



M.A. in English Program

FULTON SCHOOL OF LIBERAL ARTS

So You're Thinking About Graduate School? Come to Salisbury!

Thinking about continuing your education with an M.A. Program that offers versatility and new career opportunities? The Department of English at Salisbury University might have just the right one for you. With three different tracks – Composition and Rhetoric, Literature, and TESOL – and courses in creative writing, our M.A. in English Program offers many possibilities for advancement. Whether you are contemplating a career in academia, a life of creative expression, or looking to build your expertise and credentials, our program offers the rigor of intellectual engagement in a close-knit community with strong faculty mentoring and opportunities for scholarly partnerships.

What Is Graduate Education Like?

Being an M.A. student in English at SU means that you commit to the serious and rigorous study of a discipline, stepping into a field of study that may become your profession or that might elevate your professional standing. Regardless of your motivations for joining the program, you will be taught to read widely, engage deeply, and think about questions that are worth asking. As you expand your critical and theoretical frameworks, you will be able to understand your object of study in a broad context, making connections between the driving forces of scholarly pursuit and their practical applications to your professional lives.

Areas Of Study

Composition & Rhetoric ›

Investigate how writing works in the world! Classes are application-based, where you learn to apply rhetorical theories and writing concepts to understand how and why texts operate in specific contexts. Courses include disability rhetoric, environmental rhetoric, writing praxis, rhetorical history, independent studies and more!

Literature ›

Ready to deepen your engagement with literary and cultural analysis? Through courses that range from periodization (Shakespeare, Milton, Colonial America) to contemporary courses (multiethnic or African American literature), we offer a variety of approaches to literary study and critical theory in our curriculum, introducing you to the work of the literary scholar and the most prevalent conversations in literary studies.

TESOL ›

Our Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages concentration prepares students to teach English as an additional language in the U.S. and abroad. Courses range from theory-oriented to methods-oriented. You will conduct research, design instructional materials and assessments, and connect with multilingual learners in the community. Choose from a Maryland K-12 Certification track or a non-certification track.

Creative Writing ›

Are you a writer looking to sharpen your craft? The courses in creative writing offer workshops and craft courses that specialize in the three genre areas (fiction, non-fiction, or poetry) where you'll generate and share work, provide and receive feedback, and hone your editorial eye while learning the process of submitting to professional outlets and how to advocate for your work.



Make Tomorrow Yours

How to Pay for Graduate School: The Teaching Assistantship

SU offers a number of competitive teaching assistantship (TA) positions, which include a stipend of \$15,000 and tuition waiver. In exchange, you teach three sections of the English Department's First Year Writing courses each year. Students who are awarded TA positions take courses in pedagogy and gain valuable experience in the classroom.

What Kinds of Courses Do You Take?

- **ENGL 508: Methods and Theory for Literary Research** introduces you to contemporary criticism, surveying the concepts and methods of critical theory in the 20th and 21st centuries. It tackles questions such as "What are the tools of the literary critic? How do we go about interpreting literature and culture? What is the intellectual history of the different perspectives we use for literary and cultural analysis?" In doing so, you'll learn the tools, methods and critical perspectives needed to engage in meaningful dialogue in your field of study.
- **ENGL 535: Language and Culture** emphasizes a linguistic approach to the peculiar relationship between a language and the cultural total of which the language is a part and explores the study of language in its social settings. We examine language variation within a community according to gender, age, geography, ethnicity, socio-economic class, education and other social variables while considering the educational, political and economic implications of these correlations. The course proceeds by examining sociolinguistic diversity both in America and across the world.
- **ENGL 565: Composition Theory** addresses the common concerns that "kids today can't write" or "they're so distracted and always on their cell phones." We study the history of diverse literary practices that have influenced the process and practices by which we teach students to write. We'll read empirical scholarship that details the composing process and how individual writer's beliefs and concepts influence their practices, learning more about social and material elements (things like collaboration, feedback and technology) and how they influence writing. We'll also engage in timely debates over issues like what we should be teaching students, approaches to voice and language practices, and how to navigate our own values as instructors.
- **ENGL 555, 556 and 557 are Workshops in Fiction, Nonfiction and Poetry** designed to develop you and your colleagues into a community of writers who, through the course of the semester, develop, workshop and revise original creative work with an eye to producing publishable material. You can expect an intensive focus on high-level craft concerns and editorial practices while reading widely in the genre and learning to provide meaningful feedback for your peers.

M.A. Outcomes

Recent graduates have gone on to teach in K-12 settings and community colleges, and they have taken jobs in publishing, editing and public relations; we also have graduate students attend Ph.D. programs. Graduate students also have won prestigious fellowships like Fulbrights to teach abroad. MA TESOL graduates have accepted positions as ESOL teachers in countries abroad, such as China, Korea and Japan.

Learn more: salisbury.edu/english

Application Deadlines

- **Fall Deadline for TA Candidates: Priority Consideration - January 15**
- **Final Deadline for TA Candidates: March 1**
- **Fall Final Consideration (non-TA): August 1**
- **Spring Final Consideration (non-TA): January 1**

For More Information

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