LITERARY STUDIES/THEATRE STUDIES IN ENGLISH

The PhD Program in Literary Studies/Theatre Studies in English at the University of Guelph presents an opportunity for doctoral study that is unique in Canada. Although students might choose to focus on either literary studies or theatre studies, the special opportunity provided by the PhD Program is its contribution to the evolution of interdisciplinary work in the humanities. This bridging of disciplines allows for opportunities not available in more traditional doctoral programs, especially in inter-discursive and theoretical work across the boundaries of literary and theatre studies. Students can choose to undertake research in one or more of six fields of specialization:

- Studies in Canadian Literatures
- Colonial, Postcolonial and Diasporic Studies
- Early Modern Studies
- Studies in the History and Politics of Performance and Theatre
- Sexuality and Gender Studies
- Transnational Nineteenth-Century Studies

Administrative Staff

Director
Martha Nandorfy (424 MacKinnon, Ext. 53881)
mnandorf@uoguelph.ca

Graduate Program Coordinator
Elaine Chang (Remote, Ext. 53258)
echang@uoguelph.ca

Graduate Program Assistant
Pam Keegan (2007 MCKEXT, Ext. 56315)
pkeegan@uoguelph.ca

Graduate Faculty

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

Christine Bold
MA Edinburgh, PhD University College London - Professor
Graduate Faculty

Dionne Brand
BA, MA OISE (Toronto) - 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 Elleray
BA Victoria (Wellington), MA Auckland, MA, PhD Cornell - Associate Professor

Graduate Faculty

Jade Ferguson
BA British Columbia, MA, PhD Cornell - Associate Professor, Interim Director
Graduate Faculty

Daniel Fischlin
BFA, MA Concordia, PhD York - Professor
Graduate Faculty

Mark Fortier
BA Windsor, MA Toronto, PhD York, LLB Toronto - Professor
Graduate Faculty

Sky Gilbert
BFA York, MA, PhD Toronto - Associate Professor
Graduate Faculty

Ajay Heble
BA Toronto, MA Dalhousie, PhD Toronto - Professor
Graduate Faculty

Mark Lipton
BA Concordia, MA, PhD New York - Associate Professor
Graduate Faculty

Kimberley McLeod
BA Queen’s, MA Alberta, PhD York - Assistant Professor
Graduate Faculty

Martha J. Nandorfy
BA, MA Ottawa, PhD Toronto - Assistant Professor
Graduate Faculty

Jade Ferguson
BA British Columbia, MA, PhD Cornell - Associate Professor, Interim Director
Graduate Faculty

Daniel O’Quinn
BSc, MA Western, PhD York - Professor
Graduate Faculty

Pablo Ramirez
BA Yale, MFA Miami, MA, PhD Michigan - Associate Professor
Graduate Faculty

Paul W. Salmon
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, MA Cambridge - Associate Professor
Graduate Faculty

J.R. (Tim) Struthers
BA, MA, PhD Western Ontario - Associate Professor
Graduate Faculty

Ann Wilson
BA, MA, PhD York - Associate Professor
Graduate Faculty
PhD Program

The PhD Program in Literary Studies/Theatre Studies in English is offered in six fields of specialization:

1. studies in Canadian literatures;
2. colonial, postcolonial and diasporic studies;
3. early modern studies;
4. studies in the history and politics of performance and theatre;
5. sexuality and gender studies; and
6. transnational nineteenth-century studies.

Admission Requirements

Admission to the PhD Program normally requires an MA in English, and MA in Drama/Theatre, or an equivalent degree with at least an A- average in graduate work. In certain exceptional circumstances, students will be considered directly out of the undergraduate degree. Applications are considered by the Graduate Program Committee and a recommendation to admit or decline is forwarded to the Assistant VP of Graduate Studies.

Program Requirements

Graduate Course Work (2.5 credits)

Students are required to take 5 graduate courses in the initial phase of their degree. The standard practice is to take two courses in the Fall semester of Year 1, two courses in the Winter semester of Year 1, and one course in the Fall semester of Year 2. This arrangement of courses is recommended, but remains flexible: any combination of 5 courses over these semesters is acceptable. In unusual circumstances, students may petition to do one course in the Winter semester of Year 2 in order to meet particular demands in their program of study. Courses are advertised on a two-year cycle to maximize choice and facilitate planning in the program.

Graduate courses allow students to develop their knowledge of key theoretical, historical and critical concerns for the analysis of culture. It is during coursework that students hone their skills in writing and research so that they will be prepared for the challenges posed by their Primary and Secondary Area Qualifications. Students are encouraged to choose their courses in order to maximize their critical and historical repertoire, and to take advantage of the opportunity afforded by the program to work across the disciplines of English and Theatre Studies.

Language Requirement

Doctoral students are required to demonstrate reading proficiency in at least one language other than modern English, as approved by the Graduate Study Committee. Typically the language requirement will be completed by the end of the student’s fifth semester in the program.

The language should normally have direct relevance to the student’s program of study. In certain cases, students’ research may require demonstrable competency in a non-written or technical language such as a programming language. The selection of the language(s) will be determined by the student in consultation with the dissertation advisor, and must be submitted for approval by the Graduate Program Committee.

The language requirement may be fulfilled through one of the following:

- A three-hour examination, which consists of the student’s translation (with the help of a dictionary) of one passage in prose of not more than 1000 words.
- A faculty member with expertise in the language grades the examination on a pass/fail basis. A student who fails the language examination twice will normally be required to withdraw from the program.
- Equivalent language requirement through an MA-level examination.
- An undergraduate-level language course or above whose completion demonstrates reading proficiency in the language (as determined by the student’s committee and approved by the Graduate Program Committee).

The student’s advisory committee may submit a rationale, no later than the end of the third semester of study, to the Graduate Program Committee explaining why a second language is not necessary to the course of study. In order to promote equity across the program, the Graduate Program Committee will be charged with approving or rejecting that rationale or requesting further clarification.

Secondary Area Qualification

The SAQ takes place in the Summer of Year One and provides an opportunity for students to quickly develop the repertoire needed to potentially teach in a field without necessarily committing to that field as an area of specialization. The objective here is to gain working knowledge of the major texts and statements relating to a field of scholarly enquiry. Upon completion of this exercise, students should have both the range and the depth to confidently teach in a secondary area.

As the name implies, this is a qualification exercise. The student is responsible for a reading list comprised of 60 texts, (the definition of what constitutes a standard text is internal to the design of the lists) selected from standard department reading lists; 30% of the list may be altered to suit particular interests. Students are assessed on a pass/fail basis on the following:

1. The student will write a three-hour examination composed of four questions, from which the student chooses two. These questions give the student an opportunity to demonstrate the range and depth of their reading. The questions will ask the student to place a range of primary texts in relation to key critical debates in the field.
2. This written examination is followed one week later by a one-hour oral examination on questions arising from both elements of the written work.

Primary Area Qualification (Year 2)

After the completion of the SAQ, the student progresses to their Primary Area Qualification. The objective here is to develop sufficient expertise in a field of scholarly enquiry to be able to make original contributions to that field through the writing of a doctoral dissertation. Through discussion with their advisory committee, the student develops a reading list of approximately 120 works divided roughly into two parts. The first comprises a Field Survey that is aimed at sketching the broad contours of an area of scholarly enquiry. The second is a more specific articulation of the works, called the Topic Readings, that will immediately impinge on the cultural and intellectual milieu of the subject being studied. The PAQ Examination, intended to determine whether the student is prepared to write and capable of writing the PhD thesis, is usually taken 12 months after the completion of the SAQ:

1. A three-hour examination on the primary material to be studied in the thesis and on scholarship concerning that primary material: i.e. this is directed specifically to the Topic Readings. The student will be asked to answer two questions from a choice of three.
2. A three-hour examination on the immediate background—the literary, cultural and intellectual milieu of the subject being studied: i.e. this is directed specifically at the Field Survey. The student will be asked to answer two questions from a choice of three.
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).
Department(s): School of English and Theatre Studies
Location(s): Guelph

ENGL*6201  Topics in Canadian Literature  Unspecified  [0.50]
A course to be offered at least once every academic year. This course
in Canadian Literature may focus on cross-genre study or on single
genres such as poetry, biography, the short story, literary memoir and/
or autobiography, and poetic prose. The focus may be on such topics
as the literary and general cultural production of a time-period, an age
group (such as children's literature), or a specific region (such as Atlantic
Canada, the Prairies, or the West Coast), or may bring together texts
from two or more categories to allow for a comparative study. Other
possible topics include: post-modernism and the creation of an ex-centric
Canadian canon; multiculturalism and the transcultural aesthetics of
Canadian writing; the construction and reinvention of a national identity
and literature; and literary history, influence, reception and critique.
Department(s): School of English and Theatre Studies
Location(s): Guelph

ENGL*6209  Topics in Colonial, Postcolonial and Diasporic
Literature  Unspecified  [0.50]
A course to be offered at least once every academic year. A comparative
study of postcolonial literatures in English. Topics may include a focus
on a single area, such as India, the Caribbean, Africa, Australia, or New
Zealand or may focus on the comparative study of some of these
literatures, considering the construction of Third World, diasporic,
or settler-invader colonies, or writing and reading practices in colonial, neo-
colonial, and postcolonial environments.
Department(s): School of English and Theatre Studies
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.
Department(s): School of English and Theatre Studies
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.
Department(s): School of English and Theatre Studies
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.
Department(s): School of English and Theatre Studies
Location(s): Guelph
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.
Department(s): School of English and Theatre Studies
Location(s): Guelph

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.
Department(s): School of English and Theatre Studies
Location(s): Guelph

ENGL*6611 Topics in Women's Writing Unspecified [0.50]
In the past the course has dealt with Victorian women poets, with the place of women in the literature of the American West, and with other issues of interest to students of women's writing and the broader issues of feminist theory.
Department(s): School of English and Theatre Studies
Location(s): Guelph

ENGL*6621 Topics in Children's Literature Unspecified [0.50]
Past offerings have involved a focus on a specific author - such as Lucy Maud Montgomery - or on a specific kind of writing for or by children.
Department(s): School of English and Theatre Studies
Location(s): Guelph

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.
Department(s): School of English and Theatre Studies
Location(s): Guelph

ENGL*6691 Interdisciplinary Studies Unspecified [0.50]
Designed to provide the opportunity to explore alternative fields and modes of critical inquiry, this variable-content course will study the relationship between literary study and other forms of intellectual inquiry such as the relationship between literature and sociology, between critical theory and psychology, between literary history and historical fact.
Department(s): School of English and Theatre Studies
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.
Department(s): School of English and Theatre Studies
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.
Department(s): School of English and Theatre Studies
Location(s): Guelph

ENGL*6803 Research Project Unspecified [1.00]
An independent study course, the 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. This course is designed to provide the student with the opportunity to conduct an extended research project that, while not as complex or as extensive as a thesis, still provides the student with training in research methodology.
Department(s): School of English and Theatre Studies
Location(s): Guelph

ENGL*6811 Special Topics in English Unspecified [0.50]
Depending on the research interests of the instructor, courses under this rubric explore topics in the study of literature that do not fall neatly under the rubrics above. In the past the course has dealt with literature and aging, and with issues in the field of popular culture.
Department(s): School of English and Theatre Studies
Location(s): Guelph

THST*6150 Theatre Historiography Fall Only [0.50]
This variable content course introduces students to the theory and practice of theatre historical analysis. The course is required of all students in the Theatre Studies MA Program.
Department(s): School of English and Theatre Studies
Location(s): Guelph

THST*6210 Devising Winter Only [0.50]
This variable-content course addresses creative practice in the theatre as a site for the production of knowledge. It examines the theoretical and social issues of contemporary theatre practice.
Department(s): School of English and Theatre Studies
Location(s): Guelph

THST*6220 Theatre Theory Fall Only [0.50]
This variable content course introduces students to a range of theoretical approaches and to advanced issues and methods within the fields of drama, theatre, and performance studies. The course is required for all students in the Theatre Studies MA Program.
Department(s): School of English and Theatre Studies
Location(s): Guelph

THST*6230 Performance and Difference Winter Only [0.50]
This variable-content course introduces students to the most recent theoretical and critical international developments in the field of Theatre Studies and investigates sites of cultural diversity and difference. It provides opportunities for culturally specific studies of dramatic literature and performance.
Department(s): School of English and Theatre Studies
Location(s): Guelph

THST*6250 Bodies and Space in Performance Winter Only [0.50]
This variable-content course introduces students to the social, ethical, phenomenological and environmental dimensions of the interaction of bodies and space in theatre practice and research. It provides a theorized context in which students may address questions of acting, directing, and design as research processes.
Department(s): School of English and Theatre Studies
Location(s): Guelph

THST*6280 Independent Reading Course Unspecified [1.00]
Independent Reading Course
Department(s): School of English and Theatre Studies
Location(s): Guelph
THST*6500 Research Paper Unspecified [1.00]
Department(s): School of English and Theatre Studies
Location(s): Guelph

THST*6801 Reading Course I Unspecified [0.50]
An independent study course, the nature and content of which is agreed upon between the individual and the person offering the course. Subject to the approval of the student’s advisory committee and the graduate program committee.
Department(s): School of English and Theatre Studies
Location(s): Guelph

THST*6802 Reading Course II Unspecified [0.50]
An independent study course, the nature and content of which is agreed upon between the individual and the person offering the course. Subject to the approval of the student’s advisory committee and the graduate program committee.
Department(s): School of English and Theatre Studies
Location(s): Guelph