

MASTER OF ARTS DEGREE IN ENGLISH

<https://www.una.edu/english/master-of-arts-in-english.html>

In addition to the general requirements for admission to graduate studies (See General Regulations and Procedures), admission to the Master of Arts degree programs in English and Writing also require:

Unconditional Admission

1. Preparation: Applicants must hold a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution and have at least 24 semester hours in English above the 200 level. A Graduate Admissions Committee will review each application; consequently, all applications and supporting documents must be submitted to the Office of Graduate Admissions of the University in accordance with submission deadlines established by that office.
2. Scholastic Achievement: A minimum of 2.75 GPA on a 4.0 scale in all previous undergraduate and graduate coursework.
3. Test Scores: Submission of satisfactory scores on either the Graduate Record Exam (General Test) or the Miller Analogies Test. Students who seek admission to the program must receive a minimum score of 388 on the MAT or a minimum score of 286 on the combined Verbal and Quantitative portions of the GRE.
4. Three letters of recommendation to be sent to the Director of Graduate Studies in English, Department of English, and University of North Alabama.
5. Writing Sample: Minimum of eight pages, preferably a research or scholarly essay or paper from previous classes, to be sent to the Director of Graduate Studies, Department of English, University of North Alabama. For MA in Writing, a sample portfolio is required.

Conditional Admission

Applicants who satisfy all requirements for unconditional admission except for the minimum scholastic (grade) requirement but who have an overall grade point average of 2.0 or better (4.0 scale) may be admitted on conditional status subject to attainment of grades which include no more than three semester hours of C and no grades lower than C on the first three graduate courses (nine semester hours) for which enrolled.

Transfer Admission

In addition to the general requirements for Transfer Admission to Graduate Studies (See General Regulations and Procedures), up to 12 semester hours of graduate credit by transfer will be accepted with the approval of the graduate program coordinator. Exceptions must be approved by the graduate program coordinator, department chair, and college dean.

Advisement

Prior to the completion of 12 semester hours credit in the program, students shall be assigned an academic advisor by the Director of Graduate Studies.

Degrees and Program Plans

Master of Arts Degree in English: a minimum of 36 semester hours of credit, to include the following core and options:

Code	Title	Hours
Core Courses of Study ¹		
EN 601	Introduction to Graduate Studies: Bibliography and Research	3
EN 655	Literary Criticism	3
Literature Requirement		
Select a minimum of 18 semester hours of literature courses ²		18
Elective Courses of Study		
Foreign Language Requirement ³		12
Thesis or Non-Thesis		
Select one from the following:		
Thesis Option (p. 1)		
Non-Thesis Option (p. 2)		
Total Hours		36

- ¹ Students should take the core courses as early as possible in their program, but must complete them by the time they have taken 18 hours of coursework.
- ² Not including the core classes. At least 15 of those hours must be in the student's area of concentration, e.g., British or American literature.
- ³ The M.A. in English requires demonstration of reading proficiency in a foreign language. Students satisfy the foreign language requirement in one of the following ways:
 - by completing a second-year course sequence in a language with a 3.0 or higher, or
 - by successfully completing graduate coursework in foreign language reading proficiency, or
 - by the successful completion of a reading proficiency examination administered through the Department of Foreign Languages, or
 - by a comparable alternative approved by the Director of Graduate Studies.

Thesis Option¹

The master's degree program in English provides for an option of a minimum 36 semester hours of coursework or 30 semester hours of coursework plus a thesis earning six hours' credit. Student electing the thesis option must obtain approval from the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and must register for the thesis and pay the appropriate fee.

Code	Title	Hours
EN 690	Thesis	6
EN 695	Thesis Defense	0
Select an additional 24 semester hours from the following:		24
English Electives (500-600 level)		
Total Hours		30

- ¹ Students choosing the Thesis Option must complete six (6) semester hours of Thesis (EN 690), in addition to the core and 24 additional semester hours of graduate courses in English for a total of 36 hours. Thesis Proposal: Students choosing this option must submit a thesis proposal no later than mid-term of the semester prior to enrolling in Thesis (EN 690). Thesis Defense: Students choosing the Thesis Option must enroll in Thesis Defense (EN 695), during the term in which they complete the thesis.

Non-Thesis Option¹

Code	Title	Hours
Select from the following:		
English courses (500-600 level) ²		30
EN 696	Comprehensive Examination	0
Total Hours		30

¹ Students choosing the Non-Thesis Option must complete 30 hours of graduate courses in English in addition to the core, excluding Thesis (EN 690).

Comprehensive Examination: Students choosing this option must enroll in Comprehensive Examination (EN 696), at the appropriate time and must successfully complete a comprehensive examination.

² At least 50 percent of the coursework required to complete the selected option must be earned at the 600 level.