

Master of Arts (MA)

The Master of Arts in English Studies offers a broad range of courses in literature, rhetoric, theory, and creative writing that not only deepen students' understanding of classic and modern humanist texts, but also provide much needed opportunities for developing critical and creative thinking, crucial to understanding the complexities of our global world. Such development prepares students for a continually evolving workplace that now serves as the norm. This program prepares students for doctoral work, for teaching at community colleges, and for entry into other advanced professional schools.

Master of Art in English: English Studies candidates deepen their understanding of fundamental texts in British, American and World literatures, language principles and critical theory. They also hone their critical and creative writing skills. The program consists of 36 credit hours, comprised of 18 core credit hours, 9 credit hours of other required courses, and 9 elective credit hours. Considerable latitude within these three categories allows students the opportunity to design their programs for entry into doctoral or professional school, for teaching at the high school or community college level, or to prepare for a virtually limitless number of non-teaching professions.

Becoming Career Ready...

- /Students will critically analyze British, American and World literatures and language.
- /Students use a wide array of critical theory.
- /Students engage in primary and secondary research.
- /Students develop critical thinking.
- /Students develop critical and/or creative writing skills.
- /Students develop professional presentation skills.
- /Students receive professional attention from a faculty advisor with expertise in the field of literature and language.

Why should I study English Studies at Southeast?

Faculty in the English Studies option at Southeast come from a varied and impressive array of graduate schools from around the United States, which makes for a rich and diverse educational experience. Such diversity is necessary for the development of critical and creative thinking that will guide candidates to further academic and/or professional programs, or for work in a global workplace.

Career Planning

Graduates of the Master of Arts in English: English Studies option can look forward to rewarding careers in teaching (at the high school or community college level). They may also continue their education in doctoral or professional programs. They may also apply their critical and creative thinking skills in the workforce in areas such publishing or in the business sector.

Internship and Employment of Recent Graduates/Graduate Schools and Programs of Recent Graduates

- High school teachers
- Community college and university instructors
- Ph.D. programs
- Law school programs
- Library science programs
- Government and non-profit organizations
- Editing in publishing
- Marketing and advertising

Admission Requirements

- 1.** A bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university
- 2.** An undergraduate grade point average of at least 2.5 on a 4.0 point scale
- 3.** A minimum of 24 undergraduate credit hours in the field of English

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This is a guide based on the 2020-2021 Graduate Bulletin and is subject to change. The time it takes to earn a degree will vary based on factors such as dual enrollment, remediation, and summer enrollment. Students meet with an academic advisor each semester and use Degree Works to monitor their progress.

CURRICULUM CHECKLIST**English: English Studies Option – 36 hours****Core Requirements**

- ___ EN601 Research in English Studies (3)
- ___ LI500-600 Choose any two 500 or 600 level LI courses (6)

Choose one theory/linguistics course:

- ___ EN500 History of the English Language (3)
- ___ EN535 Rhetorical Theory and Written Discourse (3)
- ___ EN686 Sociolinguistics (3)
- ___ LI605 Contemporary Anglophone Literature/Contemporary Theory (3)
- ___ LI658 Literary Criticism (3)

Choose two writing courses:

- ___ EN550 Style in Writing (3)
- ___ EN572 Creative Non-Fiction Essay (3)
- ___ EN670 Advanced Creative Writing: Poetry (3)
- ___ EN678 Advanced Creative Writing: Fiction (3)

Electives – 9 hours*

- ___ EN694 Thesis (3)*
- ___ LI615 Teaching Practicum in Literature (3)
- OR
- ___ EN615 Teaching Practicum in Writing (3)
- ___ Independent Study (3)
- ___ Additional literature courses at the 500-600 level
- ___ Additional writing courses at the 500-600 level
- ___ Additional theory or linguistics courses at the 500-600 level
- ___ Teaching assistant seminars (6)

English Studies Option Requirements - 9 hours

Choose one British literature course before 1800:

- ___ LI560 Chaucer (3)
- ___ LI577 Studies in Early English Literature (3)
- ___ LI665 Shakespeare (3)

Choose one British literature course after 1800:

- ___ LI578 Studies in Later English Literature (3)
- ___ LI605 Contemporary Anglophone Literature/Contemporary Theory (3)
- ___ LI676 Early 20th-Century British Literature (3)

Choose one American literature course:

- ___ LI565 Southern Literature (3)
- ___ LI568 Nineteenth Century American Novel (3)
- ___ LI570 Modern and Contemporary Novel (3)
- ___ LI571 Modern American Poetry (3)
- ___ LI576 American Fiction, Twenty-First Century (3)
- ___ LI621 Cross-Cultural American Voices (3)
- ___ LI674 Studies in Modern American Literature (3)

**Students may take up to three hours from EN694-697, up to three hours from LI679-681, and cannot take both EN615 and LI615 for elective credit.*

Degree Requirements

- All students must complete a thesis, a graduate paper plus a comprehensive exam, or a capstone project.
- No course taken as part of an undergraduate degree program may fulfill any MA requirement.
- EN694 Thesis may be taken for 3 credit hours only (for those opting to write a thesis).
- At least 18 credit hours must be at the 600 level.
- No course fulfills more than one requirement.