

**DEGREE/PROGRAM CHANGE
FORM C
Form Number: C1999**

Fields marked with * are required

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Associated Forms exist? Initiator's Title
Faculty Contact Administrative Contact
Department Admin Email
Branch Admin Phone

Proposed effective term

Semester Year

Course Information

Select Appropriate Program
Name of New or Existing Program
Select Category Degree Type
Select Action

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 Lit 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)

[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.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 Language and Literature (32 credit hours)

The Master of Arts with a concentration in Language and Literature emphasizes research and writing, innovation and tradition, in order to promote well-rounded scholars in British, Irish, and American literature; literary history, criticism, and theory; and language theory. The combination of course work and the multi-optioned portfolio enables M.A. students in Language and Literature to develop areas of special emphasis, while ensuring a broad understanding of a variety of historical fields. Applicants should already possess a Bachelor's degree in English or a closely related discipline.

The degree requires 32 credit hours of course work; competency in a language other than English; and a portfolio (ENGL 596). All students work under Plan II (no thesis), as described below.

The 32 credit hours of course work are distributed across core and distribution requirements as follows:

- 9 credit hours of core requirements: Introduction to the Professional Study of English (ENGL 500); Pedagogy (ENGL 530, 533, 534 or 592); and Theory (ENGL 510, 511, 610 or 541 when taught from a theoretical perspective).
- 20 credit hours of area electives, with at least one course from each of four areas: 1) the Middle Ages, 2) the Early Modern/Contact Period, 3) the Long Nineteenth Century, and 4) Modern and Contemporary.
- 3 credit hours of Portfolio (ENGL 596).

In completing these course requirements, students must take at least two four credit hour seminars. Students must form a Committee on Studies (COS) at the beginning of their second semester; the COS advises the students on course selection and on portfolio preparation. First semester MA in Language and Literature students should consult with the Associate Chair of Graduate Studies for advisement on course selection and the appointment of the COS. In the semester before graduation, students begin preparing a portfolio of work under the direction of their COS. In the semester of graduation, students enroll in ENGL 596, "Portfolio," for 3 credit hours. In addition to the essays and other works, the portfolio must include a ten- to fifteen-page preface situating the portfolio selections in a critical, theoretical, historical, or professional context. Students defend their portfolio before the COS no later than the end of the tenth week of the final semester.

PROPOSED CATALOG REQUIREMENTS:

M.A. Concentration in Language and Literature (30 credit hours)

The Master of Arts with a concentration in Language and Literature emphasizes research and writing, innovation and tradition, in order to promote well-rounded scholars in British, Irish, and American literature; literary history, criticism, and theory; and language theory. The combination of course work and the multi-optioned portfolio enables M.A. students in Language and Literature to develop areas of special emphasis, while ensuring a broad understanding of a variety of historical fields. Applicants should already possess a Bachelor's degree in English or a closely related discipline.

The degree requires 30 credit hours of course work; competency in a language other than English; and a portfolio (ENGL 596). All students work under Plan II (no thesis), as described below.

The 30 credit hours of course work are distributed across core and distribution requirements as follows:

- 9 credit hours of core requirements: Introduction to the Professional Study of English (ENGL 500); Pedagogy (ENGL 530, 533, 534 or 592); and Theory (ENGL 510, 511, 610 or 541 when taught from a theoretical perspective).
- 18 credit hours of area electives, with at least one course from each of four areas: 1) the Middle Ages, 2) the Early Modern/Contact Period, 3) the Long Nineteenth Century, and 4) Modern and Contemporary.
- 3 credit hours of Portfolio (ENGL 596).

In completing these course requirements, students must take at least two 600-level seminars. Students must form a Committee on Studies (COS) at the beginning of their second semester; the COS advises the students on course selection and on portfolio preparation. First semester MA in Language and Literature students should consult with the Associate Chair of Graduate Studies for advisement on course selection and the appointment of the COS. In the semester before graduation, students begin preparing a portfolio of work under the direction of their COS. In the semester of graduation, students enroll in ENGL 596, "Portfolio," for 3 credit hours. In addition to the essays and other works, the portfolio must include a ten- to fifteen-page preface situating the portfolio selections in a critical, theoretical, historical, or professional context. Students defend their portfolio before the COS no later than the end of the tenth week of the final semester.

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 Language and Literature

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 Language and Literature 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 Language and Literature 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.