

# Graduate Studies in English

The background features a series of parallel diagonal stripes. From top-left to bottom-right, the stripes are dark blue, teal, and light grey. The stripes are of varying widths and overlap, creating a dynamic, layered effect. The text is positioned in the upper left quadrant, set against the white background.





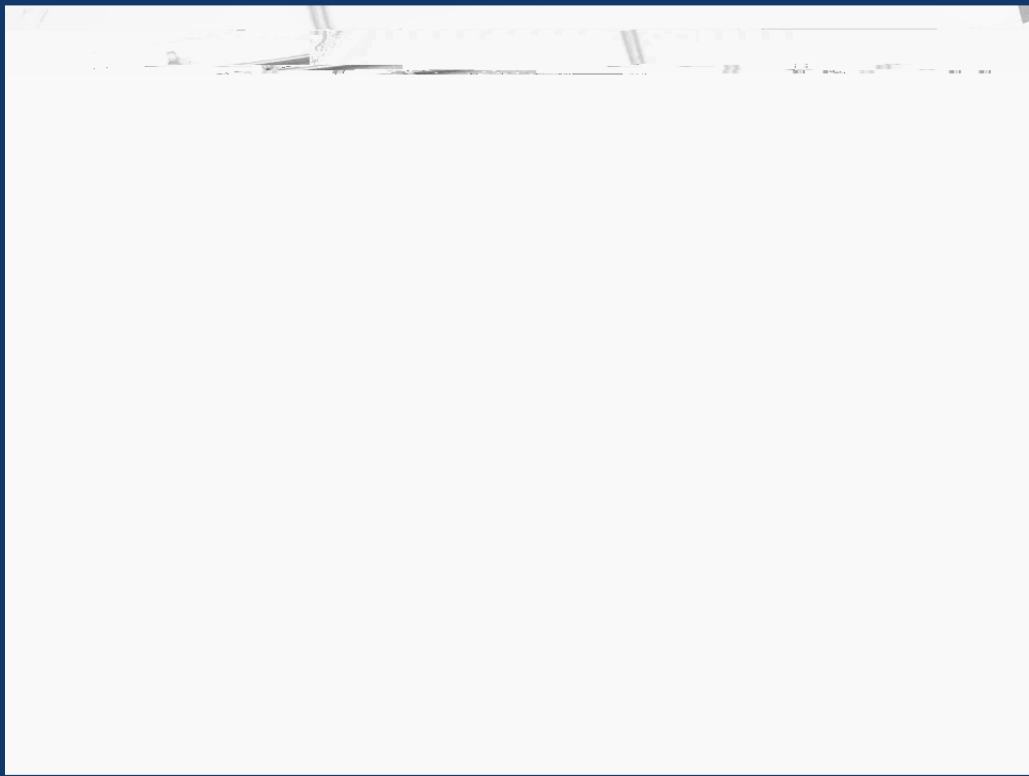




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In addition to the requirements for admission stated above, students whose native language is not English must meet the following requirements:

- 1) Take the TOEFL exam (Test of English as a Foreign Language), score at least 580 on it, OR take the IBT and score 92 OR score 6.5 on the IELTS. Please have the score sent directly to the English Department by the Educational Testing Service (photocopies of scores are not acceptable).
- 2) Submit a 250- to 500-word description of English courses taken at the college level, making certain that the description refers to the authors covered in the courses and to the subject matter of those courses.
- 3) Submit an additional writing sample, if requested.



## assistantships & scholarships

Graduate assistantships in the Department of English are currently available only to students applying for the MFA and are awarded on a competitive basis. Applications for fall appointments will be accepted until February 1. MFA students may renew twice, for a total of three years of support.

Along with





The MA in English provides students with a strong practical and theoretical grounding as they prepare to move forward into careers, professional schools, or further graduate study at the Ph.D. level. Students will learn advanced methods for deeper study of literatures written in English, the fundamentals of Composition as a discipline, and practical writing skills through courses in professional and rhetorical writing.

Courses will place texts within wider cultural and multicultural debates. Through assigned writings, students will articulate informed viewpoints on real-world issues and practice various forms of professional and critical writing, learning to interpret texts in contexts ranging from academic debate to the contemporary classroom to a variety of professional settings.

In addition to the graduate application and official transcripts, applicants to the M.A. must submit a statement of purpose to The Department of English by email to the graduate coordinator, Hillary Nunn, at [nunn@uakron.edu](mailto:nunn@uakron.edu).

A minimum of **30 credits** is required.

**Core classes** for all MA Students consist of the following 18 credits at the 600 level:

- ENGL 611 Argumentation and Research Writing
- ENGL 673 Theories of Composition
- ENGL 665 Literary Criticism

**OR**

ENGL 690 Critical Approaches to Literature

- One additional 600-level literature course
- ENGL 689 Grant Writing

**OR**

ENGL 689 Professional Writing Theory and Practice

- ENGL 699: Master's Thesis/Capstone (3 credit hours):

In consultation with a faculty member, students complete either a Capstone Project or a Thesis. In the **Capstone Option**, students complete a customized final project along with a Portfolio based on the revision and presentation of 3-6 course artifacts, at least one of which is an academic paper. In the **Thesis Option**, students complete a sustained, publishable 60-100 page scholarly treatment of a subject in Literature or Composition studies.

Students must take 12 additional credit hours in English, selecting from classes listed in the Course Bulletin that are offered at either the 500 or 600-level.

**Graduation Requirement:** Candidates for graduation must see the Department of English Graduate Coordinator to complete the departmental Graduate Student Survey.



## **ACCELERATED OPTION**

You can earn your Bachelor's and Master's in less time and at a significant savings.

The Accelerated Degree Pathway (ADP) program is a 5-year bridge program between our undergraduate B. A. Degree in English and our graduate M. A. in English degrees. Selected students can complete up to 9 credits of graduate coursework during their fourth undergraduate year at the University of Akron. Students will then transition into our M. A. graduate program, pending satisfactory fulfillment of their undergraduate degree and graduate program admission requirements. Selected students have the potential to earn both an undergraduate and graduate degree from the University of Akron in 5 years.

### **The advantages to the accelerated program include:**

- **Flexibility during graduate school.**  
Students can complete graduate classes while fulfilling undergraduate degree requirements.
- **Reduce time.**  
Students start fulfilling graduate school requirements sooner. The ADP Program engages students in graduate level courses before their peers and provides the opportunity to make connections with graduate instructors and other students in the program.
- **Save tuition costs.**  
Students can save tuition costs by completing up to 9 graduate credit hours at the undergraduate price. These same graduate credits will be applied to their graduate degree at The University of Akron.

### **Curriculum**

The 5-Year Accelerated Degree Pathway (ADP) Program curriculum includes the same coursework offered in the English undergraduate and graduate programs.

Check out our [handbook here](#).



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To be eligible for the certificate in composition, a person must be admitted to the University as a graduate student



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The University of Akron's Graduate Certificate in English Dual Credit Preparation offers a cohesive set of coursework for high school English teachers who wish to meet the credentialing standard for dual-credit instructors in the state of Ohio. Our online Certificate forms a foundation for the teaching of general education courses in both Composition and Literature, providing 18 hours of coursework in the discipline for those teachers who already have or are working toward Master's degrees. Classes are offered through web-based instruction by experienced professors. No travel to campus is required.

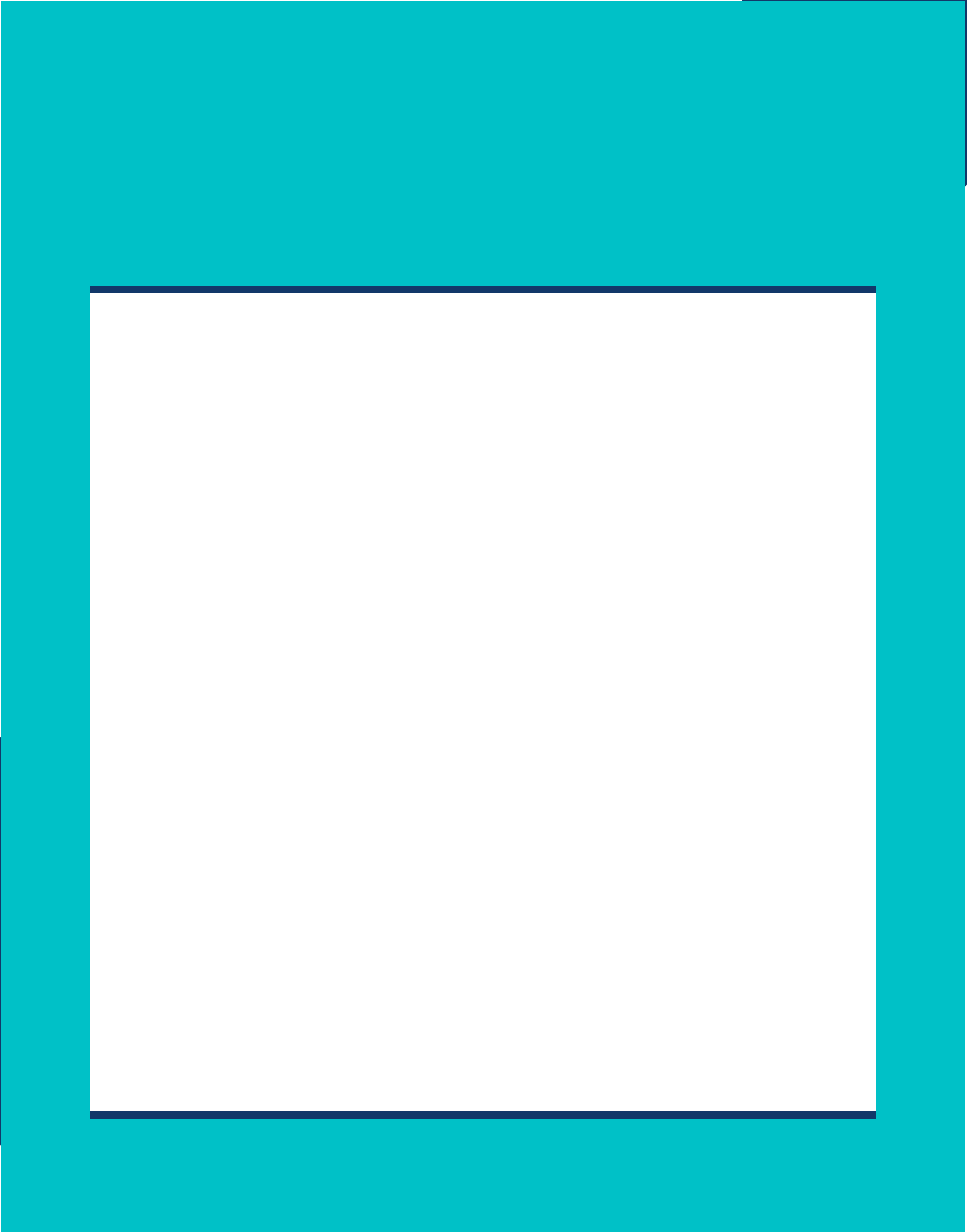
## **REQUIREMENTS**

Participants must have a Master's Degree in Education or other subject area, or they must be actively enrolled in an Education Master's program, in UA's MA in English program, or the NEOMFA.

### **Required Courses**

- ENGL 611 Argument and Research Writing
- ENGL 629 Twentieth Century Literature
- ENGL 610 New Directions in the Teaching of Writing
- ENGL 690 Critical Approaches to Literature
- ENGL 673 Theories of Composition
- ENGL 615 Shakespearean Drama

Students are assigned an academic advisor, normally the Graduate Coordinator, and students are expected to consult with the advisor before registration for each semester. The department, in cooperation with the Buchtel College of Arts and Sciences Career Lab, also offers career and job-search advising and information.





**Alan Ambrisco**, professor (Ph.D., Indiana): Chaucer, old and middle English literature, early English drama, travel literature.

**Philathia Bolton**, associate professor (Ph.D., Purdue University): African-American Literature, 20th Century American Literature, black women writers, Toni Morrison, critical race theory, civil rights and black power discourses.

**Mary Biddinger**, professor (MFA, Bowling Green State University; Ph.D., The University of Illinois at Chicago): poetry and hybrid prose writing, modern and contemporary poetry, multicultural and world literature, contemporary poetics, the novel.

**Patrick Chura**, professor (Ph.D., St. Louis University): the American novel, African-American literature, Hawthorne, new historicist criticism, leftist literature and strike fiction.

**David Giffels**, professor (M.A., Akron): creative nonfiction, journalism as literature, modern American nonfiction, pop criticism (music, book, and film reviews), modern memoir.

**Jon Miller**, professor (Ph.D., University of Iowa): American literature 1774-1931, literary history, alcohol/temperance history, American political history and literature, Whitman.

**Hillary Nunn**, professor (Ph.D., Michigan State): Shakespeare, Renaissance dramatists, early modern theater, Renaissance scientific discourse, early modern poetry.

**Lance Svehla**, associate professor (Ph.D., New Hampshire): composition and rhetorical theory, history and pedagogy,

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