

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

DR. KIMBERLY A. McCABE, DEAN

MASTER OF ARTS (M.A.) IN ENGLISH

Program Director: Dr. Casey Clabough

The focus of the M.A. in English is on providing a rigorous academic program that affords students an opportunity for further professional development to teach English at the secondary or post-secondary level, to seek careers in fields related to English, or to prepare for a Ph.D. program in English.

Upon completion of the program, students will

- have advanced specialized knowledge of literary and language studies;
- develop scholarly expertise through reading, writing, and researching literature and language effectively;
- conduct research independently and/or collaboratively with faculty;
- apply comprehensive critical thinking skills in the analysis and interpretation of texts;
- expand their knowledge of literary criticism; and
- complete and defend the master's thesis.

These goals are consistent with the foci of individual courses, and overall program emphases. Individual objectives are addressed by course content that is specific to individual courses but ultimately will be assessed by the performance of students at the thesis stage.

			Hours
Required			6
ENGL	606	Principles of Literary Scholarship	
ENGL	699	Research and Thesis	
Select at least ten of the following courses			30
ENGL	600	Literary Theory	
ENGL	601	History of the English Language	
ENGL	602	Seminar in Fiction	
ENGL	603	Seminar in Poetry	
ENGL	604	Seminar in Drama	
ENGL	605	Figures in Literature	
ENGL	610	Thornton Writing Seminar	
ENGL	613	Advanced English Grammar and Linguistics	
ENGL	616	Special Topics in English	
ENGL	623	Multicultural Literature	
ENGL	645	Rhetoric and Composition: Graduate Writing	
ENGL	646	Creative Writing	
ENGL	647	Religion and Literature	

			Hours
ENGL	648	Gender and Literature	
ENGL	649	Transnational Literature	
ENGL	670	Independent Study (1, 2, 3)	
<i>Total Hours Required</i>			36

MASTER OF ARTS (M.A.) IN HISTORY

Program Director: Dr. Phil Stump

With its focus on the Atlantic World, the M.A. program in history is at the forefront of contemporary historical research and teaching. Designed to increase the knowledge of teachers of American history, world history, and geography significantly in their subject areas, the program also provides an excellent preparation for teaching two-year college-level survey courses. Additionally, students receive a more global perspective that prepares them for doctoral study in diverse fields.

Upon completion of the program, students will

- be able to teach history using textual and non-textual sources;
- present history effectively in oral and written communication, to academic and non-academic audiences, and in the different historical genres, including narrative, argumentation, biography, intellectual history, social and economic history, and women’s and gender history;
- demonstrate a comprehensive knowledge of historiography, including both the evolution of history as a discipline and the most up-to-date historiographical interpretations in at least three major areas of historical inquiry;
- demonstrate critical thinking skills as applied to history, including textual criticism, source criticism, higher criticism, and the ability to write critical reviews of books and articles;
- demonstrate knowledge of multicultural issues and diverse global perspectives and their knowledge of gender history and women’s history;
- evaluate quantitative data, show basic familiarity with statistical methods used in history, and be able to construct and evaluate arguments made using quantitative data;
- use research skills in both primary and secondary sources, culminating in the writing of a master’s thesis of suitable quality for publication in a peer-reviewed publication (or, for non-thesis option students) in the production of shorter pieces of original research;
- demonstrate knowledge of the production, evaluation, and use of electronic resources; and
- demonstrate master knowledge in at least two content areas.

Required Courses

HIST	601	Seminar in Research Methods for Historians	
HIST	602	Historiography	
HIST	603	Atlantic World	

			Hours
Area Courses			6-12
HIST	610	Seminar in European History	
HIST	611	Seminar in United States History	
HIST	612	Seminar in the History of Africa and the African Diaspora	
HIST	613	Seminar in Latin American History	
Electives¹			15-21
HIST	620	The United States and the World	
HIST	621	Women in the Americas	
HIST	622	Age of Exploration and Imperialism	
HIST	630	Seminar in Public History	
HIST	670	Independent Study in History	
HIST	675	Special Topics in History	
HIST	680	Internship in History	
HIST	685	Readings for Comprehensive Exams	
HIST	690	Thesis	
ECON	600	Economics for K-12 Educators	
EDHD	609	Research Methods and Applications	
ENGL	601	History of the English Language	
ENVS	680	Applied Geography	
MUSC	622	Music History and Literature I	
MUSC	623	Music History and Literature II	
<i>Total Hours Required</i>			36

- ¹ Up to six credits of non-history electives may be counted toward the thirty-six hours. Students may choose one of these two extra-departmental electives from graduate courses in English or American literature to complement an area of their historical study.

Capstone Requirement

Each candidate will complete the capstone requirement in one of the following manners:

- Thesis: Completion and oral defense of a significant work of original historical research and writing on a topic should be selected in consultation with the thesis advisor.
- Comprehensive examination: The candidate must receive a passing grade on a comprehensive examination with written and oral components.

Additional Competency Requirement

To earn the M.A. in history, students must demonstrate a reading knowledge of a language other than English or competence in statistics or computer science as a research tool. These options are subject to departmental approval. Please contact the program director for further information.