Become a researcher in English studies while establishing your own expertise in the field.

As you prepare for a career in higher education, you will gain a strong foundation in the study of literature, in the teaching of college English, and in the disciplinary conventions that guide writing and research in English Studies. Balancing broad preparation with a commitment to helping students develop their own areas of research specialization, the Ph.D. program at UND provides you with a great deal of individualized attention.

Program Snapshot

Why Study English at UND?

Small class sizes, close work with faculty, and a strong emphasis on learning how to become an effective college teacher of English are just a few reasons students choose to enroll at UND.

Among our program's many features:

- Financial support: qualified students earn graduate teaching assistantships that cover most tuition costs and provide stipends, allowing you to focus on your studies.
- 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 emphasis on pedagogy. Our composition program takes the teaching of writing seriously, and you receive coursework in teaching English, practical teaching workshops, individualized attention, and hands-on experience as you improve your college teaching skills.
- Individualized attention and support from expert faculty as you develop your own comprehensive exam and dissertation topics.
- 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.

In the Ph.D. program at UND, you’ll gain not only a broad foundation in the field, but also depth of expertise as you work closely with UND faculty with specializations in areas such as:

- American Literature and Culture
- British Literature and Culture
- Literary Criticism and Theory
- Women and Gender Studies
- Composition and Rhetoric

Application Deadlines

Fall: Feb 15* | Aug 1

*Designates priority deadline
English Ph.D. Overview

- Learn in small classes averaging just eight students.
- Be a part of a department that takes good teaching seriously and take advantage of opportunities to expand and improve your own teaching skills.
- Participate in professional development activities through the UND English Graduate Student Association.
- Interact with world-renowned authors at the annual UND Writers Conference.
- Work closely with faculty who are internationally recognized scholars.

English Ph.D. Careers

10%  Anticipated job growth for English professors*
64K  Median annual salary for English professors*

*U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Your Ph.D. from the University of North Dakota equips you with the skills and the knowledge you need to thrive in any career. For instance:

- College or university professor
- Writing teacher
- Author
- Creative writer
- Editor
- Publisher