

## ENGLISH (EN)

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John S. McBratney	Chair, 19th-Century British Literature
George B. Bilgere	Creative Writing (Poetry); Modern Poetry
Emily Butler	Medieval Literature; History of the Book
Jeanne M. Colleran	Dean; Drama; 20 <sup>th</sup> -Century British Literature
John Day	Provost & Academic Vice President; Renaissance Literature
Kate Haffey	20 <sup>th</sup> -Century British Literature; Queer Studies; Narrative Theory
Thomas L. Hayes	18th-Century British Literature
Peter Kvidera	Associate Dean; 19 <sup>th</sup> - & 20 <sup>th</sup> -Century American Literature
David M. La Guardia	American Literature
Brian K. Macaskill	Literary Theory; 20 <sup>th</sup> -Century Anglophone Literatures
Philip J. Metres III	20th-Century American Literature; Creative Writing (Poetry)
Maryclaire Moroney	Associate Dean; Renaissance Literature
Alissa Nutting	Creative Writing (Fiction)
Thomas Pace	Rhetorical Theory; Composition Studies; Renaissance Literature
Debra J. Rosenthal	Director, Graduate Studies; 19th-Century American Literature
Maria Soriano	Composition and Writing Center Studies

Our graduate students arrive with the passion and ambition to learn about English-language literature, and leave with the ability to put their knowledge to use in rewarding careers.

The Master of Arts program in English invites applicants from any accredited college or university who wish to pursue graduate studies in British, American, and Anglophone literatures. The M.A. in English is designed to provide a broad background in English literatures and to introduce students to methods of critical analysis and scholarship. John Carroll's Master of Arts students benefit from a comprehensive selection of course offerings, providing in-depth study of literature. The program allows ample opportunity to improve students' research and writing skills so that our graduates can make exemplary contributions to their chosen fields, whether that means doctoral programs, university or secondary-school teaching, or a host of other careers in which critical thinking and skillful communication are prized.

Our program also offers paid Graduate Assistant positions. Supported by close faculty mentoring, Graduate Assistants develop their professional capacities by teaching in the classroom and tutoring in the John Carroll Writing Center.

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### Admission Requirements

Admission to the Master's program in English depends on a favorable evaluation of the applicant's undergraduate record, GRE scores (general only) for those applying for a Graduate Assistantship (applicants not applying for a Graduate Assistantship do not need to send GRE scores), two recommendations from undergraduate professors, the applicant's statement of purpose, and a sample of scholarly writing. Applicants should normally have a GPA in their major of at least 3.0. Undergraduate studies usually must have included six upper-division courses (18 hours) in English and American literature. Although applications for admission are accepted until one month before the start of the semester in which an applicant wishes to enroll, early application is recommended. Inquiries regarding Graduate Assistantships should be made directly to the department. Applications for assistantships, along with all supporting documents and test scores, must be submitted to the Office of Graduate Studies by March 1.

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The department offers two plans of study leading to the M.A. degree:

1. Plan A, which requires at least eight courses together with a comprehensive exam and a thesis; or
2. Plan B, which requires at least ten courses together with a comprehensive exam and an essay.

Students taking Plan B have the option of including one of two writing tracks in their degree program: Creative Writing or Composition and Rhetorical Studies.

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### 1. Course Requirements

Students are required to take at least three courses that examine pre-Romantic materials, and at least three courses that examine materials from the Romantics onwards. Students who have selected one of the writing tracks will substitute writing workshops or related classes for four courses in literary periods. Students in Plan A may take only one course at the 400 level; students in Plan B may take up to three courses at the 400 level.

### 2. Comprehensive Exam

Students choose one area for the comprehensive exam from seven historical time periods. Those completing the Creative Writing Track or Composition and Rhetoric Track will take the exam corresponding to that track. See the [MA Reading List](#) for the exam list in each area.

### 3. Essay or Thesis

Those completing eight courses (Plan A) write a thesis of 60 to 100 pages; those completing ten courses (Plan B) write an essay of 25 to 35 pages. Those completing a creative project under Plan B may write a longer final project—up to 100 pages—especially if that project is in prose.

More details can be obtained in the Master of Arts in English Handbook available in the Department of English.

## Graduate Assistant Scholarships

### *Overview:*

Financial aid is available in the form of Graduate Assistantships, including Teaching Assistantships and Research Assistantships.

Graduate Assistants are full-time students, but they provide crucial professional services in the Department of English, and their position carries a high level of responsibility and independence. In their first year, they typically assist a faculty member in a composition course during the first semester of study and then teach one composition course during the second semester. First-year GAs also tutor in the Writing Center. Second-year GAs typically teach one or two composition courses during fall term and one course during the final, or spring, term.

### *Application*

A Department of English faculty committee selects Graduate Assistants from among a pool of applicants. The process is competitive.

Students interested in applying for the position should request application materials from the Office of Graduate Studies. (<http://sites.jcu.edu/graduatestudies>)

The selection committee pays special attention to these materials submitted by applicants:

1. academic writing sample
2. personal statement of the candidate's aims for graduate study
3. evidence that shows preparation for or promise of effective classroom teaching
4. at least two letters of recommendation by former professors.

## COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

**401. ADVANCED POETRY WRITING WORKSHOP 3 cr.** Intense, advanced work in crafting poems.

**402. ADVANCED FICTION WRITING WORKSHOP 3 cr.** Intense, advanced work in crafting short stories.

**403. SPECIAL TOPICS WRITING WORKSHOP 3 cr.** Topic of special writing projects announced in advance.

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- 404. ADVANCED CREATIVE NON-FICTION WORKSHOP 3 cr.** Intense, advanced work in creative non-fiction prose.
- 411. STUDIES IN MEDIEVAL LITERATURE 3 cr.** Selected issues, authors, and genres of literature of the Middle Ages; specific topic announced in advance.
- 412. MEDIEVAL DRAMA 3 cr.** Detailed examination of medieval drama.
- 416. CHAUCER 3 cr.** Detailed examination of the “first English poet.”
- 421. STUDIES IN RENAISSANCE LITERATURE 3 cr.** Selected issues, authors, and genres of the Renaissance period; specific topic announced in advance.
- 422. STUDIES IN SHAKESPEARE 3 cr.** Selected studies of Shakespearean drama and/or poetry; specific topic announced in advance.
- 425. MILTON 3 cr.** Detailed examination of the major poetry and selected prose.
- 430. STUDIES IN EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY LITERATURE 3 cr.** Specialized study of issues, authors, and genres of literature of eighteenth-century England; specific topic announced in advance.
- 431. DRAMA OF THE RESTORATION AND EIGHTEENTH CENTURY 3 cr.** English drama from Davenant to Sheridan, with emphasis on the stage as a reflection of the period.
- 432. THE ENGLISH NOVEL: DEFOE THROUGH AUSTEN 3 cr.** History, changing patterns, and techniques of English novel writing in the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries.
- 441. STUDIES IN ROMANTIC LITERATURE 3 cr.** Specialized study of Romantic literature; specific topic announced in advance.
- 445. BRITISH WOMEN WRITERS SINCE 1800 3 cr.** Examination of formal experiments and thematic concerns of major artists, with particular attention to the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.
- 453. KEATS 3 cr.** Examination of the poetry of John Keats.
- 454. STUDIES IN VICTORIAN LITERATURE 3 cr.** Specialized study of Victorian literature; specific topic announced in advance.
- 458. DICKENS 3 cr.** The major novels, with a study of their backgrounds, art, and language.
- 459. THE ENGLISH NOVEL: DICKENS THROUGH HARDY 3 cr.** Examination of nineteenth-century British fiction, particularly the novel.
- 460. STUDIES IN MODERN BRITISH LITERATURE 3 cr.** Specialized study of twentieth-century literature; specific topic announced in advance.
- 461. STUDIES IN CONTEMPORARY BRITISH LITERATURE 3 cr.** Specialized study of contemporary British literature; specific topic announced in advance.
- 470. STUDIES IN NINETEENTH-CENTURY AMERICAN LITERATURE 3 cr.** Specialized study of nineteenth-century American literature; specific topic announced in advance.
- 471. STUDIES IN TWENTIETH-CENTURY AMERICAN LITERATURE 3 cr.** Specialized study of twentieth-century American literature; specific topic announced in advance.
- 472. STUDIES IN AFRICAN AMERICAN LITERATURE 3 cr.** Specific topic announced in advance.
- 473. FAULKNER 3 cr.** Examination of his major writings as well as their background and cultural context.

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- 474. AMERICAN POETRY 3 cr.** Major American poets from Whitman to the present.
- 480. STUDIES IN POSTCOLONIAL LITERATURES 3 cr.** Study of literary texts from formerly colonized nations in Africa, Asia, or elsewhere; specific topic announced in advance.
- 481. STUDIES IN IRISH LITERATURE 3 cr.** Specific topic announced in advance.
- 482. STUDIES IN CONTEMPORARY POETRY 3 cr.** Specific topic announced in advance.
- 483. STUDIES IN CONTEMPORARY THEATRE 3 cr.** Specific topic announced in advance.
- 484. STUDIES IN CONTEMPORARY FICTION 3 cr.** Specific topic announced in advance.
- 485. CONTEMPORARY ENGLISH GRAMMAR 3 cr.** Study of contemporary theories of English grammar. Focuses on ways of learning and thinking about grammar with respect to contemporary English usage.
- 486. STUDIES IN MODERN DRAMA 3 cr.** Specific topic announced in advanced.
- 488. HISTORY OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE 3 cr.** Study of the sounds, forms, and syntax of Early, Middle, Early Modern, and Modern English.
- 489. STUDIES IN RHETORIC AND COMPOSITION 3 cr.** Study of rhetoric, composition theory, and pedagogy, including a practicum.
- 490. HISTORY OF LITERARY THEORY AND CRITICISM 3 cr.** Elements of literary theory, and a survey of the major theorists from Plato to the present.
- 491. FEMINIST LITERARY CRITICISM 3 cr.** Study of various theories of feminist literary criticism.
- 495. CRITICAL PRACTICE 3 cr.** Survey of options available to literary critics of the twentieth century, and practice in the application of criticism to literary texts.
- 496. FRAMED NARRATIVES: NOVEL AND CINEMA 3 cr.** Structural and thematic functions of pictorial and narrative frameworks in film and novel.
- 497. HOPKINS SEMINAR 3 cr.** Advanced, special seminar in literature or creative writing taught by the visiting Hopkins Professor; specific topic announced in advance.
- 498. INDEPENDENT STUDY 1-3 cr.** Consent of project advisor and department chair. Special projects in literature or creative writing. Projects must be approved before registration. See chair for forms and guidelines.
- 499. SPECIAL STUDIES 1-3 cr.** Selected topics announced in advance.
- 501. ADVANCED POETRY WRITING WORKSHOP 3 cr.** Intense, advanced work in crafting poems.
- 502. ADVANCED FICTION WRITING WORKSHOP 3 cr.** Intense, advanced work in crafting short stories.
- 503. SPECIAL TOPICS WRITING WORKSHOP 3 cr.** Topic of special writing projects announced in advance.
- 504. ADVANCED CREATIVE NON-FICTION WORKSHOP 3 cr.** Intense, advanced work in creative non-fiction prose.
- 510. READINGS IN OLD ENGLISH 3 cr.** Selected prose and poetry, with requisite linguistic study.
- 511. STUDIES IN MEDIEVAL LITERATURE 3 cr.** Prose and poetry of the later Middle Ages. Study of selected works, emphasizing literary and linguistic development.

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**520. STUDIES IN SIXTEENTH-CENTURY LITERATURE 3 cr.** Critical examination of selected authors against the literary and philosophical background of the Renaissance.

**522. STUDIES IN SHAKESPEARE 3 cr.** Study of the plays, poetry, and criticism; specific topic announced in advance.

**524. EARLIER SEVENTEENTH CENTURY 3 cr.** Critical examination of selected poets and prose writers of the period 1603-1660.

**533. ENGLISH LITERATURE, 1660-1798 3 cr.** Representative selections from neo-classicism and other eighteenth-century movements, including drama and fiction.

**540. STUDIES IN THE ROMANTIC PERIOD 3 cr.** Literature of the Romantic period.

**550. STUDIES IN THE VICTORIAN PERIOD 3 cr.** Selected readings in poetry, prose, and drama.

**560. STUDIES IN MODERN BRITISH LITERATURE 3 cr.** Major British writers, from 1890 to 1950.

**561. STUDIES IN CONTEMPORARY BRITISH LITERATURE 3 cr.** Literature since 1950.

**565. STUDIES IN MODERN POETRY 3 cr.** Critical reading of selected British and American poetry since 1900.

**570. STUDIES IN NINETEENTH-CENTURY AMERICAN LITERATURE 3 cr.** Selected studies in the works of American authors of the nineteenth century.

**572. STUDIES IN AMERICAN REALISM 3 cr.** Selected studies in the period 1860-1900.

**573. STUDIES IN MODERN AMERICAN LITERATURE 3 cr.** Selected readings in poetry, drama, and fiction since 1900.

**580. SPECIAL TOPICS 1-3 cr.** In-depth study of a special topic in either classroom or workshop form or as an individual project under supervision. Department approval required.

**589. STUDIES IN RHETORIC AND COMPOSITION 3 cr.** Study of rhetoric, composition theory, and composition pedagogy, including a practicum.

**590. HISTORY OF LITERARY THEORY AND CRITICISM 3 cr.** Elements of literary theory, and a survey of the major theorists from Plato to the early twentieth century.

**595. CRITICAL PRACTICE 3 cr.** Survey of options available to literary critics of the twentieth century, and practice in the application of criticism to literary texts.

**596. FRAMED NARRATIVES: NOVEL AND CINEMA 3 cr.** Structural and thematic functions of pictorial and narrative frameworks in film and novel.

**599. MASTER'S THESIS 6 cr. upon approval.**