences or incomplete grade work, taking an exam, or graduating from their degree program.

Grades of "W" (withdrawal) or "X" (audit) are not considered valid registration for continuous enrollment purposes. "W" grades are received when students officially withdraw from a course after the course drop deadline. "X" grades are received for audit courses. Additionally, students completing work for a course in which they received a grade of "I" (incomplete) must maintain continuous enrollment as defined previously. Graduate students have one year to complete work for an **incomplete grade**. If the work is not completed and the grade changed within one year, the "I" grade becomes permanent.

Students planning to discontinue enrollment for a semester or more must submit a Leave of Absence (LOA). This is done through the iPOS. A petition for an LOA must be approved by the department and the Graduate College. This petition must be requested and approved before the anticipated absence. Students may request a leave without course registration for a maximum of two semesters during their entire program.

A student on leave is not required to pay fees, but in turn is not permitted to place any demands on university faculty and staff, or use any university resources. Students who do not enroll for a fall or spring semester without an approved leave of absence by Graduate College are considered withdrawn from the university under the assumption that they have decided to discontinue their program. **Students discontinued for this reason may reapply for admission to resume their degree program. The application will be considered along with all other new applications to the degree program. There is no guarantee of admission and not all prior credits may count.**

International Student Enrollment Requirements

In order for international students who are not TAs to maintain good standing for their VISAs, they must take a minimum of **9 credit hours** per semester (i.e., 3 classes), 6 credits of which should be face-to-face classes.

Resources Available to International Students:

[International Students and Scholars Center](#) 480-727-4776, located on the first floor of the Student Services Building, issc@asu.edu

The International Student and Scholar Center provides a variety of services including orientation, immigration advising, referrals and programming. Their programming

includes activities that assist international students in meeting people and adjusting to their new lives at ASU.

Global Launch: Global Launch is an intensive English as a second language program, which prepares students for academic work at the university level. Students may enter the appropriate level classes several times during the year. Fees are separate from ASU tuition. Please contact their department for more information 480-965-2376.

Advising

Role of the Director of Graduate Studies

The Director of Graduate Studies maintains the overall academic integrity of the graduate degree program, and acts as liaison among the faculty and the college administration, staff, and students. The DGS works with the Associate Chair of Curriculum to oversee the administration of the Department's graduate degree programs and certificates. The DGS also coordinates recruitment, retention, funding, and placement of graduate students; implements new initiatives and policies and manages academic conduct issues in graduate-level courses. The DGS facilitates professional development for graduate students and works with the Graduate Students of English Association (GSEA) leaders on programs and initiatives to build community among students and serves as liaison between Department leadership, the Graduate College and The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Role of the Graduate Advisors

Graduate advisors help students interpret departmental and university policies and procedures, as well as navigating university systems and program requirements. Questions regarding coursework applicable to their degree should be addressed with the student's assigned academic advisor (listed on the iPOS). Graduate advisors are the main source of information for students as they move through the program. Students should reach out to their advisors when they have questions. They provide advising in many areas, including but not limited to:

- Admissions
- New Student Orientation
- General Advising
- Degree Requirements
- iPOS (Plan of Study)
- Degree milestones (exams, defenses, etc.)
- Department of English Policies
- Graduate College Policies
- Funding (including TA opportunities)
- Graduation

Role of the First-year Mentor

Area-specific faculty are assigned to newly admitted PhD students. Not only will the mentor be available during recruitment to answer questions, but students may also meet with their mentors to ask about graduate work and life at ASU. The first-year mentor can assist in providing networking for the new student and may also give information on field-specific opportunities.

Faculty Advisor Participation Eligibility

The faculty advisor must be a [Department of English faculty member](#) or approved by the Graduate College to serve as the student's faculty advisor and must meet certain criteria. **Only tenured or tenure-track faculty can serve on a student's graduate committee. Only tenured faculty can serve as dissertation chairs.** Please check with the graduate program manager about advisor eligibility and limited exceptions.

Establishing a Chair of the Supervisory Committee (Faculty Advisor)

All students must identify a committee chair on the plan of study (iPOS). Once a chair has been established, students work with their chair to map out their program progression, research, and final project. A committee chair is required in order to submit the iPOS. Typically, PhD students will appoint a chair in their third or fourth semester; master's students in their second semester.

To establish a committee chair, the student must ask the potential faculty advisor if they are willing to oversee their project (dissertation, thesis, applied project). If the student wants to work with two faculty members, both will serve as co-chairs. In a co-chair situation, both faculty need to be aware that they are co-chairs and be informed of who is serving as the other co-chair. Approval from both is required. The student should confer with their chair about other suitable members of the committee. Petitioning to have committee members from outside the department's graduate faculty will be handled by the graduate studies office. Students must contact their graduate advisor about the approval procedure.

Students doing a thesis or dissertation must have at least three faculty members on the iPOS. Students doing an Applied Project must have two faculty members (chair and member). Students completing a Capstone course will list the two designated faculty members for their program, and students completing a written exam will list the program director as their chair.

The plan of study (iPOS) is the student's official notification to the Graduate College of the committee membership.

For further advice on how to choose a committee chair, see the video on the [Professional Development | Department of English \(asu.edu\)](#).

Graduate Advising Contact Information

The Graduate Advisors can answer most program related questions and are a valuable source of information and advice. You may contact them first when you have an advising question. Please email your advisor for an appointment. If you have to cancel, contact the advisor in advance. For general questions, please contact englishgradadvising@asu.edu. The [Graduate Program Handbooks](#) are also a valuable source of information, and general questions will be answered through the [FAQs](#). Once a master's student completing an Applied Project or Thesis or a doctoral student has chosen a committee chair, that faculty member becomes the student's chief source of academic advice. To make good progress, students should keep in close contact with their chair as well as their graduate advisor.

Sheila Luna, Senior Program Manager (RBHL 125)
Email: sheila.luna@asu.edu, Phone: (480) 965-3194
Advising: PhD programs, Graduate Certificates, Funding

Kira Assad, Program Manager (RBHL 124)
Email: kira.assad@asu.edu, Phone: (480) 965-7454
Advising: MTESOL Online, MAS Film and Media Studies

Elizabeth Downs, Academic Success Advising Coordinator (RBHL 126)
Email: elizabeth.downs@asu.edu, Phone: (480)-727-3133
Advising: MA English (English Studies) online

Samantha Franze, Academic Success Advising Coordinator (RBHL 122)
Email: samantha.franze@asu.edu, Phone: 480-727-3135
Advising: MTESOL (Tempe), MA programs (Tempe), Accelerated Programs

Justin Petropoulos, Program Manager (RBHL 152)
Email: justin.petropoulos@asu.edu, Phone: (480) 727-9130
Advising: MFA Creative Writing, Accelerated BA/MA English (Creative Writing), MFA Funding

Directors for 2023/24

Bradley Ryner, Director of Graduate Studies (RBHL 170C)
Email: Bradley.Ryner@asu.edu

Kathleen Hicks, Director of Online Programs (RBHL 151)
Email: Kathleen.Hicks@asu.edu

Aaron Baker, Film and Media Studies (RBHL 370)
Email: Aaron.Baker@asu.edu

Jonathan Hope, Literature (RBHL 155)
Email: jrhope1@asu.edu

Christina Saidy, English Education (RBHL 222)
Email: Christina.Saidy@asu.edu

Matthew Prior, MTESOL/Linguistics and Applied Linguistics (RBHL 159)
Email: Matthew.Prior@asu.edu

Mark Hannah, Writing, Rhetorics and Literacies (RBHL 165)
Email: Mark.Hannah@asu.edu

Claudia Sadowski-Smith, MA Comparative Literature (RBHL 206)
Email: Claudia.Sadowski-Smith@asu.edu

Sally Ball, Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing (RBHL 355)
Email: Sally.Ball@asu.edu

Ron Broglio, Critical Theory Certificate
Email: Ronald.Broglio@asu.edu

Bryan Smith, Computer Assisted Language Learning
Email: bryansmith@asu.edu

Matthew Prior, Linguistics Certificate
Email: Matthew.Prior@asu.edu

Plan of Study

An [interactive plan of study \(iPOS\)](#) must be filed online via [MyASU](#). The supervisory committee, the Department of English, and the Graduate College must approve an iPOS. If approved, the status changes from “pending review” to “approved.” If an iPOS is rejected for any reason, at any level of review, the graduate support staff will provide details to the student for correcting the issue.

It is recommended to complete the iPOS in the first semester of the program. Master’s students must submit their iPOS before they have completed 50 percent of their program. PhD students must submit their iPOS by the end of their second year. Failure to do so may result in a hold on registration.

MFA students should contact the MFA program manager for iPOS procedures.

The iPOS becomes the official record of your program plans and is a listing of what you have already taken, are presently taking, and will take to complete your requirements. It should be completed in consultation with your committee chair/advisor. Only a chair is required in order to submit the iPOS. Once an iPOS has been approved by the Graduate College, the student may then submit a request to add committee members or to change chairs, co-chairs and members. Students also have the option of selecting their entire committee at once, which will eliminate the need to submit the change later. Petitions and change requests are submitted electronically through your iPOS.

Instructions on Filing the Interactive Plan of Study (iPOS): PhD students must have a committee formed before or at the time of the portfolio submission. Master’s students will not be permitted to register for thesis credits or applied project until they have an approved iPOS on file.

DEPARTMENTAL PROCEDURE for *PhD* and *MA*: In order for the Department of English to approve your iPOS you must follow these instructions:

1. **Submit your completed iPOS.** You should discuss your coursework with either your committee chair or the program director before submitting.
2. ***PhD* students can email [Sheila Luna](#) and *MA* students can email [Samantha Franze](#) with iPOS questions.** Once the iPOS is reviewed by your advisor and approved by your chair, your staff advisor will submit the approval. If there are any issues, the iPOS will be sent back to you and you will be notified of what needs to be changed.
3. **Once the proposed courses have been approved, the iPOS will be sent to the Graduate College for final approval.**

DEPARTMENTAL PROCEDURE for *MA English Education* and *MTESOL* on the Tempe campus: In order for the English department to approve your iPOS you must follow these instructions:

1. **Submit your completed iPOS with a full committee (a chair and a second member).** ***MTESOL*** students list Matthew Prior as the chair and Aya Matsuda as the additional committee member. ***MA English Education*** students will pick a chair and list the program director as the additional member. If the program director is your chair, an additional English Education faculty can be chosen as the second member. Note: If you are unsure of who will be your chair at the time of submitting your iPOS, please

list the program director as the chair until your official chair is chosen. She will then be switched to the additional member on your committee.

2. **Email Samantha Franze to expedite the process after submitting your iPOS letting her know it has been submitted.** If there are any issues, the iPOS will be sent back to you and you will be notified of what needs to be changed.
3. **Once the proposed courses have been approved, the iPOS will be sent to the Graduate College for final approval.**

DEPARTMENTAL PROCEDURE for *Online* programs: In order for the Department of English to approve your iPOS you must follow these instructions:

1. **Submit your completed iPOS with a full committee.** MTESOL Online students list Matthew Prior as the chair and Aya Matsuda as the additional committee member. MA English (English Studies) online students list Kathleen Hicks as the chair and Bradley Ryner as the additional committee member. MAS Film and Media Students list Aaron Baker as the chair.
2. **MTESOL Online and MAS Film and Media Studies students will email Kira Assad and MA English (English Studies) will email Elizabeth Downs for department approval.** If there are any problems, the iPOS will be sent back to the student to correct.
3. **Once the proposed courses have been approved, the iPOS will be sent to the Graduate College for final approval.**

Visit this [webpage](#) for more information on how to complete the iPOS.

Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy

Academic excellence is expected of students doing graduate work. Failure to adhere to the policies below may result in academic probation or a recommendation to the Graduate College for withdrawal from the degree program.

The Department of English expectation for master's candidates is to complete degrees within three years of admission and doctoral candidates to complete their degrees within seven years of admission. The Graduate College allows six years to complete a master's degree and ten years to complete a PhD degree. Students may petition for an extension of graduation.

The following [policies](#) pertain to doctoral and master's programs:

Minimum GPA: All English graduate students must maintain a minimum 3.00 grade point average (GPA) every semester to maintain satisfactory academic progress. In order to graduate, the minimum 3.00 GPA must be maintained on all GPA's calculated for the following: Plan of Study (iPOS) GPA, Overall Graduate GPA and Cumulative GPA. **Students on academic probation must maintain a 3.0 GPA or higher for the grades in each of their next two semesters.**

1. The iPOS GPA is calculated on all courses that appear on the student's approved iPOS (with the exception of LAW and Transfer credits)
2. The Overall Graduate GPA is based on all courses numbered 500 or higher that appear on the transcript after admission to a graduate program or graduate non-degree. This includes shared coursework if in an approved accelerated bachelor's/master's program.

3. Cumulative ASU GPA represents all courses completed at ASU during the graduate career.
4. Courses with grades of "D" (1.00) and "E" (0.00) cannot appear on the iPOS but will be included when calculating the Graduate GPA.
5. Courses with an Incomplete "I" grade cannot appear on the iPOS.

Incomplete Grades: Incompletes are given at the discretion of the instructor of a course and should not be expected. Students granted an incomplete grade should complete a contract with the instructor outlining the work required and the timeline for completion. The timeline cannot exceed one calendar year. Once coursework has been fulfilled, a grade will be assigned. If the student does not complete coursework within the period stipulated by the instructor, the student may receive an unsatisfactory or failing grade for the course. In the case that the professor gives the student the full calendar year within which to complete the course, and the course is not complete within that time, the incomplete will become permanent, and the student will have to retake the course if it is a required course. The student must be registered for at least one graduate credit in the semester they complete the course work for the incomplete grade. The Department of English permits no more than three incompletes on a student's transcript at any time.

Language Requirements

Students in a program with a language requirement must demonstrate evidence of a competent knowledge of a natural language other than modern English by being able to prove an intermediate reading knowledge in that language. For PhD students, the language requirement must be completed before the student is eligible to take the PhD examinations. This requirement may be met by:

- The School of International Letters and Cultures offers online courses (iCourse for in-person students and oCourse for fully online students) in GER 550 German for Reading Knowledge, FRE 550 French for Reading Knowledge, SPA 550 Spanish for Reading Knowledge, and ITA 550 Italian for Reading Knowledge that can satisfy the requirement with a grade of B or better and count as elective credit in the program.
- Demonstrating comparable proficiency by taking a translation language exam. All students taking the Graduate Foreign Language Exam through the School of International Letters and Cultures will be charged a \$100 fee. For more information about the exam, see the webpage.
- In-person students in Linguistics/TESOL: Earning a "B" (3.00) or higher in both ENG 530 Old English and ENG 531 Old English Literature or their equivalent. Literature and WRL students: Earning a "B" (3.00) or higher in ENG 530 Old English or an equivalent, such as Old Norse. Note: these courses are currently not available online.
- Earning a "B" (3.00) or higher in a 400- or 500-level course in an appropriate (approved) language. Any course in which all class meetings are conducted in the approved language will satisfy this requirement; courses conducted in English will not. The class must have been completed within six years of the semester for which the student has been admitted to the program.
- Holding a bachelor's degree in an approved foreign language.
- Having fulfilled a foreign language requirement towards a previously awarded master's degree that has been completed within six years of the semester for which the student has been admitted to the program.
- For languages which the School of International Letters and Cultures does not offer or does not offer above the 200 level, two years (4 semesters) of successfully completed college level coursework at least at the 100 and 200 level with a C or better would fulfill the requirement. The coursework must have been successfully

- completed no more than six years prior to admission to the degree program.
- For questions on alternate ways to fulfill the language requirement, contact enggrad@asu.edu

MFA Creative Writing, MA/PhD English Education, and MAS Film and Media Studies programs do not have language requirements.

U.S students who are bilingual must still demonstrate a reading knowledge in the second language. To waive the language requirement, documentation or proof in the form of a certificate, a class or indication of bilingual work in a job will be required.

International students whose native language is not English will have this requirement waived once the Plan of Study (iPOS) has been approved with a full committee.

Please note: Students should fulfill their language requirement early in the program so it does not delay graduation.

*Students who fail the exam may petition the Graduate College to retake the exam. The petition should include why the student failed, what the student will do to prepare for the next exam (i.e., new book, dictionary, tutoring, etc.), and why the exam is needed. Note: Only two petitions to retake the exam are allowed. Normally, the student should allow three months to study for the next exam. In order to be eligible for the second or third examination, the student must submit a petition electronically via their iPOS. The academic unit and Graduate College must approve this prior to the reexamination.

Internships

[Graduate internships](#) offer students the opportunity to work in a variety of fields that promote positive learning transfer from academic spaces to professional spaces. Students can explore career pathways and develop and articulate their humanist values within and beyond academia. Internships can be completed in person or remote through local, national, or global contexts and can be paid or unpaid. Academic credit for internship work is available for both immersion and online students through courses that build career readiness using a strong model of reflective professional practice, supervised academic work, and professional mentoring, networking, and development.

Get started in 5 easy steps...

Step 1: Consider your skills, interests, and career goals. Sign up for helpful career exploration and planning tools like [ImaginePhD](#). It's not just for PhD students!

Step 2: Explore internship opportunities posted on the Department of English [Internship and Career Exploration Facebook page](#) and other general resources such as ASU Handshake or LinkedIn Jobs.

Step 3: Reach out to the Director of Internships and Careers [Ruby Macksoud](#) for a personalized meeting.

Step 4: Apply and interview for an internship(s). Secure and accept an internship offer.

Step 5: Work with the Director of Internships and Careers to complete the required internship registration paperwork and to enroll in an academic internship course (i.e., ENG/LIN 584 or 784).

*Please note that the internship registration paperwork must be completed at least 2-3 months in advance of starting an internship, and graduate course override permission will only be given after all registration paperwork has been processed.
**MTESOL students should email the [Director of Internships and Careers](#) directly to discuss potential internship opportunities.

Class Registration

ASU Registration Procedures

Once you have cleared any registration holds and your registration date has arrived, you are ready to [register for classes](#). You can also [search for available classes online](#). Consult the [Academic Calendar](#) for more information on important dates/deadlines.

Note: Graduate advisors cannot enroll or drop courses on student's behalf. These actions must be completed by the student through their MyASU.

Department of English Registration Procedures

Some classes require special clearances.

To register for research/dissertation/thesis/continuing registration:

Download the [Independent Study form](#). Complete the top portion and obtain the required signature. Be sure to include the line number of the course, your ASU ID, and your email address. For thesis, research, dissertation, or applied project obtain committee chair's signature on "instructor" line. For reading and conference, obtain the signature of the professor with whom you will be working. Email the completed and signed form to englishadvising@asu.edu for clearance to register. This procedure is used to grant clearance only. Students must still register for the class. Make sure to indicate the correct number of credits, as the default is one credit.

Override Authorization is required for classes that are full, have a time conflict, or unmet prerequisites. Follow Course Override procedures and use the [online form](#).

Program Change Request

The Request a Change system is available for graduate students through their MyASU to *defer their start date* to a future semester, request a *program change* within the same department (if applicable), or request a *campus change* (online to Tempe or vice versa if applicable).

While the system does not have a cap on how many change requests can be made, the Department of English will only allow a master's student to request **one program change** during their graduate program. A strong justification for requesting the program change and supporting documents for the new graduate program will be required. Please note that even with a justification, the request may still be denied.

PhD students cannot use the Request a Change system to change their PhD program and must apply to the program they are interested in by submitting a new application.

Financial Support

The Department of English grants [fellowships/scholarships](#) and teaching

assistantships on a competitive basis. For information on how to apply for an assistantship, visit the [website](#). A 50 percent teaching assistantship (20 hours/week) comes with full waiver of tuition, health insurance, and a stipend. Admission into and continuation within the program is not a guarantee of this funding. Teaching assistantships are reserved for PhD and MFA students only. MA and MTESOL students are not funded.

Continuing students may apply for internal and external awards, scholarships, travel awards and dissertation fellowships. The Department of English will send emails to students about scholarships and travel funding opportunities, including Graduate College Travel Awards when they become available. Students should keep an eye on their email for announcements and deadlines.

The [Graduate and Professional Student Association \(GPSA\)](#) has travel and research funding opportunities that students may apply for, including a JumpStart Research Grant. Students may also participate in the process by serving as award reviewers.

Students should also visit the Graduate College's website and other links for student funding resources:

- [Graduate College at ASU](#)
- [Federal Student Aid \(Student Loans\)](#)
- [Working at ASU](#)
- [Financial Aid Resources](#)
- [Financial Aid for International Students](#)
- [Scholarships](#)

Student Health Insurance

Students who wish to enroll in Student Health Insurance through ASU must do so within the first two weeks of the semester. Students should sign in to their MyASU, under Campus Services, click on Health & Wellness Resources, and then click Health Insurance and Enroll/Cancel. Students are automatically re-enrolled. To confirm enrollment, check your student account for Health Insurance Charge. Cancellation is the same steps as enrolling listed above and must be done during the open enrollment period. International students are automatically enrolled. Visit ASU [Health Services](#) for more information on student health insurance enrollment deadlines, premium charges, and coverage.

Grades

The final passing grade for Research (ENG/LIN 592, 792), Thesis (ENG/LIN 599), and Dissertation (ENG/LIN 799) is a Y. Letter grades are awarded at faculty discretion. Continuing registration (ENG/LIN 595, 795) remains a Z. For ENG/LIN 592, grade options are A, B, C, D, or E. Y/Z is NOT an option. The final passing grade for Dissertation (ENG/LIN/APL 799) is Y. A Z is in progress.

Students doing Applied Project (ENG/LIN/FMS 593) or Capstone (ENG 597) must earn a B or better to graduate.

For information on incomplete grades, see [Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy](#).

Internal Process for Complaints and Concerns

Grades: Complaints about separate assignments are to be discussed with the class

instructor, not with the department. Complaints about the final grade should be discussed with the instructor in at least one conference soon after the next term begins if not sooner. If the conference on the final grade does not resolve the problem in a valid, reasonable manner, the students should contact the Department of English chair and/or Associate Chair who will form a committee to overhear the complaint. Further details can be found under ASU Policies and Procedures for Appeal. [University policy for student appeal procedures on grades | Academic Catalog](#)

Non-Grade Issues: If a student has a concern, problem, or complaint that does not fit within the duties or abilities of the student's advisor, dissertation or thesis chair, or applied project director, they should seek counsel from the Graduate Program Manager or Director of Graduate Studies. The Program Manager and Director are often able to work toward a positive resolution of problems and can provide university wide resources in order to do so. The Dean of Students Office can be an additional resource where concern, problem, or complaints are not of a departmental nature—such as mental or physical health, financial aid, and items related to the ASU student code of conduct. [Dean of Students | Educational Outreach and Student Services](#)

TA Expectations

TAs/RAs must enroll for a minimum of six (6) non-audit graduate credits each fall and spring semester of their TA/RA appointment. TAs must maintain a 3.0 GPA during the course of the assistantship and may not accumulate more than 2 incompletes ("I" grades) at any given time. Falling below a 3.0 and/or accumulating more than 2 incompletes may result in cancellation of the TAs hip. Refer to the [TA/RA Handbook](#) for additional information.

If a TA/RA is unable to continue an appointment, the TA must inform the supervising faculty member in writing of the reasons for the action. Copies of the notice should be sent to the head of the academic unit (when applicable) and to the Vice Provost of Graduate College, as stated in the [TA/RA Handbook](#). TAs who resign from their positions will no longer receive benefits and may be required to pay tuition owed to the University.

TA PROFESSIONALISM EXPECTATION: Since official ASU business is conducted via email, Teaching Assistants/Associates in the Department of English must maintain a working ASU email account, check it regularly, and reply as needed. TAs considering resigning from their positions mid-year or applying for a Leave of Absence must provide ample notice (two weeks) to department administration. With the exception of emergency situations, TAs will not resign from their posts in the middle of the semester. Failure to follow professional decorum will be noted in the student's progress toward a degree.

All TAs are required to attend Writing Programs Convocation each semester.

PERFORMANCE REVIEW is multi-tiered and occurs throughout the year. New TA Educators evaluate teaching performance of new composition TAs each semester, while continuing TAs are reviewed once per year. Additionally, per university policy, each course requires student evaluations, which are administered online. Finally, per Graduate College policy, the Program Directors and the Director of Graduate Studies will evaluate students within each program annually to assess progress toward their degree.

REAPPOINTMENTS: TAs hips are awarded for one academic year and typically will

be renewed, depending on satisfactory performance reviews, satisfactory progress toward degree, and departmental needs. **Length of eligibility is defined within degree programs: three years for MFA candidates and five years for doctoral candidates.** Those students who enter the program without TA support and gain it in later years will have a prorated schedule for eligibility. For example, a student receiving a TA in the second year of his or her PhD program will be eligible for four years of TA support. Students entering without a Master's may be granted an additional year of eligibility. Petitions for TA extensions are made in writing to the Director of Graduate Studies by November 1. These requests are not automatically granted.

WORKLOAD: Students holding appointments as TAs or RAs at ASU will work no more than .50% FTE (20 hours per week) during fall and spring semesters at ASU. According to the [TA/RA Handbook](#), graduate students who exceed this limit risk termination from their appointment and will be ineligible for reappointment for 26 weeks.

TEACHING ASSIGNMENTS: When New TAs are offered their positions, their teaching assignments are planned for them because the schedule of classes is planned almost a year in advance. For a New TA's second semester of teaching, they are involved in the planning of their teaching assignments. After the first year of teaching, TAs are given the opportunity to share their preferences of what and when they'd like to teach depending on what they are trained and qualified for.

Writing Programs offer classes at all times of the day, Monday through Friday, morning, afternoon, and evening. To be fair with assignments, TAs are expected to rotate in and out of two-day-a-week classes to three-day-a-week classes whenever possible. Teaching loads for TAs are 2-1; they teach two classes in the Fall semester and one class in the Spring semester. New TAs begin their first year of teaching with a 1-2 teaching load. Historically, our highest enrollments are in the Fall semester and lower in the Spring. Therefore, teaching loads cannot be changed upon request.

Writing Programs will always change a TA's teaching assignment if the assigned days/times conflict with the graduate coursework a TA needs to take. Changes to a TA's class schedule should be communicated immediately. Unfortunately, we cannot update teaching assignments to accommodate commitments outside of the university, for example other employment.

Hybrid/Online Training: Writing Programs offers a one-semester practicum (ENG 594, Teaching Hybrid and Online) that prepares teachers to reconfigure existing courses and projects into forms that will be appropriate for online asynchronous delivery formats. After completing this certification course typically offered in the Spring semester, teachers can begin requesting hybrid courses for the next Spring semester. Upon completion of teaching a particular course in the hybrid format or a teacher has a strong history of teaching a specific course, teachers can request to teach in the online format.

Online Teaching Assignments: Online teaching assignments are available to all teachers who have completed Writing Programs' certification process. Completing the EdPlus Master Class is not sufficient training to qualify for teaching hybrids and iCourses in Writing Programs. Even though a teacher may have experience teaching in the hybrid or online format at a previous institution, completing Writing Programs' certification process is still required.

Because there are more teachers who are trained to teach in the online format than there are available online sections, completely online teaching assignments are not

available from semester to semester. Teachers who have online assignments should always be available to transition into an in-person class assignment if enrollment dictates that changes in teaching assignments are necessary. Relocating out of state because a teacher has an online teaching assignment is not recommended nor does relocating then requesting an online assignment guarantee we can accommodate the request. If a TA does relocate and is not available to teach in person if needed, they will need to work with the Graduate Program Manager and Director of Graduate Studies to discuss their options.

Summer Teaching Assignment: TAs are invited to apply to teach summer courses early in the Spring semester. Teaching assignments are awarded based on professionalism (meeting deadlines, following program policies and procedures, etc.), excellence in teaching (teaching evaluations), qualifications for teaching courses being offered, rotation of assignments from one summer to the next, and experience teaching in the online format in Writing Programs.

Special Note: Writing Programs tries to accommodate all teachers when creating teaching assignments. However, we have a commitment to the university to offer classes based on what the university's upper administration says we need to offer (specifically general education courses) based on enrollment projections and trends. All teaching assignments can change at any time depending on enrollment which means assignments are never set in stone.

Writing Programs is committed to helping graduate students diversify their teaching assignments so that they are prepared for future workplace environments. However, the Program's leadership team is obligated by the university to cover general education courses such as ENG 101, 102, 105, 107, and 108. When you hear the Program's leadership team say, "Enrollment dictates our scheduling practices," this is what they mean. Typically, general education enrollment is higher in the Fall semester and wanes slightly in the Spring. So, opportunities to teach outside of these courses generally occur in the Spring semester. Regardless of the term, the program's leadership team works actively with the department's leadership team to identify opportunities for graduate students to teach in their area of specialty.

Questions: Questions about teaching assignments in Writing Programs should be directed to Demetria Baker, Senior Program Manager in Writing Programs. Specific questions about TAs teaching in their area of study can be directed to the Director of Writing Programs, Dr. Kyle Jensen who works closely with the Director of Graduate Studies.

Culminating Experience

Each graduate program ends with a culminating experience. Some programs allow students to choose between two culminating experiences while others have one option. It is important for students to distinguish which one they completed in their program and use the correct title, especially when referencing it in applications for academic programs and jobs.

MA Non-Thesis Option - Applied Project

If students choose this option, they will register for [Applied Project](#) in the last semester of their program. Students who choose this option will produce a project under the supervision of an Applied Project Director and present their work at the end of the semester.

Students will choose an Applied Project Director to work with. One additional

committee member is required on the [plan of study \(iPOS\)](#). Usually, the area program director acts as a default second committee member unless the student wants a particular second committee member other than the area director.

There are several options for the project:

1. Research Paper
2. Curriculum Design
3. Professional Portfolio

A grade of B or better in ENG/LIN 593 is required to graduate. Other than applying for graduation, no further paperwork is required.

MA Thesis

A [thesis](#), ENG/LIN 599 (a minimum of six hours), is required, culminating in an oral examination on the completed work. Students prepare the master's thesis under the supervision of the chair of the Master of Arts (MA) thesis committee.

The MA thesis examines a well-focused question or problem through an informed context that is critical, theoretical and/or historical. In choosing a thesis topic, defining its scope, and determining its method, students should be guided by the expectation of the Department of English that the length of the thesis will be between 35 and 60 pages, exclusive of endnotes and bibliography. The committee will judge the thesis by the standards appropriate to a fully finished piece of critical or scholarly work in English. Expectations:

- Show your chapters to the chair of your committee chair and ask for suggestions for revisions. Make the revisions. Committee members will also want to suggest revisions and have input and do not want simply to "rubber stamp" their approval of a thesis. Make those revisions, checking often with the chair. Many chairs prefer to have the student complete the thesis to their satisfaction before sending it to committee members. Some chairs (and some committee members) prefer that committee members see it one chapter at a time.
- Finish thesis to the satisfaction of the chair and the committee.
- Agree with the thesis committee chair and with committee members on time to hold the defense. Make sure you book a room with the Department of English office before scheduling.
- Schedule oral defense with Graduate College. This is done in your iPOS; submit the document for [format approval](#) at least 10 working days before the defense. Keep on top of [Graduate College deadlines](#).

Capstone Seminar

[MTESOL](#), [MTESOL Online](#), and [MA English \(English Studies\)](#) programs require students to complete a Capstone in the last semester of their studies. The Capstone Seminar is designed to guide students through a final project encompassing knowledge and skills obtained throughout the program. Flexibility in topic and format will be available depending on the student's academic and professional goals.

Plan of Study (iPOS) Faculty Committee with Capstone

[MA English online](#): Choose Kathleen Hicks as the chair and Bradley Ryner as the member.
MTESOL: Choose Matthew Prior as the chair and Aya Matsuda as the member.

Dissertation

PhD students are required to write and defend a dissertation based on original and independent research/creative activity. The student works under the guidance of a dissertation director and at least two additional committee members.

Master's in Passing

The Department of English may grant the master's in passing to PhD students not already holding a master's degree. Regularly admitted students in the doctoral program can be considered for the master's in passing when they have completed 30 or 33 hours of coursework (depending on the program) and submit an acceptable portfolio that constitutes Part I of the doctoral examination process. The student's dissertation committee will be responsible for determining if all course requirements for the proposed degree have been met, as indicated in an MA plan of study, and if the portfolio requirement has been fulfilled.

PhD students who have met the above requirements and wish to be awarded the master's in passing should contact Sheila Luna who will review the request and submit to Graduate College. The student will then complete and submit a plan of study (iPOS) for the master's degree and apply for graduation for the MA.

PhD Exams

The PhD examination process is slightly different for each area. It is the student's responsibility to develop an accurate conceptual schema of what will be expected of them. Students are encouraged to actively investigate the disciplinary practices that the exams in their area are designed to assess. Supervisory chairs and committee members are valuable resources in this process and should be consulted regularly as students prepare for their exams. Students should have an approved iPOS with a full committee and have met the language requirement before submitting the portfolio.

The PhD examination process for English Education, Linguistics and Applied Linguistics, and Writing, Rhetorics and Literacies involves two portfolio papers, an oral or written examination on a bibliography of a minimum of forty works central to the student's specialization, and a defense of the dissertation prospectus. One of the portfolio papers will have as its focus the student's primary area of specialization while the other paper will address a different area. The bibliography will be constructed by the student in consultation with the committee, and will accompany the portfolio papers for formal evaluation by the committee. The papers and bibliography must be formally submitted via email to the graduate program manager with the appropriate submission form.

The committee will assess each of the papers and judge them (a) acceptable, (b) acceptable with minor revisions, (c) acceptable with major revision, (d) unacceptable. The committee has the option of awarding an extraordinary portfolio a "Pass with Distinction." A summary of the committee's evaluation, provided by the chair of the committee, will be made available to the student who should feel free to consult with the chair and members of the committee for clarification about revisions that might have been requested. Revisions should be submitted to the committee by the date mandated by the committee chair, or at the latest by the end of the following semester. Students whose portfolios are judged to be unacceptable will not be allowed to continue in the program.

Part I – Portfolio/bibliography/Portfolio Statement of Intent form

- Part II – Oral or Written Examination
- Part III – Defense of the Dissertation Prospectus (Colloquy)
- Part IV – Defense of the Dissertation

The PhD examination process for Literature involves one essay in the area of specialization, an oral examination on a bibliography of 60-80 texts central to the student's primary field and particular specialization, and a colloquy on the dissertation prospectus. Students may petition to take a written exam in lieu of the oral exam. The bibliography will be constructed by the student in consultation with the committee, and will accompany the essay for formal evaluation by the committee. The essay and bibliography must be formally submitted via email to the [graduate program manager](#) with the appropriate submission [form](#). The committee will assess the paper and judge it acceptable or unacceptable. If an essay is judged to be acceptable, the committee will not submit a formal report; rather, the essay will be discussed during the exam, where any suggestions for revisions and further development will be made. The committee has the option of awarding an extraordinary essay a "Pass with Distinction." Students whose essay is judged to be unacceptable will not be allowed to continue in the program.

- Part I – Essay/bibliography/Essay Statement of Intent Form
- Part II – Oral Examination (one month after essay submission)
- Part III – Defense of the Dissertation Prospectus (Colloquy)
- Part IV – Defense of the Dissertation

Students should talk to their committee chair about the portfolio papers or essay being considered for submission as Part I. **The chair of your committee will need to approve these selections.** This is part of a partnership apprenticing the student into the disciplinary practices of their chosen field. By engaging with the committee chair and committee members about the disciplinary issues related to portfolio papers, students hone their own disciplinary orientation. Such engagement can help students articulate a rich, multifaceted and purposeful problem space for their scholarship. Over the course of earning the PhD, students will become signature scholars--in part because of how they configure and engage with their committee members. The intent of Part I is to demonstrate that the student is able to produce scholarly work at a level expected by the profession and consistent with the degree program. In both length and in level of scholarship the papers should be modeled after articles published in specific scholarly journals in the field.

To learn more about the exam guidelines and criteria, see the [PhD Exams Handbook: Evaluative Guidelines, Standards & Criteria](#).

Exam Evaluation: The purpose of the oral or written examination is to demonstrate that the candidate has an appropriate and readily accessible knowledge of representative primary and secondary works in the area(s) of specialization and the dissertation topic. The written and oral exam final result will be determined by the committee as (high pass, pass, low pass, fail) to evaluate the student's performance. Students who fail the exam may retake it once. Depending on the circumstances and reasons for failure, students are expected to retake the exam no later than the end of the following semester. Students who fail the retake will not be allowed to continue in the program. For more details on the exam process, please see the [exam webpage](#).

Defense of the Dissertation Prospectus

Successful completion of the oral or written exam will be followed by a defense of the dissertation prospectus (sometimes called a colloquy). This defense may be

scheduled in the same semester as the written/oral examination but for the sake of progress, we encourage no later than the semester following the oral/written examination. The subject and format of the dissertation will be decided in consultation with the student's supervisory committee. The written prospectus, especially the research plan and procedure, constitutes the basis for the defense with the supervisory committee. After the defense of the prospectus, the student must submit the signed [Report of Doctoral Prospectus](#) form to the graduate program manager for candidacy processing. Students can find examples of past prospectuses on this [webpage](#).

Dissertation: 12 hours of ENG/LIN 799 are required on the plan of study.

Student Expectations:

- Show dissertation chapters to the chair of your PhD supervisory committee and ask for suggestions for revisions. Make the revisions. Doctoral committee members will also want to suggest revisions and have input and do not want simply to “rubber stamp” their approval of a dissertation. Make those revisions, checking often with the chair of the supervisory committee. Many chairs prefer to have the student complete the dissertation to their satisfaction before sending it to committee members. Some chairs (and some committee members) prefer that committee members see it one chapter at a time.
- Finish dissertation, to the satisfaction of the chair and the committee.
- Agree with the chair of the PhD supervisory committee and with committee members on time to hold the defense. Book a room for the defense using the [scheduling form](#).
- Schedule oral defense with the Graduate College in your iPOS and submit your draft of your defense-ready document for [format approval](#) at least 10 working days before the defense. Keep on top of [Graduate College deadlines](#).

For PhD candidates entering the academic job market, it is advisable to take any professionalization and job market class or workshops offered appropriate to your discipline. For those students not entering the academic job market, take Alt-Ac workshops offered through the Department and or Graduate College. All PhD students have the opportunity to participate in mock interviews offered in the fall semester.

Performance and Annual Review

To ensure that students complete their degrees in a timely manner, get the most out of their experience at ASU, and meet requirements of the degree and department, graduate advisors will review student progress annually. Satisfactory academic progress includes: maintain continuous enrollment, satisfy program requirements, complete required exams, complete foreign language requirement, have no more than three incompletes on a student's transcript, complete defense of prospectus, thesis, dissertation, applied project or culminating experience, maintain 3.0 GPA (students must have a 3.0 GPA in all three GPAs (iPOS GPA, Overall GPA, and Graduate GPA in order to graduate).

PhD students will be reviewed annually by the graduate studies office. This is to ensure students are making progress in the program. Students will receive an email indicating they are making satisfactory progress towards their degree. If there is an issue, they will receive an email stipulating what needs to be improved upon for continued success in the program.

Master's students will also be notified through email ONLY if there is an issue with unsatisfactory progress in their program (e.g. low GPA, etc).

Students who are not making satisfactory progress may be recommended for dismissal from the program, according to university regulations. Lack of progress to degree can also be grounds for loss of one's TAsip. Students who are being recommended for dismissal from the program due to unsatisfactory progress will receive a letter in the mail as well as email and will have the opportunity to appeal.

Students should also review the [Graduate College Policy and Procedure Handbook](#).

Graduation Extensions: Students who have exceeded their time to degree (master's within six years; PhD students within ten years) must file a petition for extension of graduation. This petition must include a detailed justification: 1) why the petition is needed; 2) what happened to cause delay; and when the student intends to graduate. Additionally, include a detailed timeline mapping the progress toward defense, such as: chapter 1 is due on ____; chapter 2 is due on ____; and so forth. The petition will also need to include this statement: "I understand that there will be no further extensions petitioned, failure to meet the agreed upon deadline will result in dismissal from the program." Petition to Graduate College for extending graduation is submitted through the iPOS. Contact the [Graduate Program Manager](#) with questions on extension petitions.

Types of Withdrawals

Students may drop or withdraw from a class up until the appropriate deadline: <https://students.asu.edu/drop-add>

A student can withdraw from the session called a "[complete session withdrawal](#)". This will withdraw the student from the university. It will not count towards [continuous enrollment](#) if a student wants to resume their studies. The student would need to reapply to the program, and any courses taken prior to this semester will be "preadmission."

A student can make a [medical/compassionate withdrawal](#) if they qualify. They would need to have documentation. This type of withdrawal will not affect continuous enrollment. [The College medical/compassionate withdrawal site](#) can be used as a great resource for step-by-step instructions.

Students have the option of petitioning for a leave of absence (LOA). This is submitted through the Plan of Study (iPOS) in the Petition section and does not affect continuous enrollment. Students do not need an approved iPOS on file to submit a LOA, but students will need to read and accept the first page to move on to the petition section. Students will select "Leave of Absence" under the Petition type, and then select the semester they want to begin the LOA. Each student will be able to take up to two semesters off during the whole program whether they are consecutive or individual. Students will be able to register for classes again upon their return. Students with an approved LOA are not required to pay tuition and/or fees, but in turn are not permitted to place any demands on university faculty or use any university resources. These resources include university libraries, laboratories, recreation facilities or faculty and staff time. This action must be submitted and approved BEFORE the semester the student wants to take the leave.

Voluntary Withdrawal from a Graduate Degree Program: This [form](#) must be completed if a student wishes to entirely withdraw from a graduate program (i.e., not just for a limited time).

Other than dropping/withdrawing from a class, students should make the graduate advisor aware of plans to withdraw.

Application for Graduation

Students should apply for graduation during the semester of planned graduation and no later than the date specified in the most current version of the Graduate College's [Graduation Deadlines and Procedures](#). **Students are responsible for knowing the University deadlines.** The Graduate Application for Graduation is through MyASU. Additional instructions on applying for [graduation](#) are online.

Exit Interviews

The department holds exit interviews with graduating PhD students. Interviews are also available by request for any other graduate student completing or leaving one of the department's graduate degrees. To request an interview, contact the [Senior Program Manager](#).

Resources

Professional Development

The Department of English strives to assist students in all aspects of their professional development to ensure they will be poised for the job market. Information about succeeding in graduate programs, conferences, job market resources and graduate studies videos can be found on the Department's [Professional Development webpage](#).

Graduate Writing Centers

ASU's Writing Centers, through the University Academic Success Program, provide writing centers for ASU graduate students from all disciplines where you can:

- Get feedback on writing projects at any stage.
- Get help organizing a writing group.
- Attend workshops about writing.
- Receive coaching on navigating graduate school life.

The ASU Graduate Writing Centers currently serve students at these locations:

1. Downtown Phoenix: University Center Building (UCENT), Room 101
2. Tempe: 711 E Lemon St #38; 480-965-9072
3. West: Fletcher Library (FLHLB), LL2; 602-543-6151
4. Polytechnic campus: 5988 S Backus Mall; 480-727-1452

For more information or to schedule an appointment, please visit the [Graduate Academic Support](#) or call (480) 965-9072.

Student Well-Being

Our students' health and well-being are our top priority. Please don't hesitate to

contact us with questions and concerns.

GPSA's [Graduate Wellness Resources](#) is a one-page resource guide to financial, social, emotional, and physical health and wellness for ASU graduate students. The [10 Best Practices in Graduate Student Wellbeing](#) include proven ways to assist graduate students in bettering their health under the increasing demands of graduate school. There are also multiple services offered by ASU to further help students:

- [Counseling Services](#)
- [Health Services](#)
- [Student Accessibility and Inclusive Learning Services \(SAILS\)](#)

The Arizona State University [Victim Advocate](#) ensures crime victims on any ASU campus, witnesses and family members receive free, confidential support. You do not need to file a police report or be a patient or Health or Counseling Services to meet with ASU Victim Advocates. If you have questions, contact Victim Advocates or call 480-965-0107.

ASU prohibits all forms of discrimination, harassment and retaliation. To view ASU's policy please see <https://www.asu.edu/aad/manuals/acd/acd401.html>.

[Title IX](#) protects individuals from discrimination based on sex in any educational program or activity operated by recipients of federal financial assistance. As required by Title IX, ASU does not discriminate on the basis of sex in the education programs or activities that we operate, including in admission and employment. Inquiries concerning the application of Title IX may be referred to the Title IX Coordinator or to the U.S. Department of Education, Assistant Secretary, or both. Contact titleixcoordinator@asu.edu or 480-965-0696 for more information. Office located at 1120 S. Cady Mall, INTDSB 284. For information on making a report please go to www.asu.edu/reportit/.

Veterans should visit the Pat Tillman Veterans Center website for more information on benefits and services: <https://veterans.asu.edu>

Faculty

A list of [Department of English faculty](#) can be found online. A list of graduate faculty can be found on the [Graduate College website](#).

Facilities

Computing Resources for Graduate Students

Graduate students have access to the Media Learning Lab in RBHL 115 with ISAAC access. Students requiring ISAAC access should use [this form](#) to add access via their sun card. There is also a computing pod in the common area around the TA neighborhoods on the first floor of RBHL. For more information about the technological features in Ross-Blakley Hall, see this [webpage](#).

Contact [Bruce Matsunaga](#) for questions. Information on printing can be found [here](#).

Tuition and Fees

Students can find information on [tuition and fees](#) online. A Tuition Calculator and schedule are both available for students' use. Note: Tuition is waived for students

who hold teaching assistantships. All students, including TAs, are responsible for paying fees each semester.

Frequently Asked Questions

Graduate students may check the [FAQs webpage](#) for general information.

University Contacts

Department	Phone
ASU Switchboard	(480) 965-9011
Bookstore	(480) 965-3191
ASU Health Services	(480) 965-3349
Career and Professional Development Services	(480) 965-2350
ASU Counseling Services	(480) 965-6146
Graduate Admissions	(480) 965-6113
Graduate College	(480) 965-3521
Graduate and Professional Student Association (GPSA)	(480) 727-9870
Graduation Office (Registrar)	(480) 965-3256
Handshake	
International Students and Scholars Center	(480) 727-4776
Meal Plans	(480) 965-3463
Parking and Transit Services	(480) 965-6124
Public Events (Gammage)	(480) 965-5062
Records (Academic)	(480) 965-3124
Residency	(480) 965-7712
Residential Life	(480) 965-3515
Scholarship Office	(480) 965-4845
Student Accessibility and Inclusive Learning Services (SAILS)	(480) 965-1234
Student Business Services	(855) 278-5080
Student Employment	(480) 965-5186
Student Financial Assistance	(855) 278-5080
Student Recreation Complex	(480) 965-8900
Sun Card Office	(480) 965-2273
Sun Devil Ticket Office	(480) 727-0000
Testing Services, University	(480) 965-9291
University Technology Office	(480) 965-6500
ASU Veterans Resources	(480) 965-7723