

## **Stony Brook Department of English M.A. Program Description and Requirements:**

**General Information:** A master's degree in English requires completion of ten three-credit graduate courses, with a 3.0 overall GPA, competence in one foreign language, and submission of a thesis.

### **Full Time Enrollment:**

To maintain full time status (necessary to apply for financial aid) students must enroll for:

12 graduate credits if you are G1 status (M.A. students who have completed fewer than 24 graduate credits).

9 graduate credits if you are G2 status (M.A. students who have completed 24 graduate credits).

Students must enroll for at least one credit during the semester in which they wish to graduate. If there is a semester in which a student plans not to enroll for classes, s/he must apply to the Graduate School for an official **leave of absence**. If the student fails to do so, enrollment in the M.A. program will lapse. Upon re-application to the program, the student will be subject to a **\$500 re-admission fee**.

**Time Limit:** Students in the English M.A. program may be full-time or part-time. The time limit for completion of the M.A. degree is three years for full-time students and five years for part-time students. Extensions may be requested, but we urge students to complete the M.A. in a timely fashion.

### **Independent Studies:**

Only one course numbered EGL 599 (Independent Studies) will count toward the course requirements for the M.A. EGL 599 may not be taken during the student's first semester and may be taken thereafter only if the student has no Incompletes and a GPA of B+ or above.

### **The Foreign Language Requirement:**

Students may satisfy the foreign language requirement in one of three ways:

**Option I:** Show evidence of having completed the second year of foreign language at the undergraduate level with a grade of B or better within the last five years.

**Option II:** Upon examination, demonstrate ability to translate writings of moderate difficulty in an approved foreign language.

**Option III:** Obtain a grade of B or higher in a 500-level reading/translation course (e.g. FRN 500, GER 500).

The following languages are automatically accepted for fulfilling the language requirement: Greek, Latin, Hebrew, French, German, Italian, Russian, and Spanish. Other languages relevant to a student's graduate program may be approved upon petition to the Graduate Program Director.

## **Course Requirements:**

### **Two Courses in Language and Rhetoric**

EGL 509 Studies in Language and Linguistics (**required\***)

EGL 506 Topics in Theory: Rhetoric or Composition **or**

EGL 592 Problems in the Teaching of Writing

**\*Note:** Students who completed EGL 380 with a grade of B or better need not take EGL 509.

### **Four Topics Courses** (in at least two different topic areas)

583: Topics in Theory

584: Topics in Genre Studies

585: Topics in Cultural Studies

586: Topics in Gender Studies

587: Topics in Race, Ethnic or Diaspora Studies

588: Writing Workshops

### **Three Elective Courses**

Electives should be 500-level English Courses (600-level English courses and relevant courses from other departments must be approved by the Graduate Director).

### **Period Requirement**

At least one of the courses taken to fulfill degree requirements listed above must focus on periods before 1700; at least one must focus on periods after 1700.

### **Master's Thesis**

After completing at least 15 graduate credits, students may enroll for EGL 598 while writing a master's thesis of 30-40 pages under the guidance of a thesis advisor (chosen by the student with approval of Graduate Director) and an additional faculty member chosen by the student and the advisor. A final copy of the thesis and written approvals from the advisor and reader must be submitted by the last day of classes in the semester in which the student graduates.

**Note:** Topic courses may be repeated as long as content varies. One course cannot be used to satisfy more than one requirement. Courses run through the School of Professional Development are not

accepted for English MA requirements. Students must be registered in the semester in which they graduate.

**Graduate Certificate Programs:**

Students wishing to obtain graduate certificates in Women's Studies, Cultural Studies, and Composition Studies are encouraged to do so. These certificate programs offer additional training in the specified areas. Please contact these departments directly regarding the certificate programs and requirements, as they are distinct from the English M.A.