

ENGLISH

The English MA program in the School of English and Theatre Studies is designed to provide students with an intensive introduction to graduate-level work in English studies, within a flexible program. Students can draw on the program's strengths in the following fields:

- Studies in Canadian Literatures
- Colonial, Postcolonial and Diasporic Studies
- Early Modern Studies
- Sexuality and Gender Studies
- Transnational Nineteenth-Century Studies.

Students can also pursue a wide range of research topics in consultation with faculty members actively engaged with the literatures of different historical periods and geographical locations, and with current debates in such areas as critical theory, cultural studies, gender studies, and queer theory.

Administrative Staff

Director

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Graduate Faculty

This list may include Regular Graduate Faculty, Associated Graduate Faculty and/or Graduate Faculty from other universities.

Paul Barrett

B.Sc. Toronto (Scarborough), MA McMaster, PhD Queen's - Assistant Professor
Graduate Faculty

Dionne Brand

BA, MA OISE (Toronto) - Professor
Associated Graduate Faculty

Susan Brown

BA King's College and Dalhousie, MA Dalhousie, PhD Alberta - Professor
Graduate Faculty

Julie Cairnie

BA Brock, MA, PhD York - Associate Professor
Graduate Faculty

Gregor Campbell

BA, MA, PhD Toronto - Assistant Professor
Graduate Faculty

Elaine Chang

BA British Columbia, MA, PhD Stanford - Associate Professor
Graduate Faculty

Michelle Ellera

BA Victoria (Wellington), MA Auckland, MA, PhD Cornell - Associate Professor

Graduate Faculty

Jade Ferguson

BA British Columbia, MA, PhD Cornell - Associate Professor
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BA York, MA Alberta, PhD Toronto - Professor
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BFA, MA Concordia, PhD York - Professor
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BA Windsor, MA Toronto, PhD York, LLB Toronto - Professor
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BA Toronto, MA Dalhousie, PhD Toronto - Professor
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BID Manitoba, MFA Massachusetts, MA Royal Central School of Speech and Drama - Assistant Professor
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BA Yale, MFA Miami, MA, PhD Michigan - Associate Professor
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BA Western, MA Toronto, PhD Western - Assistant Professor
Graduate Faculty

Jennifer Schacker

BA McGill, MA, PhD Indiana - Associate Professor
Graduate Faculty

Sandra Singer

BA Trent, MA Queen's, PhD Cambridge - Associate Professor
Graduate Faculty

Ann Wilson

BA, MA, PhD York - Associate Professor
Graduate Faculty

MA Program

Admission Requirements

The normal requirement for admission to the English MA program is the equivalent of an Honours degree in English studies from a recognized institution with at least 78% or higher in the last two years of study. Students with degrees with excellent academic records in other disciplines will also be considered. Successful applicants will be admitted in the Fall Semester, the Program's only entry point. Program offices should be consulted for admission deadlines. If the applicant's first degree was completed in a country where English is not the first language, English-language proficiency must be documented at the time of application.

Program Requirements

Students enrol in one of two study options:

1. course work and major research project, or
2. thesis.

Thesis

Students complete four courses (4 x 0.50 credit); plus a thesis of 20,000 to 25,000 words (80-100 pages).

Course Work and Major Research Project (MRP)

Students complete six courses (6 x 0.50 credit); plus ENGL*6803 Major Research Project.

Collaborative Specializations

International Development Studies

English participates in the International Development Studies (IDS) collaborative specialization. Applicants for this collaborative specialization enter through one of the participating departments; course selections are based, in part, on the applicant's primary discipline. Please consult the International Development Studies listing for a detailed description of the collaborative specialization including the special additional requirements for each of the participating departments.

Courses

The content of the courses listed will vary according to the research interests of the faculty involved in offering the course. Specific course descriptions for a particular offering of the course will be available from the Graduate Program Coordinator one year in advance of the course being offered.

ENGL*6002 Topics in Theory and Culture Unspecified [0.50]

This course deals with various aspects of criticism and theory related to literature, film/media studies and digital humanities, focusing on specific questions each time offered. Content will come from various temporal periods and geographical locations. Topics may include the investigation of a specific critical debate and its treatment.

Department(s): School of English and Theatre Studies

Location(s): Guelph

ENGL*6003 Problems of Literary Analysis Unspecified [0.50]

Variable in content and practical in orientation this course seeks to familiarize the student with particular critical techniques and approaches by applying specific examples of those approaches and methods to particular topics (e.g., cultural studies and renaissance literature, discourse analysis and the Victorian novel, computer-mediated analysis and the theatre of the absurd).

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ENGL*6020 Environmental Writing, Art and Media Unspecified [0.50]

This course draws from different forms of representation concerned with the biosphere and ecological thinking and practice. Theoretical approaches can problematize 'nature', the Anthropocene, environmental humanities and post-humanism. While critical methodologies will be earth-centred and focused on environmental and eco-criticism, these may be combined with other theoretical approaches. Examples of topics include environmental racism, resource extraction, waste disposal and climate change.

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ENGL*6040 Representation and Digital Humanities Unspecified [0.50]

How do contemporary digital humanities engage in representation? This course looks at intersecting concepts, politics, and practices of representation using digital humanities methods and tools. Content may include digital editing; semantic technologies; digital interfaces and platforms; and/or long-form digital argumentation. These technological tools may be considered within the context of big data and their impact on social identities.

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ENGL*6201 Studies in Canadian Literature Unspecified [0.50]

This course involves the study of Canadian literature with an emphasis on understanding works within their social context and exploring the complex sets of relations that shape them. Possible topics can include literary and cultural production of a time-period, specific region or environment, race and diaspora, Indigenous writing or performance, archives and literature and literary history.

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ENGL*6209 Postcoloniality and Decolonization Unspecified [0.50]

This course focuses on postcolonial literatures and forms of representation in response to colonization, including decolonization. Texts can be selected from diverse genres, locations or historical periods, and engage a range of approaches to the study of postcolonial literatures.

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Location(s): Guelph

ENGL*6412 Topics in Medieval/Renaissance Literature Unspecified [0.50]

An examination of the literature of Britain in the medieval and/or early modern periods. Topics may focus on a single author, a specific genre, or relationships between the literary and the cultural.

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Location(s): Guelph

ENGL*6421 Topics in 18-Century and Romantic Literature Unspecified [0.50]

A examination of the literature of Britain between the 17th century and the latter part of the 18th century. Topics may focus on a single author, a specific genre, or relationships between the literary and the cultural.

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Location(s): Guelph

ENGL*6431 Topics in 19-Century Literature Unspecified [0.50]

This course is a study of the literature of Britain, Canada, the United States, or another region from the late 18th century until the start of the First World War. Topics may focus on a single author, a specific genre, or a central critical question.

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ENGL*6441 Topics in Modern British Literature Unspecified [0.50]

A study of the literature of Britain in the twentieth century. This course includes a consideration of the interaction between literature and culture in the period - sometimes through the examination of a specific author, sometimes through the study of a particular genre or issue.

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ENGL*6451 Topics in American Literature Unspecified [0.50]

Topics may include a focus on a single region, such as the American West, on a single time period, such as the Civil War, on a specific genre, such as the novels of frontier women, or other issues in American literary studies.

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ENGL*6611 Studies in Genders and Sexualities Unspecified [0.50]

This course considers representations of genders/sexualities to contextualize their force within literature and/or performance. A range of critical and theoretical approaches will investigate aspects of sex, gender, sexual orientation, race and class.

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ENGL*6621 Children's and Young Adult Literature and Culture Unspecified [0.50]

This course examines cultural materials that target children and young adults - whether books, comics, film, animation, theatre, video games, clothing or toys. It may focus on cultural or historical context. Topics include colonial, postcolonial and anti-colonial literature for children; gender, race and the coming-of-age.

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ENGL*6641 Topics in Scottish Literature Unspecified [0.50]

Courses under this rubric are concerned with the various literatures produced by Scots both within and beyond the boundaries of Scotland. The course could involve the study of a specific genre, the investigation of a specific theme, or the examination of a particular author over the course of her/his career.

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ENGL*6691 Interdisciplinary Studies Unspecified [0.50]

Designed to provide the opportunity to explore alternative fields and modes of critical inquiry, this course tackles various topics emerging from bringing literary studies into dialogue with other forms of intellectual inquiry such as sociology, biology, psychology, history, environmental studies, computer science or geography.

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Location(s): Guelph

ENGL*6801 Reading Course I Unspecified [0.50]

An independent study course, the nature and content of which is agreed upon between the individual student and the person offering the course. Subject to the approval of the student's advisory committee and the graduate program committee.

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Location(s): Guelph

ENGL*6802 Reading Course II Unspecified [0.50]

An independent study course, the nature and content of which is agreed upon between the individual student and the person offering the course. Subject to the approval of the student's advisory committee and the graduate program committee.

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Location(s): Guelph

ENGL*6803 Major Research Project Unspecified [1.00]

The Major Research Project (MRP) is an independent study course, the content of which is agreed upon between student and supervisor, subject to the approval of the Advisory and Graduate Program Committees. The MRP provides an opportunity to conduct research that provides training in methodologies and development of complex arguments.

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ENGL*6811 Special Topics in English Unspecified [0.50]

This course explores topics in the study of literature and culture that fall outside the scope of regular graduate courses. Offerings may focus on aspects of literary, textual or cultural study from any temporal or geographical location, and may deal with emergent as well as established approaches.

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