

# FACULTY

## DEAN

Heinz D. Woelk, PhD

## GRADUATE FACULTY

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 Monica Barron, PhD  
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 Marie Spadaro, PhD  
 Karon Speckman, PhD  
 Roy Tanner, PhD  
 Heinz D. Woelk, PhD  
 D. Cole Woodcox, D Phil

# DEGREES OFFERED

## MASTER OF ARTS IN ENGLISH

### GOALS

The field of English study has become increasingly diverse. It has responded to the theoretical challenges of deconstruction, feminism, Marxism, psychoanalysis, and New Historicism; it has tried to make sense of the postmodern and postcolonial present; it has watched its anthologies swell with the expansion of the canon. An ongoing revolution in the discipline has been occurring, and it is not over yet.

Given this continuing revolution in the field, the Truman graduate program in English offers students flexibility and possibility. In keeping with the mission statement of the University, our program "grows naturally out of the philosophy, values, content, and desired outcomes of a liberal arts education." Our graduate faculty have expertise in many traditional areas of study as well as in recent interests of our discipline. We will assist students in finding their niche of disciplinary interest, be it in linguistics, literary theory, pedagogy, a particular literature, or creative writing.

While one goal of our undergraduate major is breadth of exposure, the M.A. in English offers an opportunity for in-depth exploration in one corner of the discipline which the student finds useful and fascinating. As expressed in the University mission statement, our program is "committed to the advancement of knowledge, to freedom of thought and inquiry."

Although one of our greatest strengths is our flexibility, the personal attention each student receives is also central to our program. Each student works closely with a faculty advisor; this strong bond between advisors and advisees is essential for graduate students tailoring their own course of study.

Selected candidates who show exceptional promise in college teaching may compete for generous teaching stipends. As apprentice teachers, they will hone their professional techniques and shape philosophies of teaching and composition. Few graduate programs offer such opportunities.

Our program offers a variety of courses in literary theory, composition theory, rhetorical theory, creative writing, and linguistics (and additional coursework for the graduate teaching assistants). We also offer, based on needs and interests, advanced courses with rotating topics. In accordance with the University mission, students approach "creative and critical thought through effective reading and research." Our ultimate aims are leadership development in a select community of exceptionally able students, scholars, teachers, and creative writers; the nurturing of a lifetime commitment to writing and literature; and, for those who desire it, serious preparation for work on the doctoral level. A plethora of pathways paradoxically leads to these simple goals so characteristic of our liberal arts mission and so useful outside the academy. As with our fellow Missourian Thomas Stearns Eliot, in our end is our beginning.

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LANGUAGE  
AND  
LITERATURE

**ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

Applicants should submit the following materials to the Graduate Dean in the Graduate Office:

- ◆ Undergraduate transcripts from an accredited college or university showing an overall grade point average of 3.0 or better.
- ◆ Graduate Record Examination scores on the general section, usually above the fiftieth percentile.
- ◆ Three letters of recommendation.
- ◆ A statement of academic experience, aspiration, and philosophy.
- ◆ Other evidence of service and academic promise.

**ENGLISH****MASTER OF ARTS IN ENGLISH**

	Semester Hours
English graduate courses (at least half must be at the 600 level) .....	32
Thesis .....	4
	<b>36</b>

**Note:** All English GTRAs are required to take ENG 620G, Composition Theory and Pedagogy and ENG 698G, Evaluating College English Teaching.

**GRE SCORES**

Graduate Record Exam percentile rankings corresponding to mean scaled scores for incoming English students, fiscal year 2005:

Analytical Writing: 70.92%  
Quantitative: 58.77%  
Verbal: 69.08%

Average GPA of incoming English students, fiscal year 2003: 3.55.

**COURSE  
DESCRIPTIONS**

**Students who do not meet prerequisites for a course can request permission to take a course by meeting with the faculty member teaching the course, who in turn will recommend to the Dean that the student be enrolled in the class if appropriate.**

**ENGLISH****ENG 501G – Advanced Composition****4 hours**

Practice in personal and academic prose style, with interest in both generating good writing and analyzing good reading, pointedly and well. Permission of instructor and Dean required.

**ENG 502G – Studies in Myth****4 hours**

In order to provide a framework for the study of literature, this course explores patterns of myth in world cultures, including Sumerian, Hebrew, American Indian, African, Germanic, Celtic, Greek, Roman, modern American, and others.

**ENG 503G – Gender Studies****4 hours**

Studies of language or literature that explore the social construction of gender roles, cultural manifestations of sexism and heterosexism, and cultural representations of women or men. Prerequisite: Graduate or advanced undergraduate status.

**ENG 504G – Advanced Creative Writing****4 hours**

An advanced course in the writing of poetry and/or fiction and/or drama for graduate students interested in creative theses and for undergraduates who have had one or more of the 300-level creative writing workshops. Graduate student prerequisite: Consent of instructor.

**ENG 505G – Discourse Analysis****4 hours**

A survey course in which students investigate several approaches to the analysis of discourse. Through lecture/discussion, students will familiarize themselves with current theories and definitions of discourse and discourse analysis. Through workshop presentations, students will gain experience in data collection and application of the theories to both written and oral discourse. Prerequisite: graduate status.

**ENG 506G – Theory and Practice of Teaching****Literature****4 hours**

This seminar will consider ways of helping students read effectively, with appreciation and enjoyment, a variety of texts (such as fiction, poetry, essays, and non-print texts). The course will engage participants in critical examination of their own experiences as readers, current theory concerning effective approaches to teaching textual literacy, and methods of applying this theory to their own practice. While focused on approaches to teaching English language arts in secondary schools, the course is also appropriate for and open to students interested in teaching at any level. Prerequisites: Graduate or advanced undergraduate standing and permission of instructor.

**ENG 508G – Old English****4 hours**

Introductory study of Old English (Anglo-Saxon), including grammar (phonology, syntax, morphology, lexicon), and attention to cognate or antecedent languages, with readings in Old English.

**ENG 509G – Joyce and Contemporaries****4 hours**

Selected novels, short stories, and poems of James Joyce, and for example: Thomas Mann, Marcel Proust, William Butler Yeats, Djuna Barnes, Andre Gide, Franz Kafka, Herman Hesse, in English or English translation.

**ENG 510G – Greek and Latin Literature in Translation****4 hours**

Poetry, prose, and drama that form a foundation for our literature.

**ENG 516G – Studies in Literary Genres****4 hours**

Study of representative works of a given genre from a variety of periods and national origins, with attention to the theoretical questions raised by any system of literary classification.

**ENG 517G – Comparative Literature****4 hours**

The study of selections from world literature directed toward forming a comprehensive definition of comparative literature and establishing criteria for judging literature.

**ENG 520G – Beowulf****4 hours**

Translation and close study of the Old English epic, and of other texts as chosen by instructor and class. Prerequisite: ENG 508G.

**ENG 602G – Studies in Literary Criticism****4 hours**

Advanced seminar in major trends and movements in literary criticism.

**ENG 603G – Studies in the English Language****4 hours**

Advanced seminar in the language, using linguistic analysis to account for certain phenomena in language use.

**ENG 604G – Studies in Major American Writers****4 hours**

Studies in the art and mind of one or more major American writers. May be repeated without duplication of materials.

**ENG 607G – Theory and Practice of Teaching Writing****4 hours**

This seminar will consider ways of helping students write effectively in various styles and for a variety of purposes and audiences. Conducted as a workshop, the course will engage participants in their own writing, as well as in consideration of current theory concerning best practice in teaching writing and methods of applying this theory to their own practice. While focused on approaches to teaching writing in secondary schools, the course is also appropriate for and open to students interested in teaching at any level. Prerequisites: Graduate or advanced undergraduate status and permission of instructor.

**ENG 608G – Management of Instruction: Secondary English Methods****3 hours**

This seminar will investigate current theory of best practices in teaching English language arts in secondary schools, as well as practical skills and methods for implementing these practices. The course is directly preparatory for the responsibilities of the internship, and students should plan to enroll in ENG 608G the semester before ED 609G. Prerequisites: Admission to the MAE English Program and permission of the instructor.

**ENG 609G – Graduate Readings in English****1-4 hours**

Directed readings in areas not covered in formal courses. Consent of instructor required.

**ENG 611G – Research in English (Thesis)****1-4 hours**

A lengthy written project demonstrating appropriate research skills, aesthetic appreciation, powers of analysis and synthesis. May be creative, literary, or experimental. Permission of the thesis director required.

**ENG 614G – Studies in Major British Writers****4 hours**

Seminar in the art and mind of one or more major British writers. May be repeated without duplication of materials.

**ENG 615G – Studies in Twentieth Century Literature****4 hours**

Seminar in the art and mind of one or more major writers of the Twentieth Century. May be repeated without duplication of materials.

**ENG 618G – Studies in Ethnic Literature****4 hours**

The seminar focuses on the thoughts and lives of an ethnic community in the U.S. and/or Britain as they are manifested in literature, arts, music, philosophy, religion, history, and culture. It explores a number of methodologies in Ethnic Studies and engages important issues, such as the complexity of ethnic identity, the gendering of ethnicity, assimilation, orality versus literacy, and the intersections of race, gender, and class.

**ENG 620G – Composition Theory and Pedagogy****4 hours**

The seminar focuses on theory and practice in teaching college composition. It emphasizes shaping a philosophy of composition and developing a writing pedagogy through design and teaching of writing coursework, through evaluation and assessment of student writing, through research in the areas of Rhetoric and of Composition Theory, and through evaluation of writing instruction. Required for Graduate Teaching Assistants.

**ENG 621G – American Studies****4 hours**

This interdisciplinary course explores American thought as it manifests itself in literature, arts, music, philosophy, historiography, and culture. The course focuses on ideas and themes in American studies that cut across the disciplines and time periods—for example, concepts of progress, the frontier, pragmatism, and individualism.

**ENG 622G – British/Commonwealth Studies****4 hours**

This interdisciplinary course explores an English-speaking culture in a particular time, place, class, and/or mood. It examines works of literature, arts, music, philosophy, religion, and history—the varied manifestations of the culture's self-definition. Sample cultures: contemporary Canadian, Colonial Indian, Renaissance London, or Belfast Catholic.

**ENG 655G – Graduate Seminar****4 hours**

A topical seminar. Specific topics will be listed in the class schedule. May be repeated without duplication of materials.

**ENG 698G – Evaluating College English Teaching****1 hour**

This one-credit seminar, required of all English GTRAs and elective for other graduate students in English, prompts critical inquiry about processes of teaching. It focuses on the observation and evaluation of teaching, both by graduate students who teach Writing As Critical Thinking or other introductory English courses and by the graduate faculty who supervise or mentor those graduate instructors. May be repeated for a total of three hours credit. Prerequisite: ENG 620G.

**FOREIGN LANGUAGE**

To complete degree requirements for the Master of Arts in Education degree, the following courses are offered by the foreign language faculty. See appropriate pages in the Graduate Catalog for the Division of Education.

**FREN 521G – Seminar in Contemporary French Culture**  
**3 hours**

A revolving topical graduate seminar in contemporary culture that varies depending on the expertise of the instructor. Topics include cultural anthropology, cinema, modern art, politics. Prerequisite: Admission to MAE. May be repeated with consent of instructor.

**FREN 523G – Topics in Literature**  
**3 hours**

A revolving topical graduate-level seminar designed for the study of a particular recurrent theme, genre, or movement in Francophone literary history. In-depth study of writings by one or more authors as well as relevant critical works. Prerequisite: Admission to MAE. May be repeated with consent of instructor.

**FREN 530G – Advanced Composition and Conversation**  
**3 hours**

An advanced language course based on the study of authentic material from French media designed to increase students' knowledge of vocabulary and idiomatic expressions. Through extensive writing and intensive conversation, students will master advanced syntactic structures. Prerequisite: Admission to MAE.

**LLFL 529G – Studies in Foreign Language**  
**1-6 hours**

Individualized studies designed to meet specific language needs of the student. May be used with study abroad to complete content area component in foreign language for the Master of Arts in Education.

**LLFL 608G – Management of Instruction**  
**3 hours**

Presents an overview of second language acquisition theory and methodologies. Focuses on the teaching of foreign languages to elementary, middle, and high school students. A field-based teaching practicum is required. The course is a direct preparatory experience for the internship and students should plan to enroll in LLFL 608G prior to ED 609G. Prerequisite: Admission to MAE.

**SPAN 501G – Topics in Hispanic Literature**  
**3 hours (summer)**

An in-depth study of a significant author, work, period, movement, or genre in Peninsular or Latin American Literature. Topics vary with instructor. May be repeated for credit on different topics. Prerequisite: BA in Spanish.

**SPAN 502G – Topics in Hispanic Culture**  
**3 hours (summer)**

A broad analysis of various aspects of Hispanic culture, as evidenced in literature, history, art, music, etc. Topic will vary with instructor. May be repeated for credit on different topics. Prerequisite: BA in Spanish.

**SPAN 560G – Advanced Spanish Grammar and Syntax**  
**3 hours (summer)**

Study of advanced grammatical and syntactical structures in Spanish. Prerequisite: BA in Spanish.

**SPAN 605G – Topics in Hispanic Linguistics**  
**3 hours (summer)**

The application of semantic, syntactic, morphological and/or phonetic analysis to advanced study of one or more topics of Hispanic linguistics as determined by instructor. May be repeated for credit and different topics. Prerequisite: BA in Spanish.