

2011-13 Cal Poly Catalog**English Department****MASTER OF ARTS DEGREE IN ENGLISH****General Characteristics**

This program includes the study of literature, literary criticism, linguistics, and theory of composition. It is designed to provide students with the knowledge and command of English that prepares them specifically for:

- teaching English at the secondary or community college levels;
- further graduate work at other institutions.
- employment in business, industry, and government service where effective communication skills are demanded;
- self-directed development in writing;

Prerequisites

Students admitted to the English MA Program must have a major or minor in English from an accredited institution (or the equivalent, as determined by the English Graduate Committee), have maintained a grade point average of 3.0 for the last 90 quarter units (60 semester units), and a writing sample submitted to the English Graduate Advisor. Non-native speakers should also submit TOEFL scores (Test of English as a Foreign Language). Students without an English major or minor may apply and be admitted conditionally, requiring them to take certain prerequisites prior to taking English graduate classes.

Program of Study

- 48 units of graduate work approved by the English Graduate Coordinator and the Graduate Committee;
- a grade point average of 3.0 or better in all courses taken subsequent to admission;
- two years of a foreign language (e.g., French, Spanish, German) or certification of the equivalent;
- a comprehensive examination at the end of 48 units of study.

All other requirements must be satisfied before the comprehensive examination is taken. Students elect an emphasis within the Master of Arts program: literature, linguistics, or composition.

Application

Application for admission and requests for further information should be directed to the Admissions Office. All applications should include a writing sample (a critical essay on a work of literature) and three letters of recommendation.

MA ENGLISH

	<i>Units</i>
Required Courses	36
ENGL 501 Techniques of Literary Research (4)	
ENGL 502 Seminar in Critical Analysis Historical and Contemporary (4,4)	
ENGL 503 Graduate Introduction to Linguistics (4)	
ENGL 505 Seminar in Composition Theory (4)	
ENGL 511 Seminar in American Literary Periods (4,4)	
ENGL 512 Seminar in British Literary Periods (4,4)	
English Electives	12
Additional ENGL 400-and 500-level courses, to be selected from one of three emphasis areas: literature, composition or linguistics.	
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