

FACULTY

DIVISION HEAD

Heinz D. Woehlck, PhD

GRADUATE FACULTY

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Joseph Benevento, PhD
Ben Bennani, PhD
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Thomas Coates, PhD
Sally Cook, PhD
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Janet Davis, PhD
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Tim Farley, PhD
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M. Royce Kallerud, PhD
Kathryn Kuhlman, PhD
Gloria Kwok, PhD
N. Dennis Leavens, PhD
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Arnold Preussner, PhD
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Priscilla Riggle, PhD
Linda Seidel, PhD
Mary Shapiro, PhD
Gregg Siewert, PhD
Karon Speckman, PhD
Roy Tanner, PhD
Heinz D. Woehlck, 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

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
	36

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

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

ENGLISH

ENG 501 – 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.

ENG 502 – 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 503 – Topics in Women, Language and Literature 4 hours

Studies of language or literature by and about women, roles of women writers, sexism and heterosexism in language or literature, and cultural representations of women. Prerequisite: Graduate or advanced undergraduate status.

ENG 504 – 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 505 – 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 or permission of instructor.

ENG 506 – Reading and Response: Theory, Practice, and Research 4 hours

This seminar focuses on the reciprocal or resistant relationship that is part of the transaction between readers and texts. Prerequisite: Graduate or advanced undergraduate status.

ENG 508 – Old English 4 hours

Introductory study of Old English (Anglo-Saxon), including grammar, phonology, syntax, and antecedents, with reading in the language.

ENG 509 – 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 510 – Greek and Latin Literature in Translation 4 hours

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

ENG 514 – Syntactic Theory 4 hours

Overview of major syntactic theories, including generative and nongenerative grammars: Chomskian transformational grammar, relational grammar, case grammar, and stratification grammar. Comparative and contrastive analysis of several languages. Prerequisite: ENG 413 or consent of instructor.

ENG 516 – Studies in Literary Genre 4 hours

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

ENG 517 – 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 520 – Beowulf 4 hours

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

ENG 583 – Studies in Rhetorical Theory 3 hours

A revolving topical seminar on issues in rhetorical theory, classical through contemporary rhetoricians and philosophers of rhetoric, selected types of rhetoric, or the rhetoric of selected social movements. Specific topics will be listed in the class schedule.

ENG 601 – Methods of Research and Analysis

4 hours

Tools for research, history of literary criticism, analysis of the text and commentary.

ENG 602 – Studies in Literary Criticism

4 hours

Advanced seminar in major trends and movements in literary criticism.

ENG 603 – Studies in the English Language

4 hours

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

ENG 604 – 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 607 – Composition Research and Practice in Secondary Schools

4 hours

This seminar will examine various modes of inquiry as they relate to composition research in secondary and middle school (ethnographic, experimental, case study, and action research). Students will trace the evolving history of composition research and practice in school contexts. Students will design, conduct, and report results of a small research project.

ENG 608 – Management of Instruction

2 hours

Development of basic philosophical, planning, and implementation skills related to the design and teaching of the concepts of the discipline specialty to secondary school students. The course is a direct preparatory experience for the responsibilities of the internship and students should plan to enroll in ENG 608 the semester before ED 609. Prerequisite: Admission to the MAE English program and permission of the instructor.

ENG 609 – Graduate Readings in English

1-4 hours

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

ENG 611 – 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 614 – 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 615 – Studies in Twentieth Century Literature

4 hours

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

ENG 618 – 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 620 – 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 621 – 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 622 – 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 655 – Graduate Seminar

4 hours

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

ENG 698 – Evaluating College English Teaching

1 hour

This one credit seminar, required of all English GTRA’s 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 620.

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.

LANGUAGE
AND
LITERATURE

FREN 521 – 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 or consent of instructor. May be repeated with consent of instructor.

FREN 523 – 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 or consent of instructor. May be repeated with consent of instructor.

FREN 530 – 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 or consent of instructor.

LLFL 529 – 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 608 – Management of Instruction
2 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 608 prior to ED 609. Prerequisite: Admission to MAE or instructor consent.

SPAN 501 – 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 or approval of Spanish faculty.

SPAN 502 – 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 or approval of Spanish faculty.

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

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

SPAN 605 – 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 or approval of Spanish faculty.