

IUP Graduate Handbook

GRADUATE STUDIES IN LITERATURE AND CRITICISM
PROGRAM HANDBOOK

Department of English

Handbook Updated 2020-2021

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INTRODUCTION

Welcome to IUP! We look forward to working with you as a student in the Graduate Studies in Literature and Criticism program. This Handbook includes basic policies and procedures for your successful completion of our Program. Please make sure that you familiarize yourself with this Handbook as your reference guide at all stages of your progress towards your Ph.D.

Indiana University of Pennsylvania

To strengthen the university for academic success will act honestly, take responsibility for my behavior and continuous learning, and respect the freedom of others to express their views.

7. To assure that reasonable accommodations will be made for the physical disabilities of an applicant or student.

As an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution, IUP Affirmative Action Plan is applicable to employees/enrollees of Indiana University of Pennsylvania under provisions of federal and state laws including Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, Sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and the Civil Rights Act of 1991, as well as all federal and state executive orders. This policy extends to disabled veterans and veterans of the Vietnam era.

The IUP Affirmative Action Plan supersedes the Affirmative Action Plan of 1995-96; the 1983 IUP Plan; the August 8, 1975, Affirmative Action Plan adopted by the Board of Trustees; and the March 31, 1982, Affirmative Action Plan submitted to the U.S. Office for Civil Rights.

As part of our mission to meet all these objectives in addition to the full year academic program, we have established a Summers-Only residency program designed to make doctoral work in Literature and Criticism available to working professionals of a kind: the only summer residential Ph.D. literature program in the United States. It is specifically designed to meet the needs of educators who otherwise would not have opportunity for further academic development.

Faculty

Tanya Heflin Ph.D. (University of Southern California), heflin@iup.edu

--late 19th and 20th century American literature; multiethnic American literature; feminism

Melanie Holm Ph.D (Rutgers University), mdholm@iup.edu

--18th to 21st Century British (Renaissance to 19th Century), American, and Postcolonial literatures; skepticism

Christopher Orchard Ph.D. (Oxford University), corchard@iup.edu

--Renaissance literature; modern British literature

Mike Sell Ph.D. (University of Michigan), msell@iup.edu

--Modern world drama; the avant-garde; African-American literature, especially the Black Arts Movement; modernism and postmodernism; critical theory

Kenneth Sherwood Ph.D. (Rutgers University), ksherwood@iup.edu

statement of goals, the presence of relevant courses in English on the transcript, as well as the test scores. The minimum TOEFL score for admission to the Literature and Criticism doctoral program is 560 (or its equivalent in other scales). TOEFL scores are not required of international students who completed an M.A. in the U.S.

6. A writing sample, while not required, is strongly recommended as a part of the application.
7. GRE scores are not required, but can be submitted by the applicant if desired.

Further information, including online application portal and links to the graduate admissions office, are available on our website, www.iup.edu/english/grad/literature-criticism-phd/

The program does not normally admit students who are not classified as seeking a degree, nor does it provisionally admit international students who have demonstrated suitable proficiency in English. Applicants who indicate that they do not plan to work toward the degree but wish to enroll in one or two graduate courses for which they are qualified may apply to SGSR for Special Graduate Standing, but such enrollment does not constitute admission to the Program. For information regarding Admission Classification and Provisional Admission for International Graduate Application, see the current Graduate Catalog www.iup.edu/gradcatalog

Further Information for International Applicants

In addition to the academic prerequisites and procedures for admission given above, international students must complete an international student primary application form and present evidence to SGSR of financial resources sufficient to meet the following in Indiana, Pennsylvania, the cost of travel to and from the student's native country, and the cost of graduate education at Indiana University of Pennsylvania. The Office of International Education www.iup.edu/international can assist with general information about the university and obtain certificates of eligibility such as I-20's and DS-2019's for admitted students. Questions about these and other legal matters should be directed to the Office of International Education intl-education@iup.edu

Graduate Admissions www.iup.edu/admissions/graduate/

For more information regarding Admission Classification and Provisional Admission for International Graduate Application, view the Graduate Catalog www.iup.edu/gradcatalog

Financial Assistance

Please consult the most recent School of Graduate Studies and Research information bulletin on current costs for tuition and fees, or visit this website www.iup.edu/page.aspx?id=17303

Graduate Assistantships

Each year the Literature and Criticism Program in the English Department is allocated a limited number of Graduate Assistantships. Assistantships are made on a year-to-year basis and are based on academic achievement. GAs are generally given to first year, new students. For second year renewal appointments, the criteria for the GA include an evaluation of performance in the first year, including: successful completion of academic assignments; maintaining both in and out of class cordial, appropriate, collegial, professional relationships with students, faculty, and administrators; active, thoughtful, and considerate participation in classes and in the performance of graduate student duties; respect for the diversity, difference, and multi-cultural nature of our academic community; and dedication to high standards of intellectual integrity in all forms of learning, research, and scholarship.

Graduate assistants are assigned to ten to twenty hours per week of academic duties under the supervision of faculty in the Graduate Literature and Criticism Program. Duties of the graduate assistant may include assisting faculty with preparing bibliographical or course materials, supporting alumni outreach and tracking, creating program newsletters or other communications, or providing other editorial work. Graduate assistants must be full-time students (that is, enrolled for a minimum of 9 graduate credit hours each semester in the academic year during their appointment).

Graduate Assistantships are not available during the summer.

Doctoral Fellowships

IUP Foundation Fellowships are awarded to students who have demonstrated merit and the potential for academic excellence in their doctoral studies. These fellowships provide students with a financial award that varies, depending on the semester, between \$1,000 and \$3,000, and may be held in conjunction with a Graduate Assistantship.

Students must be nominated by their department for these fellowships and scholarships. More information about fellowships and scholarships as well as other support for graduate studies may be found at www.iup.edu/graduatestudies/resources-for-current-students/

Teaching Associates Positions

Advanced doctoral students may apply for positions as Teaching Associates. Applicants must have successfully passed Candidacy Review, and must have completed (or be registered for) a minimum of 24 semester hours of course work at the time of application. Teaching Associates are given responsibility for teaching up to 12 credits of graduate courses per year (up to 2 courses each fall and spring semester). Students awarded these positions may apply for a second year. Applications are made to the Director of the Graduate Literature and Criticism Program and voted upon by a committee. Deadline for TA/Temporary application is around mid-March each year. Recommendations for appointments must be applied to the English Department. Assuming a two-

A Facebook group is active for current students and alumni. It is a virtual space that enables current students and alumni to interact and share information. Program news items are also posted to the Facebook group.

To facilitate communication, students should update their current physical addresses at both SGSR and the Registrar's Office if they move after application for admission.

Graduate Student Assembly

The Graduate Student Assembly (GSA) represents the graduate student body's interests at IUP and within the Indiana community. The GSA makes recommendations related University-wide and graduate-specific policies and in areas of concern in the cultural, intellectual, and social life of the part- and full-time graduate student. Visit www.iup.edu/graduatestudies/gsa for more information.

English Graduate Organization

The IUP English Graduate Organization (EGO) serves students who are enrolled in the various English graduate programs at IUP. By enrolling in any one of these programs, you are automatically a member. Membership enables you to participate in EGO affiliated workshops, sponsored conferences, and social events like the fall picnic. The organization serves as a place to foster scholarship, make friends, learn about and participate in academic and social events, and to ensure that your voice as an English graduate student is heard.

Programs and Degrees

Academic Year and Summers-Only Program Components

The main components of the Doctoral Program are coursework, a candidacy examination (taken approximately midway in the coursework), proof of proficiency in a foreign language (other than English), the completion of a research skills report (through appropriate coursework or a second foreign language), comprehensive examination and dissertation. The Ph.D. generally takes about 5 years to complete: 2 years of coursework; 1 year for the comprehensive exam and foreign language requirement; and 2 years for the proposal and writing of

Coursework

A minimum of thirty-six hours of program coursework (including the research skills requirement, which consists of two courses [6 credits], as explained below). It is also possible for a student to pass a second foreign language test, in which case the student then needs only 30 hours of coursework. Academic good standing is maintained with a B average in the coursework. If after any given semester, a student's cumulative GPA falls below that student will be placed on academic probation, which means the student will have to raise the cumulative GPA to at least 3.5 in the succeeding semester or face dismissal from the program. Any student dismissed from the program may not re-apply for admission. Full-time enrollment is normally three courses per semester.

In summers, students may enroll for one or two courses for each of the two summer sessions; Research Skills courses are scheduled during week pre-sessions. The 30 hours (normally ten courses carrying 3 semester hours of credit) includes a number of requirements, discussed below. The Literature and Criticism doctoral program does not accept transfer credit hours from other programs or institutions. All regular academic graduate students must register for three courses fall and spring of the first year; no more than one course for summer (two with permission of director); three courses for fall of second year if (two courses were taken in summer), and at least two courses for spring of second year.

All doctoral students (including summers-only doctoral students) who have completed all courses and who have passed the candidacy exam, must register continuously for 1 credit in Fall and 1 credit in Spring, until they graduate. In that situation, any student who has not registered for at least 1 credit for each of the required semesters will face dismissal from the program. De-activation from the program will occur at the end of the add-drop period at the beginning of the second semester of non-registration (if a student does not register for a spring semester, de-activation will take place at the end of add-drop for fall semester).

Dissertation hours can be taken when necessary to accrue credits, as for instance, when 9 credits per semester must be registered for during any semester a student holds a GA.

1. Core Courses (two courses required) 6 S.H.

These courses form the basis of much later work. While not prerequisites for other courses, they should be taken early in the program during the first two semesters (or during the two sessions of the first summer)

ENGL 955 The History and Theory of Criticism

ENGL 956 Literary Theory for the Teacher and Scholarly Writer

The aims of the core courses are:

- a. to investigate the history of critical theory;

2. Six semester hours of graduate credit beyond the 12 hours required, with a grade of B or above, in history, philosophy, or other humanistic courses (at IUP) directly related to the student's research needs and approved by the Director of Graduate Studies in Literature and the Dean of SGSR.
3. Proficiency in a second foreign language (not English) as measured by an exam designed by Indiana University of Pennsylvania faculty in Foreign Languages Departments, or by other means approved by the Dean of SGSR. Test verification must be accomplished after admission to the program. The University Testing Service administers language testing; testing

Academic Year Students:

First Year, Fall Semester:
 ENGL 955
 2 additional 800-level courses
 First Year, Spring Semester:
 ENGL 956
 2 additional 800-level courses
 Summer Session after First Year:
 1 800- or 900-level course
 Take Candidacy Exam
 Second Year, Fall Semester:
 2 800-level courses
 1 900-level course
 Second Year, Spring semester:
 1 800-level course
 1 900-level course
 3 dissertation credits
 Summer Session after Second Year:
 Foreign language exam
 Begin preparation for Comp Exam
 Additional dissertation credits

Summers-Only Students:

First Summer:
 SSI: ENGL 955
 SS1: 1 800-level course
 SS2: ENGL 956
 SS2: 1 800-level course
 Second Summer:
 Pre-session: 1 Research Skills course
 SS1: 1 800-level course
 SS1: 1 900-level course
 SS2: 1 800-level course
 SS2: 1 900-level course
 May or Aug.: take Candidacy Exam
 Fall Semester after Second Summer:
 1 independent seminar
 Spring Semester after Second Summer:
 1 independent seminar
 Third Summer:
 1 800- or 900-level course
 Foreign language exam
 Begin preparation for Comp Exam

NOTE: Once coursework is complete, progress towards the degree can follow relatively similar patterns for both academic year and summers-only students. Individual curricular plans do vary considerably as it typically takes 4-6 years to complete the degree. Very few students do it in only 4 years, and those that do so generally devote full-time to their studies, year-round, without other teaching or work obligations. The following two plans represent potential and possible ways of completing work in 5 years and 6 years, respectively, but, again, individual plans vary (for consistency, each year begins with summer). Completing the degree requires considerable organizational in planning, as well as close work with the Acting Advisor/Dissertation Director.

Five-Year Plan

Third Year, Summer Term

Fulfill foreign language requirement by taking the exam administered by the University Testing Center: www.iup.edu/universitytesting/tests/flc/ (The Foreign Language requirement must be fulfilled before the Comprehensive Exam application is signed and submitted. It can be taken any time prior to the third year also.)

Contact and meet with the faculty member who will serve as Acting Advisor. It is quite common for the initial contact with the potential Acting Advisor to take place during the second year, but it is not necessary until the third year. If agreed, both faculty member and student, begin to make arrangements for two other comprehensive exam committee members, and then formulate the three area lists in consultation with those faculty. Finalize all three lists by the end of the summer, and submit signed Comprehensive Application to the L&C Graduate Office. The

application calls for the dates when the exam will be taken, which must be at least one semester after the application has been submitted, and more commonly two semesters later.

Third Year, Fall and Spring Semesters

Reading, studying, taking notes on all areas in preparation for the Comp Exam, consulting with committee members as appropriate. Take

Comprehensive Exam Application to the L&C Graduate Office. The application calls for the dates when the exam will be taken, which must be at least one semester after application has been submitted, more typically two semesters later.

Third Year, Spring Semester

Reading, studying, taking notes on all areas in preparation for the Comp Exam, consulting with committee members as appropriate.

Fourth Year, Summer and Fall Semesters

Take Comp Exam in fall semester.

Fourth Year, Spring Semester

Once the Comp Exam has been passed, work with Acting Advisor to begin drafting the dissertation proposal. Once the proposal has been approved by the Acting Advisor, it should then be submitted to the two other committee members at least 4 weeks before the Proposal Meeting. The Proposal Meeting might be scheduled late in the summer, or in the fall.

Fifth Year, Summer, Fall, Spring Semesters

The Proposal Meeting should be scheduled in late spring or early summer, after which revisions can be made, or the Research Topic Approval Form (RTAF) can be signed by all committee members, and the student now officially becomes an ABD. Once all signatures are obtained, the Acting Advisor then becomes the Director of Dissertation. Student works closely with the Dissertation Director in beginning to compose the dissertation. The RTAF requires a timeline for completion of the dissertation, so it is important that students try to adhere to that timeline. Early stages in the writing of the dissertation are always done in collaboration with the Dissertation Director prior to submitting any work to the other committee members.

Sixth Year, Summer and Fall Semesters

Continued work on dissertation. Protocol A requires that the 2/3 complete dissertation must be submitted during fall semester to meet May graduation deadlines.

Sixth Year, Spring Semester

Complete dissertation using one of the two protocols (see pp. 32-33 below).

Schedule dissertation defense at least 6 weeks before graduation. Contact the Dissertation Director for more information.

concerns for theory, pedagogy, multiculturalism, and the changes in higher education, especially as they affect English studies.

ENGL 956 Literary Theory for the Teacher and Scholarly Writer

Focuses on contemporary literary and cultural theory, especially as it affects the teaching, scholarship, and curricular design of English Studies, which has undergone significant changes in recent decades. Examines contemporary theoretical approaches such as New Criticism, poststructuralism, deconstruction, reader response, Marxism, New Historicism, cultural studies, feminism, postcolonialism, gay and lesbian theory, and others with a special emphasis on practice: how theory affects the classroom, the curriculum, and the writing of professional presentations and publications.

ENGL 983 Seminar: Literary Theory Applied to American Author or Theme

Advanced, independent work in a seminar form. This course emphasizes the production of a research paper of publishable quality and the application of theory to specific texts and to the teaching of them. Specific content for the course, a major author or specific theme in American Literature, will be chosen by the instructor.

ENGL 984 Seminar: Literary Theory Applied to British Author or Theme

Draws on knowledge and critical skills from courses and traditional and special literature courses for advanced, independent work. Focuses on a single major author or well-defined theme in British Literature chosen by the instructor. Each student learns to apply theory to teaching and produces a research essay suitable for submission for publication or presentation at a conference.

ENGL 985 Seminar: Comparative Literary Theory Applied to Traditional and Special Literatures

Explores and applies the theories and methods of comparative literature to traditional and special literatures as well as to teaching and writing about them, especially through the production of a research paper of publishable quality. Students expect to investigate, from various critical perspectives, conflicting social and literary issues. Specific course content is chosen by the instructor.

NOTE: Specific course topics and instructors available by email prior to registration period.

Evaluation of Students

For information regarding School of Graduate Studies and Research policies on grading, view the Graduate Catalog www.iup.edu/gradcatalog

Candidacy Examination

The doctoral degree in literature is primarily a reading degree, requiring a broad background as well as expertise in certain specific areas. The program stresses these areas of expertise, but students are responsible for strengthening their general background knowledge. Coursework alone, which may be fairly specialized, may not give students a sufficient general knowledge of a period, major authors or movements.

The Candidacy Examination assesses the student's knowledge of major authors and movements in British and American literature to determine the student's preparation for specialized and specific studies.

exam). The exams are administered 3 times every year: Thursday and Friday of the week before classes begin for each semester and the main summer sessions (late January, May, and August).

Theory Requirement:

In addition to the period lists, there is also a "Theory List," which is comprised of a representative sample list of potential authors, each listed under an appropriate theoretical area. This theory list is intended primarily as a suggested or representative list. Students are not obliged to refer only to those theorists listed here. The theory list is primarily intended

The Foreign Language Competency Test is administered by University Testing Services three times a year

Aristophanes, Sappho, Petronius, Chaucer, Shakespeare, Pynchon, Morrison, and others.) Typical exam questions here may ask the student to identify the major ideas within a school of theory or to interpret one or more of the literary works in light of the chosen theoretical approach.

2. The broad area or category may be a traditional literary period, genre, theme, or group of writers. The general idea is to develop a list that identifies a recognizable field or disciplinary area within the profession of English studies, and it should be broadly enough that it covers a historical period of roughly 100 years or more. Thus, for example, if the student chooses Charles Dickens for the narrow area one might, for example, select the British Novel, 1780-1880 for the broad area.
3. The narrow area or category might be a particular author or a narrowly defined literary period, movement, or theme. This area often becomes the focus of the dissertation and the examiner in the narrow area often becomes the director of the dissertation, so the student should be particularly careful in selecting the examiner and the topic for this area. Most commonly, the narrow area is nested within the broad area time period.

Each area exam will be based on a reading list of 25-35 prepared by the student and the individual examiners and approved by the Director of Graduate Studies in Literature. The comprehensive exam reading lists should be planned so as to (1) ready the student for the more focused and intensive research needed to write the dissertation, (2) strengthen the knowledge of the content and discourse of their chosen field(s) of specialization, and (3) fit the interests and knowledge of the faculty who will serve on the committee, especially the Acting Advisor. Each of the three lists for the comprehensive exams typically includes about 25-35 primary sources and a secondary list is comprised of 10-15 additional sources. After the three areas and examiners are chosen and the reading lists for the exams approved by all committee members and the Director of Graduate Studies in Literature, the student should obtain a comprehensive exam application, approval, and scheduling form from the Director of Graduate Studies in Literature, and be sure that the completed, signed form is on file in the English Graduate Office. The Comprehensive Application Form should be submitted at least one semester before the exam itself is administered.

The procedures for the comprehensive exam are typically e-mailed to the students by the Acting Advisor at a specified day and time, and students have one week to compose the three exams. An oral exam will complete the process. Each of the examiners for the comprehensives will evaluate all three written exams and then use these evaluations as preparation for the oral. The oral exam will be approximately 90 minutes.

Please see the Graduate Literature Comprehensive Examination Instructions sheet for detailed information on the exact procedures, which must be followed carefully.

If any or all of the examinations are failed, they can be taken a second time, generally no earlier than one semester and not later than one year after the first attempt. Students must be re-examined in the same

Degree Completion

In order to graduate, the dissertation author must have completed all course requirements, passed the Candidacy Review and Comprehensive Exams, satisfied the Foreign Language requirement, successfully written and defended the dissertation proposal, and defended the dissertation. Additionally, doctoral students are required to register for 12 hours of ENGL 995 Dissertation credits while working on (sometimes prior to) the dissertation. All 12 hours must be completed no later than the semester in which the student wishes to defend the dissertation and then graduate.

If the student has taken all 12 dissertation credits and is still not ready to apply for graduation, then they must register each fall and spring for 1 Extended Credit dissertation hour until graduation. (See the Continuous Graduate Registration for Dissertation and Thesis policy on page 41)

Students must complete all requirements and apply for graduation at iup.edu/urs according to the deadlines set and announced by the SGSR.

The Ph.D. degree is awarded upon successful completion of all program requirements.

For more information, view the Graduate Catalog at iup.edu/gradcatalog

Dissertation Completion

The dissertation presumes control of skills developed throughout the program and shows the student's ability to bring these skills to a written performance that sustains and develops them fully. The dissertation may be initiated only after comprehensive examinations have been successfully completed.

Dissertation Committee

Upon successful completion of the comprehensive exams, the student will (if he or she has not already done so) choose a director for the dissertation who agrees to serve in that capacity. The director must be a member of the graduate faculty with expertise appropriate to the area in which the student wishes to work. Typically, the dissertation director is the person who has been serving as the Acting Advisor, although changes can be made at this stage. Under the guidance of the dissertation director, the student will prepare a proposal for research. The student will, in consultation with the director, select a committee of two additional faculty members who must then agree to serve as readers of the dissertation.

It is possible for students to engage outside dissertation committee members. Faculty members outside the Literature and Criticism program but employed at IUP must be approved for graduate teaching. Faculty members at other universities must be approved by the University Wide Graduate Committee (UWGC). The procedures for obtaining approval are fairly simple: the student should

request from the outside reader that they submit an electronic version of their recent curriculum vitae (CV), and the student should then forward the CV with the request for approval to the L&C graduate director, indicating the expertise and appropriateness of the outside reader for the student's research project. The graduate director is then responsible for submitting the request for approval to the UWGC. Students should consult with their dissertation advisor regarding the possibility and appropriateness of having one or more outside readers. Outside readers cannot be approved by the UWGC until the Research Topic Approval Form (RTAF) has been signed and approved by the dissertation committee. Nevertheless, outside readers can serve on comprehensive exam committees, and on dissertation proposal committees prior to their formal approval after the RTAF has been signed.

Dissertation Proposal and Research Topic Approval Form

The dissertation proposal often proves to be among the most challenging texts doctoral students will write, so they should consult closely with their advisor before they begin. The proposal should be 20-30 pages, double-spaced. It must include a 1-2 page, single-spaced summary of the project with a timeline for completion, a statement of purpose and thesis that indicates clearly what contribution the dissertation will make to its field(s) and why that contribution matters, a rationale for the primary sources to be examined, a clear articulation of the basic theoretical orientation, a critical evaluation of the major secondary sources in the form of a literature review, a tentative chapter outline, and a bibliography, including a list of primary and secondary sources, the latter annotated to describe their subject matter, approach, and significance to the project.

Guidelines for the dissertation proposal and the dissertation thesis and Dissertation Manual are available from the School of Graduate Studies and Research (SGSR) online at: www.iup.edu/graduatestudies/resources-for-current-students/research/thesis-dissertation-information/

Once the proposal is drafted and approved by the chair of the dissertation committee, the proposal should be distributed to all committee members. A dissertation proposal meeting should be scheduled. Students should expect to make revisions to the proposal following the suggestions of the committee during the proposal meeting. After the meeting (usually about 1.5 hours), if the dissertation proposal is approved by all committee members, the student should submit an electronic Research Topic Approval Form (RTAF) to the SGSR. Upon successful completion of the dissertation proposal approval process, a student will be considered ABD (all but dissertation).

Dissertation Reading Protocols

The Literature and Criticism Program Committee has recommended two general protocols for establishing working relationships between the student and their committee members. It is important that the committee and student clarify which option, modification of these options, pertains:

Protocol A: When a substantial portion of the proposal (2/3) has been drafted, has been revised with director comments and then sent to the committee for general comments and a green light,

Academic Calendar

View the IUP Academic Calendar www.iup.edu/news-events/calendar/academic/

- Al-Badarneh, Abdullah. 2012. Female Oppression & Aspiration in Selected Nineteenth Century Novels by Elizabeth Gaskell, Charlotte Bronte, Harriet Beecher Stowe, and Elizabeth Stuart Phelps. Director: Dr. Christopher Orchard
- Al-Dagamseh, Abdullah. 2012. Geopolitical Fractures: Ideological Critique of Global Neoliberal Capitalism in World Bank Literature. Director: Dr. David Downing
- Al-Doghmi, Nancy. 2013. "I Am a New Breed. A Re-Defining Hegemonic Identity Constructions in Contemporary Arab-American Women Writers. Director: Dr. Susan Comfort
- Aldowkat, Issam. 2018. Literary Orientalism: East-West and Intellectual Interactions in Selected Texts from Late Eighteenth- and Early-to-Mid-Nineteenth-Century English Literature. Director: Dr. Michael Williamson.
- Aldukhayil, Zakarya. 2018. Dialectics of Resistance: Arab Intellectuals Confronting Nationalism and Universalism. Director: Susan Comfort

- Cox, Margaret. 2016. Caribbean "Islands of Mine": Reshaping the Ocularity of the Self. Director: Dr. Lingyan Yang
- Crawford, Meriah. 2014. It's Not What You Think: How Second-Person Narration Functions in Literature. Director: Dr. Tanya Heflin
- Davis, Mary Elizabeth. 2010. On Advertising's Tenuous Weak Critiques of Consumer Capitalism in Player Piano Fahrenheit 451 and The Space Merchants. Director: Dr. Ronald Emerick
- Davis, Sarah E. 2015. A New Model for Reading Adaptation: Textus, in a Case Study of Adaption of The Great Gatsby. Director: Dr. Christopher Kuipers
- Delcoco-Fridley, Lea. 2011. Motherhood: The Right Non-Traditional Mother in Contemporary Multi-Ethnic American Women's Literature. Director: Dr. Cheryl Wilson
- DeVido, Brett. 2012. From Utopian Dreams to 20th Century Dystopian Nightmares: Modern Fears of the World State and Big Brother in Huxley, Orwell, and Burgess. Director: Dr. James Cahalan
- Dickey, William. 2010. Beyond the Gaze: Post-Foucauldian Surveillance in Fictional Works. Director: Dr. Christopher Orchard
- Dories, Jeffrey. 2010. An Ecocritical Examination of British Romantic Natural History Writing: The Literature of a Changing World. Director: Dr. David Downing
- Dunn, Carly. 2014. The Novels of Deirdre Madden. Director: Dr. James Cahalan
- Englehart, Claire. 2015. Trapped like a Trap in a Subversive Fiction of the Twenties and Thirties- Dorothy Parker's Outrage at the Failure of Advancement Toward Gender and Social Equality. Director: Dr. Thomas Slater
- Faktorovich, Anna. 2011. The Rebellion Novel Genre in the 19

- Frances (Gallihier), Debra. 2012. Shakespeare's Sacred and Nature Settings: Landscapes of the Reformation's Spiritual Individualism. Director: Dr. Ronald Shafer
- Freiz, Ihab. 2011. Narratives of Old Era in Contemporary African American Fiction of Toni Morrison and Ernest J. Gaines. Director: Dr. Ronald Emerick
- Fujino, Koichi. 2015. Social Combination: Teaching Two Fa(u)lkners and Digital Literacy. Director: Dr. Kenneth Sherwood
- Gainer, Mary. 2012. Invoking the Poet-as Seer: From Maxims and Survival Strategies in Old English Poetry and Contemporary Dystopian Writing. Director: Dr. Gail Berlin
- Galm, Brandon. 2018. Defining Post-Katrina Literature: Hurricane Katrina and Experiences of Disaster, Race, and Environment. Director: Dr. Mike Sell
- Galm, Julia. 2019. Hyperprint: Exploring Modern Digital Ambivalence Through Mainstream Print Fiction. Director: Dr. Kenneth Sherwood
- George, Amy. 2020. The Construction of Mosquitoes in Asian American and Arab American Poetry. Director: Dr. Lingyan Yang
- Gibson, Charity. 2017. A Critical Literary Critique of the Normalization of White Motherhood and Mothering. Director: Dr. Veronica Watson
- Gleason, Kevin. 2018. Traumatized Masculinity and Boys in the Works of Tobias Wolff. Director: Dr. Mary

- Helvie, Forrest. 2013. Capes and Canon: Comic Book Heroes and Canonical American Literature. Director: Dr. Christopher Kuipers
- Holman, Matthew. 2012. Gothic Arts in Rust Belt Fiction. Director: Dr. Cheryl Wilson
- Hummel, Jill. 2020. Queering Pregnancies: Geographies and 'Topic' Spaces in Contemporary Literature and Film. Director: Dr. Mike Sell
- Hurley, Meghan. 2019. Comply to Resist: Age-Tween and Twenty-First Century Feminist Dystopian Texts. Director: Dr. Tanya Heflin
- Jacoby, Elizabeth. 2019. Educational Origins: Three Fictional Representations of American Higher Education from the Modern University to the 21st Century. Director: Dr. David Downing
- Johnson, David W. 2015. The Influence of Nineteenth Century Editors on Thoreau, Fern, and Whitman. Director: Dr. Todd Thompson
- Johnson, Lars. 2012. Shouting for God: Resistance and Liberation in African American Evangelical Autobiography. Director: Dr. Todd Thompson
- Joo, Seunghye. 2012. A Study of the Politics of Colorism in Lillian Hellman's Drama and Memoirs Against Colorism: Blackness, Redness, and Whiteness. Director: Dr. Susan Comfort
- Katsiadas, Nicholas. 2019. Transforming Literary History in Romantic Myths in Comics: Neil Gaiman's Sandman, Alan Moore and J.H. Williams' Promethéa, and Mike Cary and Peter Gross's This unwritten. Director: Dr. Michael Williamson
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