

MASTER OF ARTS IN ENGLISH (M.A.)

Purpose

The Master of Arts in English is a 36-hour, graduate-level degree in English language and literature, practical in its reading and writing about a broad spectrum of texts in English, theoretical in its observation of texts through the diverse critical lenses of current literary theory, philosophical in its investigation of the meaning of literary texts in the human experience, professional in its preparation for further work in the academic disciplines as well as to a wide variety of professional disciplines to which a studied understanding of the human experience is valuable. The purpose of the program is to equip students, within a Christian, biblical worldview, to pursue further studies in English language arts at the doctoral level, as well as to prepare for careers related to the field. The M.A. in English will provide students with the opportunity to study the texts of literature in English and the western tradition, the critical tradition pertaining to these texts, and critical approaches to interpreting texts, as well as a background in research methods and the practice of writing and in the linguistic characteristics of English throughout its history, offered in advanced degree programs in English.

Program Learning Outcomes

The student will be able to:

- Discuss English language and literature and critical theory in a manner appropriate to the field.
- Produce in-depth research using appropriate scholarly methods and resources.
- Write in a professional and scholarly manner.
- Evaluate the relationships between literary works and their contexts.
- Analyze literary texts, theory, and history through a Christian worldview.

Program Specific Admission Procedures

In addition to the general admission requirements, specific admission procedures to the M.A. in English are as follows:

1. Earned baccalaureate degree or its equivalent from an institution accredited by an agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education (e.g., SACSCOC, TRACS, ABHE, etc.)
2. Applicants should hold a 3.00 GPA for undergraduate study. Applicants close to the requirement may be considered for enrollment in the program on a cautionary basis but will not qualify for Graduate Assistantship positions.
3. Applicants must have completed a bachelor's degree, with the completion of at least 15-18 hours in upper-division English.
4. Applicants must submit a writing sample explaining why they wish to pursue an advanced degree in English.
5. Applicants must submit contact information for two professional recommendations.
6. An 8-10 page academic writing sample.
7. TOEFL (if applicable)

Transfer Credit

Students may transfer up to 18 credit hours from an accredited institution subject to department approval. In order to transfer credit, students must have earned the minimum grade of B-, and courses must have been completed within 10 years of the start date of the program. Credits from a prior degree on the same academic level earned through Liberty University are considered transfer credits.

Program of Study Delivery Format: Residential Only

- English (M.A.)

Career Opportunities

- Author
- College or secondary teacher
- Editor
- Journalist
- Publisher
- Public Relations worker