

ENGLISH

Degree Requirements

Master of arts (M.A.)

Requirements listed here are in addition to Graduate Council policies listed under GCAC-600 Research Degree Policies. (<https://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/>)

Candidates for the M.A. take at least 30 credits of course work in English, with a minimum of 18 credits of 500-level courses, including:

Code	Title	Credits
Required Courses		
ENGL 501	Materials and Methods of Research	3
	1 course in literary theory or rhetoric	3
	2 courses in literature in English prior to 1800	6
	2 courses in literature in English after 1800	6
Electives		6
Culminating Experience		
ENGL 596	Individual Studies (in which students complete their culminating master's paper)	6
Total Credits		30

In addition, M.A. candidates must demonstrate reading knowledge of one of the following languages: French, German, Italian, Russian, Spanish, Latin, and Classical Greek. Other languages may be substituted with the approval of the Graduate Studies Committee.

Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.)

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The Ph.D. degree does not require a specific number of credits although all students are required to have completed:

- ENGL 501 (or the equivalent),
- one course in rhetoric or theory,
- two courses in periods before 1800,
- and two courses in periods after 1800.

Language requirement: Ph.D. candidates must demonstrate reading knowledge of one of the following languages: French, German, Italian, Russian, Spanish, Latin, and Classical Greek. Other languages may be substituted with the approval of the Graduate Studies Committee.

With the help of departmental graduate advisers, students select a program of seminars or reading courses. To complete their programs, students must pass a Ph.D. qualifying examination and pass a comprehensive examination (consisting of both written and oral components); and write a doctoral dissertation. The dissertation must be accepted by the Ph.D. committee, the head of the graduate program, and the Graduate School, and the student must pass a final oral examination.