

**DEGREE/PROGRAM CHANGE
FORM C
Form Number: C2001**

Fields marked with * are required

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Associated Forms exist? Yes Initiator's Title Associate Professor: English Department
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Proposed effective term

Semester Fall Year 2017

Course Information

Select Appropriate Program Graduate Degree Program
Name of New or Existing Program M.A. English Concentration in Rhetoric and Writing
Select Category Concentration Degree Type Master's
Select Action Revision

Exact Title and Requirements as they should appear in the catalog. If there is a change, upload current and proposed requirements.

See current catalog for format within the respective college (upload a doc/pdf file)

[MA RW updated reqs.pdf](#)

Does this change affect other departmental program/branch campuses? If yes, indicate below.

Reason(s) for Request (enter text below or upload a doc/pdf file)
Please see attached file.

[Curriculum Changes - MAs.pdf](#)

Upload a document that includes justification for the program, impact on long-range planning, detailed budget analysis and faculty workload implications.(upload a doc/pdf file)

[Justification for Degree Changes - MA RW.pdf](#)

Are you proposing a new undergraduate degree or new undergraduate certificate? If yes, upload the following documents.

Upload a two-page Executive Summary authorized by Associate Provost. (upload a doc/pdf file)

Upload memo from Associate Provost authorizing go-ahead to full proposal. (upload a doc/pdf file)

CURRENT CATALOG REQUIREMENTS:

M.A. Concentration in Rhetoric and Writing (32 credit hours)

Optional emphases in Teaching and Professional Writing

A Master of Arts in English with a concentration in Rhetoric and Writing prepares graduates for careers in professional writing and post-secondary teaching. Students interested in teaching study pedagogical theories and develop practical applications in traditional classrooms and in online or tutoring venues. Students interested in professional writing enroll in writing workshops, where they strengthen existing abilities and sharpen technical expertise in a variety of genres; internship placements in workplace professional writing venues are optional. This degree requires 32 credit hours of course work; competency in a foreign language or approved research skill; and a portfolio (ENGL 596). Students may choose emphasis in writing or teaching; all students work under Plan II (no thesis).

- 9 credit hours of core required courses: 530 or 533 or 534; 542 and 543.
- 10 credit hours of course work, including one 4 credit hour seminar, chosen from at least two of the groups A-E listed in the English Department Graduate Studies Handbook.
- 12 credit hours of general electives: Four courses from among 534-545, 513-520, 587, or other courses in English as approved by the Committee on Studies (COS) and the Associate Chair of Graduate Studies; students may offer up to 6 credit hours of courses from departments outside of English as electives as approved by their COS and the Graduate Director; students may offer up to 6 credit hours of ENGL 597 (Problems) for work related to teacher training or professional writing experience, as approved by their COS and the Associate Chair of Graduate Studies.
- 1 credit hour of Master's Portfolio, ENGL 596: In the semester before graduation, students prepare a portfolio of work under the direction of their COS which is presented for evaluation in the ninth week of the student's final semester of attendance.

Emphasis in Teaching (12 credit hours)

Teaching Emphasis students take 530 or 533 or 534 (depending on what they take for the Core Requirement above) plus 9 credit hours in other pedagogy-based courses offered in English, the College of Education, or other departments as approved by their COS and the Associate Chair of Graduate Studies; up to 6 credit hours may be offered as Teaching Practicum (ENGL 597, Problems).

Emphasis in Professional Writing (12 credit hours)

Professional Writing Emphasis students must take 533, either in the Core Requirement or as an elective, plus 9 or 12 credit hours (depending on where they count 533) from 513-520, 587. Professional Writing Emphasis students may take up to 6 credit hours of courses in other departments as approved by their COS and the Associate Chair of Graduate Studies; up to 6 credit hours may be offered as Professional Writing Internship (ENGL 598, Internship, CR/NC) as approved by their COS and the Associate Chair of Graduate Studies.

PROPOSED CATALOG REQUIREMENTS:

M.A. Concentration in Rhetoric and Writing (31 credit hours)

Optional emphases in Teaching and Professional Writing

A Master of Arts in English with a concentration in Rhetoric and Writing prepares graduates for careers in professional writing and post-secondary teaching. Students interested in teaching study pedagogical theories and develop practical applications in traditional classrooms and in online or tutoring venues. Students interested in professional writing enroll in writing workshops, where they strengthen existing abilities and sharpen technical expertise in a variety of genres; internship placements in workplace professional writing venues are optional. This degree requires 31 credit hours of course work; competency in a foreign language or approved research skill; and a portfolio (ENGL 596). Students may choose emphasis in writing or teaching; all students work under Plan II (no thesis).

- 9 credit hours of core required courses: 530 or 533 or 534; 542 and 543.
- 9 credit hours of course work, including one 600-level seminar, chosen from at least two of the groups A-E listed in the English Department Graduate Studies Handbook.
- 12 credit hours of general electives: Four courses from among 534-545, 513-520, 587, or other courses in English as approved by the Committee on Studies (COS) and the Associate Chair of Graduate Studies; students may offer up to 6 credit hours of courses from departments outside of English as electives as approved by their COS and the Graduate Director; students may offer up to 6 credit hours of ENGL 597

(Problems) for work related to teacher training or professional writing experience, as approved by their COS and the Associate Chair of Graduate Studies.

- 1 credit hour of Master's Portfolio, ENGL 596: In the semester before graduation, students prepare a portfolio of work under the direction of their COS which is presented for evaluation in the ninth week of the student's final semester of attendance.

Emphasis in Teaching (12 credit hours)

Teaching Emphasis students take 530 or 533 or 534 (depending on what they take for the Core Requirement above) plus 9 credit hours in other pedagogy-based courses offered in English, the College of Education, or other departments as approved by their COS and the Associate Chair of Graduate Studies; up to 6 credit hours may be offered as Teaching Practicum (ENGL 597, Problems).

Emphasis in Professional Writing (12 credit hours)

Professional Writing Emphasis students must take 533, either in the Core Requirement or as an elective, plus 9 or 12 credit hours (depending on where they count 533) from 513-520, 587. Professional Writing Emphasis students may take up to 6 credit hours of courses in other departments as approved by their COS and the Associate Chair of Graduate Studies; up to 6 credit hours may be offered as Professional Writing Internship (ENGL 598, Internship, CR/NC) as approved by their COS and the Associate Chair of Graduate Studies.

Proposed Curriculum Changes for English Department Graduate Degree Programs: Master’s Degrees

Changing English Department seminar credit hours from four to three leaves some credit hours in various degree program requirements unaccounted for. For example, in the MA in Language and Literature, with each of the two required seminars reduced by one credit hour, the same number of courses produce two fewer credit hours than before.

I propose that, to accommodate the change in credit hours, we reduce the required number of credit hours in the following ways:

- (1) from 32 to 30, for the MA in Language and Literature;
- (2) from 34 to 33, for the MA in Medieval Studies;
- (3) from 32 to 31, for the MA in Rhetoric and Writing.

Students will take the same raw number of courses as before; this change purely takes into account the smaller number of credit hours produced by those courses after changing the credit hour value of English Department seminars.

<i>Degree Programs Curriculum Changes</i>			
Current Name	Changes	Justification	Form
MA Lang/Lit	reduce coursework to 30 credit hours	reflect changes to seminar credit hours	Form C
MA Medieval	reduce coursework to 33 credit hours	reflect changes to seminar credit hours	Form C
MA RW	reduce coursework to 31 credit hours	reflect changes to seminar credit hours	Form C

Rationale For Changes in Number of Hours Required
for English M.A. Concentration in Rhetoric and Writing

English Department graduate seminars are currently 4-credit-hour courses, and the calculations for the number of required credit hours to earn an M.A. in English with the concentration in Rhetoric and Writing are based on that number. Following the administration's request to bring English graduate seminars in line with the rest of the University's seminars, the English Department faculty voted to reduce the credit-hour value for English graduate seminars from four to three; Forms A have been submitted for each seminar requesting this change. As a consequence of those changes, graduate students will take the same number of courses to fulfill their degree requirements but produce fewer credit hours than before the change. This Form C requests slight revisions to the requirements of the English M.A. Concentration in Rhetoric and Writing to reflect the three-credit-hour value of English graduate seminars. These slight revisions will correct the calculations so that the total number of credit hours required to earn the degree will match what the students will actually earn with the seminars' credit-hour-value reduced to three.

Information Regarding Workload, Long-term Planning, and Budget Analysis

The department does not foresee that this change will create a need for any new faculty, nor will it increase workload. There will be no foreseeable increase of the budget. In fact, the change to seminars' credit hours and the consequent recalculation of degree program requirements will avoid intermittent problems with graduate student funding and make it easier for graduate students to finish their degree programs in a timely fashion.