

Master of Arts (M.A.)

The Master of Arts in English: English Studies option offers a broad range of courses in literature, rhetoric, theory, and creative writing which not only deepen students' understanding of classic and modern humanist texts, but provide much needed opportunity for the development of critical and creative thinking, crucial for nurturing the global citizen. Such development prepares students for a workplace which will continue to evolve in a changing twenty-first century world. The Master of Arts in English: English Studies also provides fundamental preparation for doctoral work, or for entry into other advanced professional schools.

Master of Art in English: English Studies candidates deepen their understanding of fundamental texts in British, American and World literatures, language principles and critical theory. They also hone their critical and creative writing skills. The program consists of 36 credit hours, comprised of 18 core credit hours, 9 credit hours of other required courses, and 9 elective credit hours. Considerable latitude within these three categories allows students the opportunity to design their programs for entry into doctoral or professional school, for teaching at the high school or community college level, or to prepare for a virtually limitless number of non-teaching professions.

English Studies students will...

- Critically analyze British, American and World literatures and language
- Use a wide array of critical theory
- Engage in primary and secondary research
- Develop critical thinking
- Develop critical and/or creative writing skills
- Develop professional presentation skills
- Receive professional attention from a faculty advisor with expertise in the field of literature and language

Why should I study English Studies at Southeast?

Faculty in the English Studies option at Southeast come from a varied and impressive array of graduate schools from around the United States, which makes for a rich and diverse educational experience. Such diversity is necessary for the development of critical and creative thinking that will guide candidates to further academic and/or professional programs, or for work in a global workplace.

Career Planning

Graduates of the Master of Arts in English: English Studies option can look forward to rewarding careers in teaching (at the high school or community college level). They may also continue their education in doctoral or professional programs. They may also apply their critical and creative thinking skills in the workforce in areas such publishing or in the business sector.

Internship and Employment of Recent Graduates/Graduate Schools and Programs of Recent Graduates

- High school teachers
- Community college and university instructors
- Ph.D. programs
- Law school programs
- Library science programs
- Government agency employment
- Editing in publishing houses

Admission Requirements

1. A bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university
2. A minimum of 24 undergraduate credit hours in the field of English
3. An undergraduate grade point average of at least 2.5 on a 4.0 point scale

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This is a guide based on the 2017-2018 Graduate Bulletin and is subject to change. The time it takes to earn a degree will vary based on factors such as dual enrollment, remediation, and summer enrollment. Students meet with an academic advisor each semester and use DegreeWorks to monitor their progress.

CURRICULUM CHECKLIST

English: English Studies Option – 36 hours

Core Requirements

- EN601 Research in English Studies (3)
- LI500-600 Choose any two 500 or 600 level LI courses (6)

Choose one theory/linguistics course:

- EN535 Rhetorical Theory and Written Discourse (3)
- EN686 Sociolinguistics (3)
- LI605 Contemporary Anglophone Literature/Contemporary Theory (3)
- LI658 Literary Criticism (3)
- UI500 History of the English Language (3)
- UI501 Principles of Language (3)

Choose two writing courses:

- EN550 Style in Writing (3)
- EN572 Creative Non-Fiction Essay (3)
- EN670 Advanced Creative Writing: Poetry (3)
- EN678 Advanced Creative Writing: Fiction (3)

Electives – 9 hours

- EN694 Thesis (3)*
- LI615 Teaching Practicum in Literature (3)
OR
- EN615 Teaching Practicum in Writing (3)
- Independent Study (3)*
- Additional literature courses at the 500-600 level
- Additional writing courses at the 500-600 level
- Additional theory or linguistics courses at the 500-600 level
- Teaching assistant seminars (6)

English Studies Option Requirements - 9 hours

Choose one British literature course before 1800:

- LI560 Chaucer (3)
- LI577 Studies in Early English Literature (3)
- LI665 Shakespeare (3)

Choose one British literature course after 1800:

- LI578 Studies in Later English Literature (3)
- LI605 Cont Anglophone Lit/Con Theory (3)
- LI676 Early 20th-Century British Literature (3)

Choose one American literature course:

- LI565 Southern Literature (3)
- LI568 Nineteenth Century American Novel (3)
- LI570 Modern and Contemporary Novel (3)
- LI571 Modern American Poetry (3)
- LI576 American Fiction, Twenty-First Century (3)
- LI621 Cross-Cultural American Voices (3)
- LI674 Studies in Modern American Literature (3)

**Maximum of 3 hours may be taken*

Degree Requirements

- All students must complete a thesis, a graduate paper plus a comprehensive exam, or a capstone project.
- No course taken as part of an undergraduate degree program may fulfill any MA requirement.
- EN694 Thesis may be taken for 3 credit hours only (for those opting to write a thesis).
- At least 18 credit hours must be at the 600 level.
- No course fulfills more than one requirement.