

MA Program

The MA program concentrates on English and American literatures and other topics relevant to these areas. The program requires a thesis in addition to a minimum of 30 credits of course work. The candidate must have passed a Reading List Examination (Qualifying Examination) before submitting the thesis, which requires an oral defense. Completion of this program takes one to four years.

MA Program Regulations

Revised and Passed by May 31, 2023, Curriculum Committee Meeting

Presented at June 15, 2023, Departmental Affairs Meeting

I. Coursework

1. MA students in the program must complete 30 credits of coursework, excluding the thesis. Required courses are as follows:
 - (1) Research Methodology and Academic Writing I (3 credits) and Research Methodology and Academic Writing II (2 credits). The first course should be taken before the second course. Research Methodology and Academic Writing II is a Pass / No Pass course.
 - (2) At least 3 credits from Group 1, synchronic literary theory and methodology, e.g. Hermeneutics (3 credits), Psychoanalysis (3 credits), Ideological Literary Criticism (3 credits), Linguistic Textual Analysis (3 credits).
 - (3) At least 3 credits from Group 2, diachronic historical periods and individual authors, e.g. Seminar on the Medieval Period (3 credits), Renaissance Drama (3 credits), Chaucer Studies (3 credits), Seminar on Shakespeare (3 credits), Milton Studies (3 credits), Romantic Poetry (3 credits), Origins of the Novel (3 credits).
 - (4) At least 3 credits from Group 3, synchronic genre, theme, inter-genre, and cultural studies, e.g. Utopian Literature (3 credits), Pastoral Poetry (3 credits), Literature and Religion (3 credits), Film Analysis (3 credits), Literary Translation Studies (3 credits).
 - (5) Second foreign language (no credit). For all graduate students in the program who have completed one year or more of second foreign language coursework in a university accredited by the Ministry of Education, and who have received a score of 70 or above in each term, this requirement may be waived with proof of scores prior to the beginning of classes. Those who have not undertaken coursework in a second foreign language must complete one year of a second foreign language course at this university and pass with a score of 70 or above.

2. Considering the actual needs of students, the department may offer independent study courses (1 credit) for students. In order to enroll in an independent study course, students must seek the agreement of the thesis advisor and an individual professor, and submit the independent study course syllabus to the department chair for approval before the application deadline. Each student may take an independent study course only once during the entire course of study. Application deadlines for the independent study course are July 31 for the first term, and December 31 for the second term.
3. With approval from the department chair, students who have not gone on exchange may take up to 6 extra-departmental credits; students who have gone on exchange may take up to 9 exchange credits (including 6 credits from local graduate programs). The courses taken will not be considered as substitutes for required courses.
4. Students may enroll in a maximum of 12 course credits each term. Enrollment in more courses is not allowed without permission from the department chair.
5. Students can apply to transfer up to 6 graduate credits, subject to the department chair's approval. Graduate courses taken from other universities will count as extra-departmental credits and as elective courses, subject to the department chair's approval.

II. Thesis Supervisor

As a rule, thesis supervisors of graduate students are full-time faculty members at this university, ranking assistant professor or above. In certain cases, with approval from the department chair, **an adjunct assistant professor or above may co-supervise an advisee with full-time faculty members.** After finding a thesis supervisor, the student should submit a thesis supervision agreement form to the department office.

III. MA Thesis

The thesis is a requirement equivalent to 0 credits of coursework.

The MA thesis should be on a topic relevant to English or American literature, or other topics relevant to these areas approved by the dissertation supervisor(s) and the department chair; it should be written in English, be 60 pages or longer (bibliography included), typewritten or computer-printed, and formatted according to the most recent edition of the *MLA Handbook*. After successful completion of the thesis defense, the thesis should be bound according to university regulations.

Before starting work on the thesis, students must pass the qualifying exam/ proposal oral examination. Students must submit two copies of the thesis proposal approved by the supervisor to the department chair, who will appoint one to two relevant faculty members, together with the thesis supervisor, to examine the proposal. After the successful completion of the oral examination, the student may register for the degree examination.

Articles or papers that have been published or presented elsewhere may be included in the thesis, but it is necessary to give credits in the Acknowledgements section and to include a note at the title of the chapter in question. Special attention should be paid to copyright issues.

IV. Degree Examination

1. The registration dates for the degree examination are set and announced by the university each semester. **As a rule, students should not go abroad for exchange or internship in the semester when the thesis defense is held. In certain cases, with approval from the supervisor, students can hold the thesis defense while going abroad for exchange or internship.**
2. When registering, the student must submit a registration form accompanied by one copy of the student's academic transcript, and the thesis draft and abstract as approved by the supervisor.
3. At least one member of the thesis defense committee should come from outside the department.
4. Students must submit the Statement of Academic Ethics and Originality Comparison to the Department Office before graduation.
5. After the thesis defense, revisions in the thesis must be clearly annotated and elucidated. The revisions must be approved by all members of the thesis defense committee; a written approval form with their signatures must be submitted to the department office within the stipulated time frame before the candidate may proceed to graduation. Any disputes that arise will be deferred to the department chair.
6. The degree examination is held according to the University Regulations on Doctorate and Master's Degree Examinations.

V. Students can in total take up to two teaching assistantships or department-funded administrative assistantships.

VI. These regulations are implemented after being passed by the Course Committee and presented at the Departmental Affairs Meeting. When revised, the same procedures will apply.

Passed by April 29, 2009, Curriculum Committee Meeting

Passed by December 30, 2009, Curriculum Committee Meeting

Revised and Passed by March 3, 2010, Departmental Affairs Meeting

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Passed by March 28, 2012, Curriculum Committee Meeting

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Passed by March 6, 2013, Curriculum Committee Meeting

Presented at April 17, 2013, Departmental Affairs Meeting

Passed by March 12, 2014, Curriculum Committee Meeting

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Presented at September 28, 2022, Departmental Affairs Meeting