MA IN ENGLISH

The Master of Arts in English is designed for students who want to read widely and deeply. This degree can be a foundation for doctoral work (PhD, EdD, JD) or a credential to teach literature and composition courses at community colleges. Full-time students complete the degree in two years.

“We get to meet all of our faculty within the first few weeks. You know going into classes who they are.”
- David Krausman, MA/MFA Alum

WHY THE MA?

• A wide range of small seminars in literature; rhetoric and composition; cultural studies; and digital humanities.
• Literary events that bring national and international authors to campus and bring literature to life.
• Graduate Teaching Assistantships and innovative Graduate Assistantships for select students in the second year of study.
• Flexible scheduling, with classes offered in late afternoon and evening and part-time options.
• Our MA alums find employment in the fields of teaching, marketing, and publishing and have gone on to pursue the PhD and additional graduate work.

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For more information contact Graduate Programs Coordinator Allison DeVries devries@Chapman.edu (714) 997-6752.

ONE UNIVERSITY DRIVE • ORANGE, CALIFORNIA 92866
ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

ALL APPLICANTS MUST PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING MATERIALS:

- Official transcripts from ALL degree-granting (bachelor’s or master’s degrees) colleges and universities attended. An official transcript submitted in a sealed envelope which you have received from your college or university is acceptable.

- An essay expressing your reasons for wanting to join the MA English program. What are your personal and career goals, and how will this particular degree from Chapman University help you reach those goals? Your essay should be double spaced, size 12 font, and 1-2 pages in length.

- Two letters of recommendation that speak to your academic preparation, intellectual ability, and aptitude for graduate study.

- A finished essay of 12–15 pages that focuses on literary or rhetorical analysis. The essay should be informed by contemporary literary or cultural theory and criticism.

- A graduate admission test may not be required if your bachelor’s degree cumulative GPA is 3.0 or above. If your GPA is between 2.5 and 2.99, you may be considered for admission by submitting a satisfactory Graduate Record Examination (GRE). GRE Institution Code: 4047

Dual MA/MFA Degree

Dual-degree students must be admitted to both the MA and MFA degree programs.

In addition to application materials required for the MA, dual-degree applicants must submit a non-returnable portfolio of creative work that represents style and potential; this portfolio should include either 25 pages of fiction or nonfiction or 10-15 pages of poetry. Students already enrolled in either the MA or the MFA program who wish to switch to the dual-degree program must apply and be admitted to the other degree program before completing 27 credits.

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS:

Master of Arts in English

The MA in English consists of 36 credits, six of which are two required classes (three credits each):

ENG 556: Literary Theory and Critical Practice

MA students begin their coursework with ENG 556: Literary Theory and Critical Practice, an introductory course that examines the contemporary theories and methodologies that inform the multifaceted field of English studies.

ENG 597B: MA Thesis

MA students conclude their work with a Thesis project. Students work with a Thesis Director to prepare and defend an article-length thesis of distinction in literature, cultural studies, or rhetoric.

Dual MA/MFA Degree

We’re here to read widely and write boldly. The Dual-Degree combines the MFA and the MA in a 54-credit program that is usually completed in three years of full-time study. Students can apply to the Dual-Degree program directly or can apply to combine programs during the first year of enrollment in either individual program. The Dual-Degree appeals especially to those students interested in teaching at the university, community college, or secondary-school level.

APPLICATION DEADLINES

Submit your application and all supporting documents by the deadline listed below. Applications received after these deadlines will be considered on a rolling basis as space is available.

- For Fall Semester, including scholarship consideration: **February 1**
- For Spring Semester: **November 1**

Recent Faculty Book Publications

[Literature, Rhetoric, and Cultural Studies]

Mark Axelrod
No Symbols Where None Intended: Literary Essays from Laclos to Beckett, Notions of the Feminine: Literary Essays from Lawrence to Lacan

Ian Barnard
Upsetting Composition Commonplaces

Lynda Hall
Women and ‘Value’ in Jane Austen’s Novels

Joanna Levin
Bohemia in America, 1858–1920 and the co-edited collection (with Edward Whitley) Whitman Among the Bohemians

Rei Magasaki
Cosmopolitans and Tricksters: Asian American Literary Production and Cross-Cultural Collaborations

Richard Ruppel
A Political Genealogy of Joseph Conrad