Take your study of literature to the next level while also learning how to become an effective teacher of college writing.

The M.A. in English at UND stresses the importance of gaining breadth in the study of literature and literary periods. At the same time, coursework in the degree asks students to focus on academic writing conventions, on gaining advanced critical tools, and on developing as independent scholars with opportunities to practice research and revision.

Program Snapshot
Program type: Master's Degree
Format: On-campus
Est. time to complete: 2 years
Credit hours: 30 (thesis option) or 32 (non-thesis option)

Why Study English at UND?

Small class sizes, individual attention from faculty, and a strong emphasis on learning how to become an effective teacher of writing are just a few reasons students choose to enroll at UND.

Among our program's many features:

- Graduate-level seminars that cover a variety of topics. You will find opportunities to study a wide range of literary genres, periods, and authors—and courses that explore literary criticism, research methods, and creative writing.
- A strong composition program that takes the teaching of writing seriously. You get coursework in teaching English, practical teaching workshops, individualized attention, and hands-on experience as you learn how to become an effective teacher.
- Financial support. Qualified students earn graduate teaching assistantships that cover most tuition costs and provide stipends, allowing you to focus on your studies.
- A final degree project with strong mentoring from the faculty leads to timely completion on of the degree. Your final portfolio is supported through individualized attention from a committee of faculty and by a portfolio workshop course.
- A final portfolio that helps you improve your academic writing and strategies for revision, while giving you the opportunity to return to projects that contribute to your own individual career plans.
- A partnership with the American College of Norway provides opportunities for up to two graduate students per year to spend a semester teaching in Moss, Norway.

Upon completion of the M.A. you may choose to pursue further graduate education in English, and our program prepares you well for continued study in a MFA or PhD program. Those who don't take this path find that the M.A. also gives them strong career qualifications: you are prepared to teach college writing at the introductory level and prepared for any career that requires highly developed verbal, analytical, and rhetorical skills.

Application Deadlines

FALL: FEB 15* | AUG 1
*DESIGNATES PRIORITY DEADLINE

English Master's Degree Overview

- Learn in small classes averaging just eight students.
● Work closely with faculty who are internationally recognized scholars and authors.
● Interact with world-renowned authors at the annual UND Writers Conference.
● Join the UND English Graduate Student Association.
● Produce a final project that is tailored to your individual needs and plans—whether you are seeking further graduate study or seeking a particular career path.

English M.A. Careers

95% UND faculty who hold the highest degree in their field
8% Anticipated job growth for writers and authors* 

*U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

A graduate degree in English is among today's most flexible options, because it provides you with the communication and critical-thinking skills you need to succeed in a variety of professions. Your M.A. can take you just about anywhere, including:

● Ph.D. programs in English
● Professional degree programs such as law school or library science
● Teaching at the high school or community college level
● Academic administration
● Publishing
● Editing
● Marketing communications
● Journalism
● Advertising