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)

What are the benefits of earning a master's in English?

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

UND's master's degree in English 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. Your final portfolio is supported through individualized attention from a committee of faculty and by a portfolio workshop course. It is tailored to your individual needs and plans—whether you are seeking further graduate study or a particular career path.

◆ 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 career plans.

Continue Your Education in English

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 M.F.A. or Ph.D. 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

Department Contact
English Master's Degree

- 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.
- 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.
- Intern with our long-standing and acclaimed literary journal North Dakota Quarterly, as well as the recently founded Digital Press.

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:

- 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

Pursue a Ph.D. in English

Our English master's students have an impressive placement record into doctoral programs at top universities nationwide, including offers of full financial support for research, as well as graduate teaching assistantships. Our own program also has a strong record of placing our doctoral students in tenure-track positions at two-year and four-year colleges and universities nationally.