

MEMORANDUM

TO: College of Arts and Humanities Curriculum Committee

FROM: Department of English

RE: Proposed Program Revisions

DATE: April 11, 2018

The Department of English requests approval to implement a number of revisions to the MA English curriculum and the corresponding Graduate Catalogue language. Our goal is to accomplish three things: facilitate smoother navigation of the curriculum by students, accommodate the offering of a proposed fully online English MA degree option, and meet the needs of working professionals earning their English MA in a fully online capacity.

The most salient changes we propose are to:

- 1) suspend—and remove from the Graduate Catalogue—the Professional Writing concentration per the Professional Writing Committee’s recommendations
- 2) replace the Exam Option (36 total credit hours) with a new Non-Thesis Option (33 total credit hours)
- 3) standardize the required minimum credit hours to 33 total credit hours (for the Literary Studies Concentration and the Composition/Rhetoric Concentration) and 34 total credit hours (for the Literary Studies with an Emphasis in Creative Writing Concentration)
- 4) remove ENG 5500 (the 1-credit hour Writing Center Practicum required of all Graduate Assistants) from the courses falling under the restricted category: “A maximum of 9 semester hours in combination of independent study, research, or thesis may be applied to a degree.”

ATTACHMENTS:

Current Catalogue Copy marked up with proposed changes (pages 2-8)

Clean Catalogue Copy incorporating changes (pages 9-11)

Effective Term/Year: Fall 2018

CURRENT CATALOGUE LANGUAGE: English Graduate Program

NOTE: This marked-up draft shows changes made to the current catalogue language. Yellow highlighting indicates minor changes and blue highlighting indicates more substantive changes.

Program Mission: The Master of Arts in English offers students opportunities to pursue advanced training in one of ~~four~~ **three** areas of concentration: Literary Studies, Literary Studies with Creative Writing emphasis, **and** Composition/Rhetoric ~~and Professional Writing~~. The program will prepare students for careers in a variety of fields, including secondary and college-level teaching, editing and publishing, **creative writing**, research and technical writing in either the private or the public sector. Master of Arts graduates will also be prepared to undertake further study at the doctoral level. Close contact with the department's excellent graduate faculty allows students to deepen their knowledge of literary study, the teaching of writing and literature, and the use of technology for both scholarly and practical research. Graduate assistantships, internships, mentorships, and some classroom teaching are available and integrated into students' individualized programs of study.

Admission Requirements: To be eligible for degree candidacy, applicants must meet all of the requirements for admission to the Graduate School (see "[Admission to Graduate Degree and Certificate Programs](#)"). ~~A GRE score may be submitted but is not required for admission.~~ The following ~~will be~~ **is** required on the program application accessed **and submitted** through MyEIU:

- **two** letters of recommendation: Provide email addresses for two recommenders
- ~~Personal~~ **statement of purpose**: Upload a statement of 500-750 words that explains your reasons for undertaking graduate study, your academic preparation, your interests and goals.
- **writing sample**: Upload a **writing sample of no more than thirty pages in length** ~~critical writing~~ that shows us your ability to think and write critically on one of the following: 1) a subject related to English; 2) the academic interests you intend to pursue in graduate school; 3) an area of study in which you have research and writing experience. Students interested in the Creative Writing concentration are strongly encouraged to upload a creative writing sample **in addition to the critical writing sample**. ~~Your sample should be no more than 20 pages in length.~~
- ~~Upload a~~ curriculum vitae or résumé.
- **international students must also document a minimum TOEFL score of at least 600 (paper-based), 250 (computer-based), or 100 (internet-based)**

Degree Audit: The graduate plan of study is the EIU Degree Audit, which is generated automatically in the Degree Audit Reporting System (DARS) at the time of degree or certificate candidacy. Modifications of the standard EIU Degree Audit are submitted by the graduate coordinator to the certification officer in the Graduate School at the time modifications are approved. The Degree Audit serves as an unofficial summary of requirements for the program. Degree and certificate candidates are advised to review the comprehensive summary of the Degree Audit process specified on the "Requirements for All Degree and Certificate Candidates" section of the Graduate Catalog. Individual programs may require candidates to submit plans of study in addition to the Degree Audit; candidates should consult with the program coordinator.

Degree Requirements

Degree requirements include those outlined for the master's degree by the Graduate School (see "[Requirements for the Master's Degree](#)"). A maximum of 9 **12** semester hours earned in scheduled English courses numbered 4750-4999 and/or (with prior approval) of courses numbered 5000 and above in other departments can be applied towards the Master of Arts in English. Degree candidates in

English must meet all degree requirements stipulated by the Graduate School.

~~In addition,~~ The Master of Arts in English requires either satisfactory completion of 33 total semester hours. Students choose either the **Thesis Option**, which requires 27-30 hours of coursework and a 3-6-hour thesis course (ENG 5950), or the **Non-Thesis Option**, which requires 33 hours of coursework. ~~passing a comprehensive examination,~~ All students are required to take Introduction to Methods and Issues in English Studies (ENG 5000) and required courses specific to one of three concentrations: Literary Studies, Literary Studies with a Creative Writing Emphasis, or Composition/Rhetoric.

Students with competitively-awarded Graduate Assistantships are required to work in EIU's Writing Center and must take these graduate courses in addition to their elective courses, regardless of the chosen concentration:

- [ENG 5000 - Introduction to Methods and Issues in English Studies](#). Credits: 3
- [ENG 5007 - Composition Theory and Pedagogy](#). Credits: 3
- [ENG 5500 - Practicum in Writing Center Theory and Practice](#) Credits: 1
- [*ENG 5502 - Mentored Composition Teaching](#) Credits: 3 (only required for graduate assistants who want to be considered for a competitive teaching assignment in year 2)

Concentrations for the Master of Arts in English

Literary Studies

~~The required courses for the 30-hour option with the thesis and the 33-hour option with written comprehensive exams are listed below:~~

~~30-Hour Option plus Thesis Required Courses~~

~~Curriculum for Candidates Not Holding Assistantships~~

~~Total Hours with Exam~~ **for Thesis Option**. Credits: **33 to 36**

- [ENG 5000 - Introduction to Methods and Issues in English Studies](#). Credits: 3
- Literature Courses. Credits: 18
- Electives. Credits: **6 to 9**
- ENG 5950 - Thesis. Credits: 3 to 6

~~Curriculum for Candidates Holding Assistantships~~

~~Total Hours with Exam~~ **for Non-Thesis Option**. Credits: **33 to 36**

- [ENG 5000 - Introduction to Methods and Issues in English Studies](#). Credits: 3
- Literature Courses. Credits: **18**
- Electives. Credits: **15 12**
- ~~Thesis. Credits: 3 to 6~~

~~*Students with assistantships who want to be considered for a teaching assignment in year 2 must~~

~~take ENG 5502 as one of their electives.~~

- ~~• [ENG 5000 – Introduction to Methods and Issues in English Studies.](#) Credits: 3~~
- ~~• [ENG 5007 – Composition Theory and Pedagogy.](#) Credits: 3~~
- ~~• [ENG 5500 – Practicum in Writing Center Theory and Practice](#) Credits: 1~~

33-Hour Option plus Exam Required Courses

Curriculum for Candidates Not Holding Assistantships

Total Hours with Exam. Credits: 36

- ~~• Literature Courses. Credits: 18~~
- ~~• Electives. Credits: 12~~
- ~~• Examination/Tutorial. Credits: 3~~
- ~~• [ENG 5000 – Introduction to Methods and Issues in English Studies.](#) Credits: 3~~

Curriculum for Candidates Holding Assistantships

Total Hours with Exam. Credits: 36

- ~~• Literature Courses. Credits: 18~~
- ~~• Electives. Credits: 8*~~
- ~~• Examination/Tutorial. Credits: 3~~

~~*Students with assistantships who want to be considered for a teaching assignment in year 2 must take ENG 5502 as one of their electives.~~

- ~~• [ENG 5000 – Introduction to Methods and Issues in English Studies.](#) Credits: 3~~
- ~~• [ENG 5007 – Composition Theory and Pedagogy.](#) Credits: 3~~
- ~~• [ENG 5500 – Practicum in Writing Center Theory and Practice](#) Credits: 1~~

Literary Studies with Creative Writing Emphasis

~~All candidates in this option must complete a master's thesis. All candidates must complete at least 10 credits of creative writing classes, with at least one creative writing class in the genre chosen for the thesis.~~

30-Hour Option plus Thesis Required Courses

Curriculum for Candidates Not Holding Assistantships

Total Hours with for Thesis Option. Credits: 34 ~~to 37~~

- [ENG 5000 - Introduction to Methods and Issues in English Studies.](#) Credits: 3
- [ENG 5025 - Creative Writing Professional Development](#) Credits: 1
- Additional Creative Writing Courses. Credits: 9
- Literature Courses. Credits: 12

- Electives. Credits: 3 to 6
- ENG 5950 - Thesis. Credits: 3 to 6

Curriculum for Candidates Holding Assistantships

Total Hours with Exam for Non-Thesis Option. Credits: 36 34

- [ENG 5000 - Introduction to Methods and Issues in English Studies.](#) Credits: 3
- [ENG 5025 - Creative Writing Professional Development](#) Credits: 1
- [Additional](#) Creative Writing Courses. Credits: 9
- Literature Courses. Credits: 12
- Electives. Credits: 12 9

**Students with assistantships who want to be considered for a teaching assignment in year 2 must take ENG 5502 as one of their electives.*

- ~~[ENG 5000 - Introduction to Methods and Issues in English Studies.](#) Credits: 3~~
- ~~[ENG 5007 - Composition Theory and Pedagogy.](#) Credits: 3~~
- ~~[ENG 5500 - Practicum in Writing Center Theory and Practice](#) Credits: 1~~
- ~~[ENG 5025 - Creative Writing Professional Development](#) Credits: 1~~

Composition/Rhetoric

The required courses for the 30-hour option with a thesis and the 30-hour option with a comprehensive exam/tutorial are listed below:

30-Hour Option plus Thesis Required Courses

Curriculum for Composition/Rhetoric Candidates Not Holding Assistantships

Total Hours with for Thesis Option. Credits: 33 to 36

- [ENG 5000 - Introduction to Methods and Issues in English Studies.](#) Credits: 3
- [ENG 5007 - Composition Theory and Pedagogy.](#) Credits: 3
- [ENG 5011 - Studies in Composition and Rhetoric](#) Credits: 3
- Electives. Credits: 18 to 21
- ENG 5950 - Thesis. Credits: 3 to 6

Curriculum for Composition/Rhetoric Candidates Holding Assistantships

Total Hours with Exam for Non-Thesis Option. Credits: 33 to 36

- [ENG 5000 - Introduction to Methods and Issues in English Studies.](#) Credits: 3
- [ENG 5007 - Composition Theory and Pedagogy.](#) Credits: 3
- [ENG 5011 - Studies in Composition and Rhetoric](#) Credits: 3
- Electives. Credits: 27 24

**Students with assistantships who want to be considered for a teaching assignment in year 2 must*

~~take ENG 5502 as one of their electives.~~

- ~~• [ENG 5000—Introduction to Methods and Issues in English Studies](#). Credits: 3~~
- ~~• [ENG 5007—Composition Theory and Pedagogy](#). Credits: 3~~
- ~~• [ENG 5011—Studies in Composition and Rhetoric](#). Credits: 3~~
- ~~• *ENG 5502 or ENG 5011 repeated.~~
- ~~• [ENG 5500—Practicum in Writing Center Theory and Practice](#). Credits: 1~~

33-Hour Option plus Exam Required Courses

Curriculum for Candidates Not Holding Assistantships

Total Hours with Exam. Credits: 36

- ~~• Electives. Credits: 21~~
- ~~• Examination/Tutorial. Credits: 3~~
- ~~• [ENG 5000—Introduction to Methods and Issues in English Studies](#). Credits: 3~~
- ~~• [ENG 5007—Composition Theory and Pedagogy](#). Credits: 3~~
- ~~• [ENG 5011—Studies in Composition and Rhetoric](#). Credits: 3~~
- ~~• ENG 5502 or ENG 5011 repeated.~~

Curriculum for Candidates Holding Assistantships

~~Total Hours with Exam. Credits: 36~~

- ~~• Electives. Credits: 20~~
- ~~• Examination/Tutorial. Credits: 3~~

~~*Students with assistantships who want to be considered for a teaching assignment in year 2 must take ENG 5502 as one of their electives.~~

- ~~• [ENG 5000—Introduction to Methods and Issues in English Studies](#). Credits: 3~~
- ~~• [ENG 5007—Composition Theory and Pedagogy](#). Credits: 3~~
- ~~• [ENG 5011—Studies in Composition and Rhetoric](#). Credits: 3~~
- ~~• ENG 5502 or ENG 5011 repeated.~~
- ~~• [ENG 5500—Practicum in Writing Center Theory and Practice](#). Credits: 1~~

Professional Writing

Candidates have the option of completing a traditional thesis, an applied thesis, or an exam. The required courses for the 30-hour option with the thesis and the 33-hour option with written comprehensive exam are listed below:

30-Hour Option plus Thesis Required Courses

Curriculum for Candidates Not Holding Assistantships

Total Hours with Thesis. Credits: 33-36

- Electives. Credits: 15
- Thesis. Credits: 3 to 6
- [ENG 4760—Special Topics in Professional Writing](#) Credits: 3
- [ENG 4765—Professional Editing](#) Credits: 3
- [ENG 5000—Introduction to Methods and Issues in English Studies](#). Credits: 3
- [ENG 5011—Studies in Composition and Rhetoric](#) Credits: 3
- [ENG 5960—Professional Writing Internship](#). Credits: 3

Curriculum for Candidates Holding Assistantships

Total Hours with Thesis. Credits: 33-36

- Electives. Credits: 11*
- Thesis. Credits: 3 to 6

**Students with assistantships who want to be considered for a teaching assignment in year 2 must take ENG 5502 as one of their electives.*

- [ENG 4760—Special Topics in Professional Writing](#) Credits: 3
- [ENG 4765—Professional Editing](#) Credits: 3
- [ENG 5000—Introduction to Methods and Issues in English Studies](#). Credits: 3
- [ENG 5007—Composition Theory and Pedagogy](#). Credits: 3
- [ENG 5011—Studies in Composition and Rhetoric](#) Credits: 3
- [ENG 5500—Practicum in Writing Center Theory and Practice](#) Credits: 1
- [ENG 5960—Professional Writing Internship](#). Credits: 3

33-Hour Option plus Exam Required Courses

Curriculum for Candidates Not Holding Assistantships

Total Hours with Exam. Credits: 36

- Elective. Credits: 18
- Examination/Tutorial. Credits: 3
- [ENG 4760—Special Topics in Professional Writing](#) Credits: 3
- [ENG 4765—Professional Editing](#) Credits: 3
- [ENG 5000—Introduction to Methods and Issues in English Studies](#). Credits: 3
- [ENG 5011—Studies in Composition and Rhetoric](#) Credits: 3
- [ENG 5960—Professional Writing Internship](#). Credits: 3

Curriculum for Candidates Holding Assistantships

Total Hours with Exam. Credit: 36

- Electives. Credits: 14*

- ~~Examination/Tutorial. Credits: 3~~

~~*Students with assistantships who want to be considered for a teaching assignment in year 2 must take ENG 5502 as one of their electives.~~

- ~~ENG 4760 Special Topics in Professional Writing Credits: 3~~
- ~~ENG 4765 Professional Editing Credits: 3~~
- ~~ENG 5000 Introduction to Methods and Issues in English Studies. Credits: 3~~
- ~~ENG 5007 Composition Theory and Pedagogy. Credits: 3~~
- ~~ENG 5011 Studies in Composition and Rhetoric Credits: 3~~
- ~~ENG 5500 Practicum in Writing Center Theory and Practice Credits: 1~~
- ~~ENG 5960 Professional Writing Internship. Credits: 3~~

Graduate Assistantships

Candidates applying for an assistantship must have a GPA of 3.00. Following the instructions specified under Admission Requirements (above), they need to submit to the Coordinator of Graduate Studies the following documents: a completed application form (available on the Graduate School's web site), a statement of purpose, two letters of recommendation, and a writing sample (a critical, professional, or scholarly essay of 5 to no more than 20-30 pages).

For a Graduate Assistantship checklist please visit: http://www.eiu.edu/english/grad_assist_checklist.php

More information on assistantships may be obtained by contacting the Coordinator of Graduate Studies or Chair, Department of English, 3135 Coleman Hall, EIU.

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- [*ENG 5502 - Mentored Composition Teaching](#) Credits: 3 (only required for graduate assistants who want to be considered for a competitive teaching assignment in year 2)

Concentrations for the Master of Arts in English

Literary Studies

Total Hours for Thesis Option. Credits: 33

- [ENG 5000 - Introduction to Methods and Issues in English Studies](#). Credits: 3
- Literature Courses. Credits: 18
- Electives. Credits: 6 to 9
- [ENG 5950 - Thesis](#). Credits: 3 to 6

Total Hours for Non-Thesis Option. Credits: 33

- [ENG 5000 - Introduction to Methods and Issues in English Studies](#). Credits: 3
- Literature Courses. Credits: 18
- Electives. Credits: 12

Literary Studies with a Creative Writing Emphasis

Total Hours for Thesis Option. Credits: 34

- [ENG 5000 - Introduction to Methods and Issues in English Studies](#). Credits: 3
- [ENG 5025 - Creative Writing Professional Development](#) Credits: 1
- Creative Writing Courses. Credits: 9 to 12
- Literature Courses. Credits: 9 to 12
- Electives. Credits: 3 to 6
- [ENG 5950 - Thesis](#). Credits: 3 to 6

Total Hours for Non-Thesis Option. Credits: 34

- [ENG 5000 - Introduction to Methods and Issues in English Studies](#). Credits: 3
- [ENG 5025 - Creative Writing Professional Development](#) Credits: 1
- Creative Writing Courses. Credits: 9 to 12
- Literature Courses. Credits: 9 to 12
- Electives. Credits: 9

Composition/Rhetoric

Total Hours for Thesis Option. Credits: 33

- [ENG 5000 - Introduction to Methods and Issues in English Studies.](#) Credits: 3
- [ENG 5007 - Composition Theory and Pedagogy.](#) Credits: 3
- [ENG 5011 - Studies in Composition and Rhetoric](#) Credits: 3
- Electives. Credits: 18 to 21
- [ENG 5950 - Thesis.](#) Credits: 3 to 6

Total Hours for Non-Thesis Option. Credits: 33

- [ENG 5000 - Introduction to Methods and Issues in English Studies.](#) Credits: 3
- [ENG 5007 - Composition Theory and Pedagogy.](#) Credits: 3
- [ENG 5011 - Studies in Composition and Rhetoric](#) Credits: 3
- Electives. Credits: 24

Graduate Assistantships

Candidates applying for an assistantship must have a GPA of 3.00. Following the instructions specified under Admission Requirements (above), candidates need to submit to the Coordinator of Graduate Studies the following documents: a completed application form (available on the Graduate School's web site), a statement of purpose, two letters of recommendation, and a writing sample (a critical, professional, or scholarly essay of no more than 30 pages).

More information on assistantships may be obtained by contacting the Coordinator of Graduate Studies or Chair, Department of English, 3135 Coleman Hall, EIU.