The Department of English offers a varied program of studies in English and American literature, writing, and the English language. The academic atmosphere is intimate, class size for graduate courses is small, and students are encouraged to work closely with members of the graduate faculty. The curriculum varies from year to year and includes courses in genres, periods, specific authors, critical theory, rhetoric/composition, interdisciplinary study, creative writing, cinema/film theory, linguistics, and research methods. Faculty in the Department also work in interdisciplinary areas such as American Studies, Peace Studies, Composition Studies, American Indian Studies, and Women Studies. The Department works closely with the University’s College of Education and Human Development in the area of English Education. In all areas of work, students are encouraged to utilize a variety of critical and theoretical approaches.

Through the work of research, service, and teaching, the Department of English is committed to the premise that language and literature reflect and shape the world in which we live. Faculty members conduct ongoing research in an array of sub-fields and interdisciplinary contexts and contribute to academic conversations occurring among humanities scholars on national and international levels. The nationally renowned Writers Conference brings great authors and opportunities for literary discussion to the larger community. Teaching at a wide range of levels, from first-year writers to Ph.D. students, the Department demonstrates the pleasures and value of a liberal arts education by emphasizing critical and creative thinking, by helping students think thoughtfully about cultural diversity, and by teaching strong written communication skills. In the Department of English, students at all levels of the curriculum are prepared for lives of public citizenship as they learn to analyze texts within complex cultural situations, to write and to think rhetorically, and to engage with diverse perspectives.

The Doctor of Philosophy in English stresses the acquisition not only of a broad foundation of discipline-specific knowledge and critical tools, but also the depth of knowledge necessary to build fluency and expertise within an area of specialization. To this end, the Department provides quality graduate instruction in literature in English, literary criticism and theory, the English language, composition and rhetoric studies, creative writing, cultural studies, and related fields. Successful Ph.D. students will be prepared to seek careers as college and university faculty, writing teachers, creative writers, editors, or in a variety of other professions that require highly developed verbal, analytical, and rhetorical skills.

1. Students will produce significant, independent work in English studies and/or creative writing.
   a. Students develop a specialization through which they position themselves as members of a disciplinary community.
   b. Students produce work that contributes to debates in English studies and/or demonstrate connections between creative work and literary traditions.
   c. Students demonstrate advanced writing and analytical skills to meet a variety of rhetorical goals.

2. Students will demonstrate both breadth and depth of knowledge about disciplinary subfields, major works, and influential critical approaches in English studies.
   a. Students demonstrate an awareness of significant issues in selected disciplinary subfields.
   b. Students demonstrate an understanding of the cultural and social contexts in which literary works are produced.
   c. Students demonstrate an understanding of the critical tools and strategies that shape the reception of literary works and the production of English studies as a discipline.

3. Graduate Teaching Assistants will be prepared to teach effectively a range of courses in the field of English studies.
   a. Students use a variety of teaching strategies.
   b. Students recognize and evaluate the connections between particular teaching strategies and larger learning objectives.
   c. Students situate and evaluate their own teaching practices within the context of significant pedagogical debates.

Admission Requirements
The applicant must meet the School of Graduate Studies’ current minimum general admission requirements as published in the graduate catalog.

1. A four-year bachelor’s degree from a recognized college or university.
2. Twenty semester credits of English beyond the communication requirement with a 3.00 grade point average or better.
3. Undergraduate work in at least one language other than English equivalent to the first two college-level years or by demonstrating (by Educational Testing Service or by Languages Department examination) a reading knowledge of one
language other than English or the satisfactory completion of two semesters each of two languages other than English. In some cases, students may be admitted without the language requirement and may complete it as part of the MA program.

4. A writing sample of 10-15 pages on topics or in modes appropriate to the proposed program of study (submitted directly to the department). Applicants who plan to major in creative writing should also submit an analytical paper.

5. Graduate Record Examination General Test required. Literature in English Advanced Test is recommended.

6. Satisfy the School of Graduate Studies' English Language Proficiency requirements as published in the graduate catalog.

7. A master’s degree of at least 30 semester credits of courses in literature and English language or in an acceptable combination of these and related subjects. (Graduate courses taken elsewhere may, at the discretion of the Department, be accepted in lieu of courses that would otherwise be related at the University of North Dakota.)

Degree Requirements
Students seeking the Doctor of Philosophy degree at the University of North Dakota must satisfy all general requirements set forth by the School of Graduate Studies as well as particular requirements set forth by the English Language and Literature Department.

1. ENGL 500 Introduction to Graduate Studies; ENGL 501 Teaching College English and ENGL 501L Teaching College English Laboratory (for Graduate Teaching Assistants only); and either ENGL 510 History of Literary Criticism or ENGL 511 Problems in Literary Criticism. Courses must be completed with grades of A or B (S for ENGL 501L Teaching College English Laboratory).

2. Up to ten credits in addition to the four credits allowed for the M.A. may be in Readings and Research courses

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<td>ENGL 59</td>
<td>Readings for Ph.D. Comprehensive Examinations</td>
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<td>ENGL 59</td>
<td>Research</td>
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3. Evidence of the mastery of scholarly tools appropriate to the proposed field of studies is required, including proficiency in one language other than English plus either another language or languages.

5. Completion of the comprehensive examinations, in areas or topics relevant to a student’s individual interests as recommended by the student’s Advisory Committee. These will include three written comprehensive exams: 1) a written major field exam; 2) a written second field exam; and 3) a written special topic exam. The major and second field exams provide the kind of breadth of knowledge that goes beyond that developed through graduate coursework alone while the special topic exam is designed to begin the thought process necessary to conceptualizing and completing the dissertation. A fourth exam, an oral exam on the dissertation prospectus, is scheduled and completed within six months after completion of the written exams.

6. Fifteen (15) hours of credit may be granted for the dissertation, which may take the form of either a closely focused scholarly-critical investigation of a single topic, a creative work or group of works, or a number of related, publishable essays (critical, scholarly, bibliographical, methodological, pedagogical) which may be developed in combination with a project or projects deemed appropriate and acceptable by the student’s Advisory Committee.

NOTE: Students may be recommended for advancement to candidacy for the doctoral degree only after they have satisfied the following requirements in addition to those required by the School of Graduate Studies: Completion of ENGL 500 Introduction to Graduate Studies and either ENGL 510 History of Literary Criticism or ENGL 511 Problems in Literary Criticism with grades of A or B; for Graduate Teaching Assistants, ENGL 501 Teaching College English with a grade of A or B and ENGL 501L Teaching College English Laboratory with a grade of S.

Faculty and Areas of Expertise
Applicants are encouraged to browse the Department’s website for listings of faculty and their areas of expertise.

Contact Information
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