## MA in English

A Master of Arts (MA) degree in English can be a passport to any number of careers where employers value communication and research skills, proficiency with digital technologies, and the ability to think critically to solve complex programs. Our MA English alumni work in publishing, journalism, education, marketing, law and politics, among other fields.

### Admission Requirements

- One official copy of a baccalaureate transcript from a regionally accredited institution with at least 36 credits in English, exclusive of freshman composition. (Applicants who present fewer than 36 undergraduate credits in English may remedy this deficiency by taking additional courses as recommended by the English graduate committee.)
- A 3.0 overall cumulative undergraduate grade point average. (Applicants whose undergraduate grade point average in English is less than 3.0 may be admitted on the basis of GRE scores.)
- A sample of the applicant's critical writing, either one or two essays totaling about 10 pages in length.
- Three letters of recommendation
- International applicants must provide an internet-based TOEFL score of at least 85. GREs are recommended.

### Curriculum Requirements

All course selection is done in consultation with a faculty advisor.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGS79</td>
<td>Studies in Nineteenth-Century American Literature</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGS81</td>
<td>Studies in Twentieth-Century American Fiction to 1945</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGS83</td>
<td>Studies in Twentieth-Century British Literature</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGS86</td>
<td>Studies in Contemporary Literature</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGS89</td>
<td>From Gutenberg to Google Books: Studies in Books, Readers, and Culture</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Literary Criticism and Theory</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGS85</td>
<td>Studies in Contemporary Criticism and Theory</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Select three electives - to be chosen in consultation with your Advisor</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Culminating Experience</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGS99</td>
<td>Graduate Comprehensive Exam Registration</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Credits: 30

1. If pre-1800 texts are the majority.
2. The Comprehensive Exam may also be fulfilled by a "culminating experience" as approved by the Director of Graduate Studies.

For a complete listing of graduate-level English courses, please visit: [https://catalog.newpaltz.edu/graduate/course-descriptions/eng/](https://catalog.newpaltz.edu/graduate/course-descriptions/eng/)

No more than six credits may be transferred from another institution. No more than six credits taken before admission to the MA program may be credited to the degree.

### Assistantships

Teaching Assistantships are available for students in the MA program. The Assistantship pays a stipend plus tuition for two graduate English courses per semester; recipients of the Assistantship teach one section of Composition and enroll in two graduate English courses per semester. Teaching Assistants are supported through a maximum of 33 credits. Modern Theories of Writing, ENGS15, is required and is usually taken in the first semester of the Assistantship. Applications are made through the English Department office.

A limited number of other stipendiary positions are sometimes available within the English Department and elsewhere on campus. Check regularly with the English Department to learn of these opportunities.

### Program Requirements

- Complete prescribed course work within seven years after matriculation.
- Maintain a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or better, with no more than two grades below B-
- Present nine credits in a single foreign language or satisfactory evidence of equivalent competence.
- Satisfactory performance on the English Department’s comprehensive examination or approved culminating experience.

### Course Options

- **Select three courses of Literature After 1800**
  - ENGS22 Modernity and Modernism in Britain
  - ENGS24 Virginia Woolf
  - ENGS25 Postmodern Literature
  - ENGS26 Twenty-First Century Literature
  - ENGS36 American Fiction in the Twentieth Century to 1945 Annual/Fall
  - ENGS37 American Poetry in the Twentieth Century to 1945
  - ENGS60 Forms of Autobiography
  - ENGS77 Studies in English Romanticism
  - ENGS78 Studies in Victorian Literature
  - ENGS88 Studies in Comparative Literature
  - ENGS79 Studies in Nineteenth-Century American Literature
  - ENGS81 Studies in Twentieth-Century American Fiction to 1945
  - ENGS83 Studies in Twentieth-Century British Literature
  - ENGS86 Studies in Contemporary Literature
  - ENGS89 From Gutenberg to Google Books: Studies in Books, Readers, and Culture