



**DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH**

**GRADUATE**

**VIEWBOOK**











**WE'RE THE EXPERIENCE  
YOU'RE HERE FOR!**

# ENGLISH DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW

In our English graduate programs, you will work with faculty who are professionals in their fields, publish your own academic work, and follow integrated programs of study. You'll have access to professional development opportunities, department-sponsored events with world-renowned authors and much more. With online degree programs and a variety of class offerings, our English graduate programs are flexible!

## Masters Programs

- Applied Linguistics
- Creative Writing (MFA)
- Literature
- Technical Communication (also online)
- TESOL (also online)
- Writing & Rhetoric

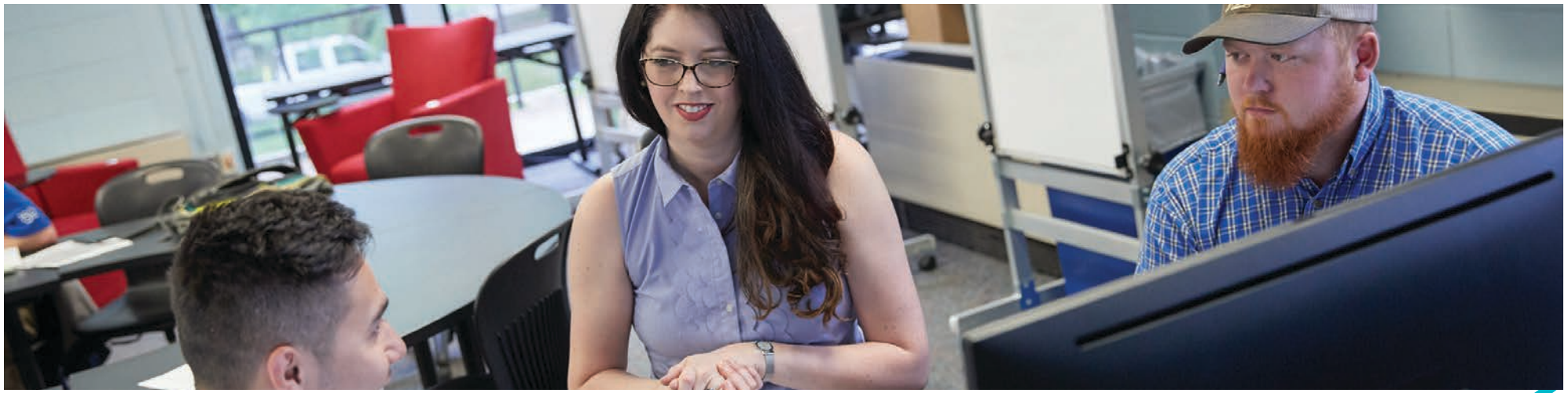
## Doctoral Programs

- Applied Linguistics
- Literary & Cultural Studies
- Writing, Rhetoric, & Technical Communication

## Certificate Programs

- African American Literature
- TESOL (also online)
- Writing Studies





# MA in Writing & Rhetoric

The Writing and Rhetoric concentration is designed to prepare instructors and practitioners of composition. Courses in this program emphasize writing and rhetorical theory to address specific audiences, using writing as a tool for learning, and applying contemporary theory to the teaching of composition.

# MA in Technical Communication

The Technical Communication concentration is designed to prepare instructors and practitioners of technical communication. Courses in this program emphasize writing and editing to address specific audiences, using technical communication as a tool for engagement and persuasion, and applying contemporary technical communication best practices and theory to writing for various genres and audiences.

**The MA in Technical Writing is offered as a fully online degree!**



# PhD in Writing, Rhetoric, & Technical Communication

The PhD in Writing, Rhetoric, and Technical Communication prepares students to teach and conduct research in the areas of composition, rhetoric, technical communication, and writing program administration.

“The WTRC program has stellar professors, cutting edge curriculum, and an extremely collaborative and collegiate environment. I constantly felt supported, appreciated, and valued, and I was robustly prepared for the academic market and an academic job.”

-Luke Brake, WTRC Ph.D  
Candidate

The core curriculum provides students with training in:

- Rhetorical Theory
- Research Methods
- Scholarly Writing & Publishing
- Foundations of Writing Studies





# MA in Applied Linguistics

The MA in Applied Linguistics program specializes in real-world applications of linguistics. The program is designed to allow students to gain competence in a wide range of applied linguistics topics including **Corpus Linguistics, Language and Gender, Discourse Analysis, Second Language Acquisition**, and **Sociolinguistics**.

# MA in TESOL

Prepare to teach English to speakers of other languages (TESOL) in the U.S. and around the world. In addition to developing skills in analyzing language, assessing language ability, and planning language instruction, students apply their knowledge through practical experiences in the U.S. and abroad.

**The MA in TESOL is offered as a fully online degree!**





# PhD in Applied Linguistics

The Applied Linguistics PhD program prepares students to teach and conduct original research at the college level in the US and abroad. Students specialize in areas of applied linguistics, including **teaching English as a second or foreign language, discourse analysis, second language writing**, and others.

"My PhD experience at the UofM was nothing short of incredible! Memories of evening seminars with potluck meals, our shared office space with the brightest cohort ever, numerous end of the semester gatherings, and the wonderful smell of morning coffee in the Patterson building will stay in my mind forever. On top of all these amazing memories, my teaching and research experiences at the English department provided a plethora of opportunities for me in the job market and equipped me to find a tenure track position right before defending my dissertation.

Patterson is a gem! Patterson's faculty and staff have made my experience unforgettable. Best five years ever!!"

-Dr. Shima Farhesh



# MA in Literature

The MA in Literature provides students with the interpretive skills necessary to understand their own and other cultures through the study of literary texts and contexts. Literature students take both traditional historical surveys and a variety of courses flexibly organized around author, genre, movement, theoretical approach, and special topic or theme such as:

- Afrofuturism
- Modern Irish Literature
- Advertising and the Arts of Persuasion

The program provides students with advanced preparation for a wide range of careers like teaching, publishing, libraries, journalism, politics, law, and public relations.

“I was able to explore works and question my own place in the world of academia. I was introduced to so many brilliant Black Writers, which pushed me to cultivate a space that offered Black, PoC, & LGBTQIA+ authors on a large scale. From this Cafe Noir was born and has been operating for over a year now. The English Department has many brilliant professors and instructors. I am glad I got to be a part of the program with people I could reach back out to if I ever needed to.”

-Jasmine Settles, owner of Cafe Noir





“A knowledgeable and caring team of professors was there to coach me every step of the way -- from the riveting coursework to the comprehensive exams to my successful dissertation. Through the graduate program, I cultivated the confidence to chair my own literature panel at an MLA conference and the skills to get an article published soon after graduating. The warm sense of community and the ample opportunities for networking and career development made my grad-school experience both memorable and marketable.”

-Dr. Olivia Hulse

# PhD in Literary & Cultural Studies

The PhD in Literary and Cultural Studies emphasizes the importance of discourse in structuring human experience. The program assumes a broadened definition of “texts” that places literature in its historical and cultural contexts and in conversation with critical theory and interdisciplinary methodologies. Students have the opportunity to develop their own unique course of study by taking specialized seminars that explore the complex intersections of literature and culture. Recent seminars include **The Medieval Dream Vision, News and the Early Novel, The Evolution of the Western, Toni Morrison as Editor and Author**, and **Realisms: Old, New, Weird**.



# MFA in Creative Writing

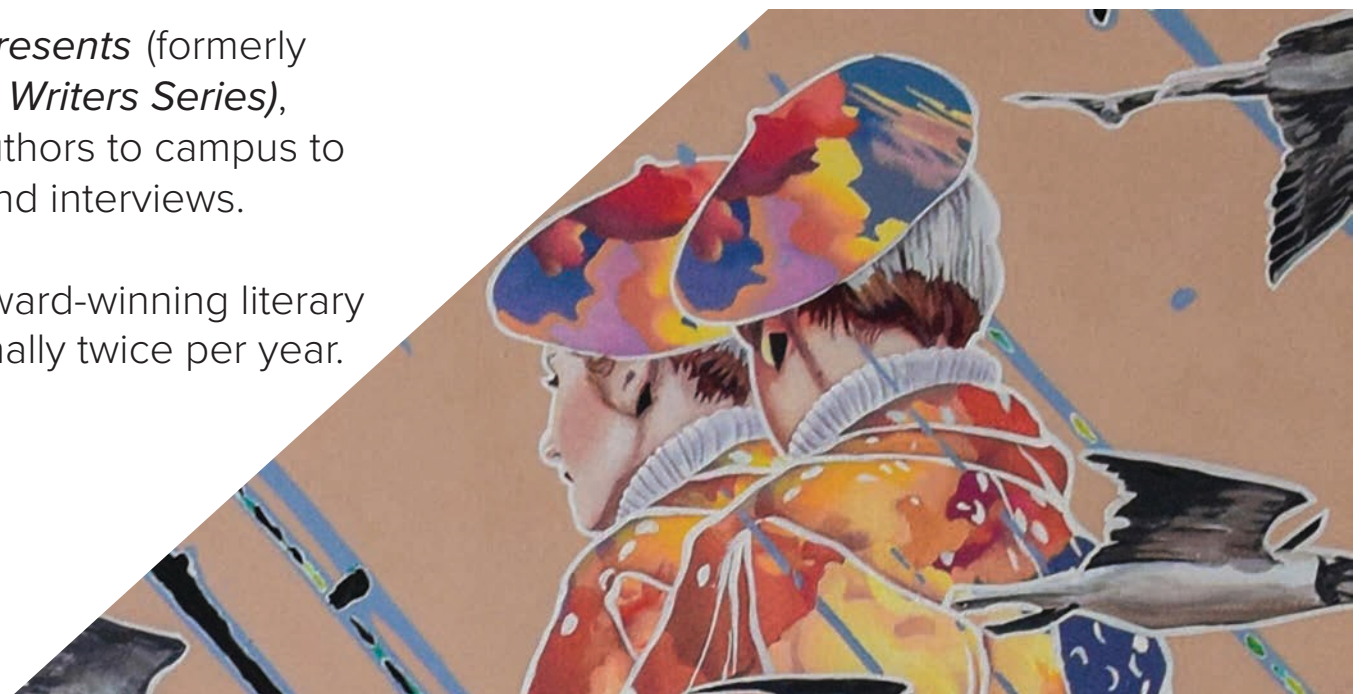
The MFA in Creative Writing program brings together nationally recognized authors and a diverse, carefully selected group of students in one of the most culturally rich cities in the country. Students work in small groups to study fiction, creative non-fiction, poetry, or a mix of all three.

**In addition to their coursework, MFA students have many creative opportunities such as:**

- Helping run *The Pinch Presents* (formerly known as *The River City Writers Series*), welcoming prominent authors to campus to participate in readings and interviews.
- Staffing *The Pinch*, an award-winning literary journal distributed nationally twice per year.

“The program helped me understand the process of being an active writer: setting my own writing schedule, sending out submissions, and being an active part of the literary community. As a result, I’ve been published in around thirty different journals and served as the inaugural Artist in Residence at the Brooks Museum.”

- Jonathan May, MFA







# Creative Writing Tracks

## Fiction

From forms classes to workshops, the fiction writing track is devoted to the craft of writing short stories, chapters, and book length projects that represent a variety of narrative and sentimental strategies.

## Creative Non-Fiction

The creative non-fiction track is dedicated to drafting and evaluating everything from personal narratives to memoirs to journalistic essays in forms classes and workshop settings.

## Poetry

The poetry writing track explores the relationship between form and content, studying practice and strategy and involving formal innovation into creative work.



# English Graduate Certificates

## African American Literature

Consisting of **fifteen credit hours**, this certificate program provides the background necessary to develop African American Literature programs for elementary or secondary classrooms.

This online **fifteen credit hour** certificate program provides training to those interested in teaching English as a second or foreign language. This certificate is given to those who complete the practical preparation needed to teach English both within and outside the US to post-secondary students and adults.

## TESOL

## Writing Studies

Requiring **fifteen credit hours**, this certificate program provides students with an opportunity to earn a credential in a growing area of English studies that has been increasing in demand, especially in areas of post-secondary first-year writing programs and professional writing programs.





# Graduate Assistantships

We offer graduate assistantships in either research or teaching. These assistantships may carry a stipend and/or the remission of tuition and fees.

Scan the QR code to read more about our graduate assistantships:



# Collaborative Academic Professionalization (CAP)

The CAP program provides support, mentoring, supervision, and professional development for graduate teaching assistants. Weekly meetings include practice grading sessions, teaching demonstrations, and ongoing discussions of teaching matters and pedagogical research.

# UMEGO

## University of Memphis English Graduate Organization

The UofM English Graduate Organization supports the advancement of the academic and professional goals of its members and provides opportunities for networking with other graduate students and faculty in the English Department. What differentiates UMEGO from other organizations is the ability to truly connect with our graduate students, faculty, and the University.

**Any person taking a graduate course in the English Department  
is eligible and encouraged to be a member!**







# Ready to join an English Graduate Program?



Check out our admissions page on our website for the most up-to-date and detailed application information!

## **PhD Application Deadlines:**

February 15th for Fall  
October 15th for Spring

## **MA Application Deadlines:**

August 1st for Fall  
January 1st for Spring

## **MFA Application Deadlines:**

March 1st for Fall  
October 15th for Spring



## Department of English

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