

ENGLISH

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (Ph.D.)

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:

The Ph.D. program is built around the English Department's seminar offerings in nineteenth- and twentieth-century literature and in creative writing; two specializations are offered:

- Literature and Criticism (Literary Studies: Critical)
- Creative Writing (Literary Studies: Creative)

Within these specializations, you construct your own plan of study to reflect your interests. The selective nature and small size of the Ph.D. program ensure that you receive the attention and guidance you need.

All students take written and oral comprehensive exams as well as presenting an oral defense of their dissertation. Reading proficiency in a language other than English is necessary for graduation.

Most doctoral students in the English Department pursue their studies while participating in the Teaching Assistant program. They can expect to complete their degrees in about four years.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

- Completion of a M.A. in English (or its equivalent)
- Minimum Graduate GPA of 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale)
- Scores for the GRE General Test. No subject test is required.
- TOEFL score of at least 105 (internet-based test), 620 (paper test) or 260 (computer test), or IELTS score of 7.0, if applicable; required of international applicants, except those whose primary language is English or who have a Master's degree from an accredited institution in which English is the language of instruction.

APPLICATION DEADLINE:

February 1



UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTH DAKOTA

GETTING STARTED:

Prospective graduate students may apply through the Graduate School at www.usd.edu/grad/how-to-apply.cfm.

The Graduate School forwards completed applications to the appropriate academic department for review. The department will then recommend the admission status of the applicant to the Dean of the Graduate School, who will make the final decision on admission.

HOW TO APPLY:

Applicants must submit all of the following:

- Application form, including a one to two page statement of purpose in which you explain your reasons for seeking the Ph.D. in English, the area(s) of study which interest you most, and your career plans.
- Three confidential letters of recommendation.
- One official transcript of all coursework for undergraduate and graduate degrees.
- A writing sample: All applicants will submit a 12-15 page sample of critical prose. Applicants specializing in creative writing will submit a creative writing sample of no less than 20 pages.
- Official GRE score report. (Must be received no later than February 15). Subject test scores are not required.
- \$35.00 USD application fee.
- Application for teaching assistantship (optional).
- A list of publications and presentations (optional).
- A list of academic honors and distinctions, including membership in honorary societies (optional).
- International applicants should also submit either TOEFL or IELTS scores, if applicable.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

For more information, please visit www.usd.edu/grad or contact:

University of South Dakota
Department of English
Phone: 605-677-5229
Fax: 605-677-5298
english@usd.edu

University of South Dakota
Graduate School
Phone: 605-677-6240
Phone: 800-233-7937
grad@usd.edu

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PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS:

PH.D. IN ENGLISH: 54-69 CREDIT HOURS:

Required Core: Total 9-12 credit hours

Course	Course Title	Credit Hours
ENGL 801	Seminar: Multicultural Literature	3
ENGL 802	Seminar: Bibliography and Research	3

One of the following courses in criticism:

Course	Course Title	Credit Hours
ENGL 584	Literary Criticism	3
ENGL 585	Contemporary Criticism	3
ENGL 587	Aesthetics	3
ENGL 786	Seminar: Literary Criticism	3

One of the following, unless equivalent coursework was completed at the Master's level:

Course	Course Title	Credit Hours
ENGL 723	Seminar: Old English	3
LING 543	History of the English Language	3
LING 790	Seminar: Language Studies	3

Total Required Core credit hours: 9-12

Electives: 0-6 credit hours in ENGL

Specialization: Literary Studies: Critical: 24 credit hours total

- Graduate seminars in literature since 1800 (21)
- Additional selection from the criticism courses in the core (3)

Specialization: Literary Studies: Creative: 27 credit hours total

- Graduate seminars in Creative Writing (15)
- Courses in applied theory for Creative Writing (3)
- Graduate seminars in literature since 1800 (9)

Dissertation

- Dissertation (15-30 credit hours)

A minimum of 39 hours of coursework, excluding dissertation hours, must be completed. Other requirements include demonstration of reading proficiency in a foreign language, completion of comprehensive examinations, and an oral defense of the dissertation. Students should consult the departmental graduate student handbook for additional information.



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