

Master of Arts in English: Writing Program

At UW-Eau Claire

Our program is designed for poets and writers of fiction and creative non-fiction; for professional writers in or aspiring to careers requiring highly developed communication skills; for those who plan to teach writing in high school or college; and for those who intend to pursue further graduate work in English or related fields. The program resides within a large department whose extraordinarily dynamic and productive faculty offer diverse areas of expertise. Our curriculum provides a wide array of advanced workshops in prose and poetry that emphasize professional production in literary genres, and seminars in scientific and technical writing, rhetoric and composition pedagogy, literature, critical theory, and linguistics.

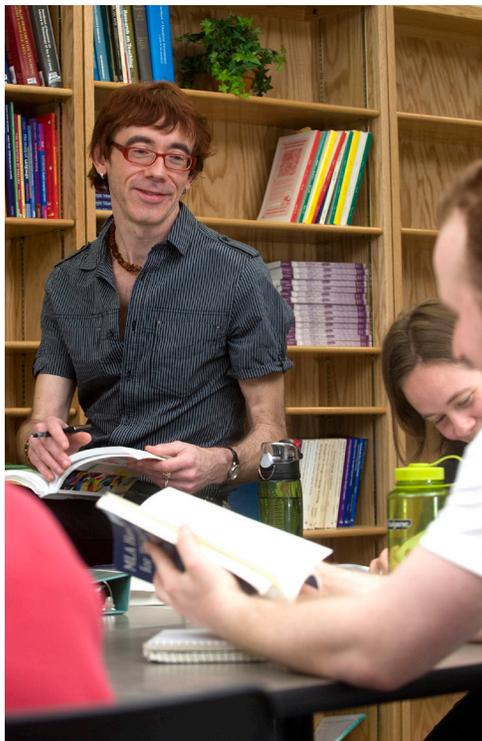
Our Distinctiveness

Small classes create an exceptionally close and supportive academic community in which the work is challenging but everyone can flourish. Students come to know their professors and advisors well through classes, thesis work, and collaborative projects. Many students support their studies through Graduate Assistantships in the English Department, the Center for Writing Excellence, and other campus offices. Foundation Fellowships and AOP Grants are also available. Students taking ENGL 794, Graduate Apprenticeship: Teaching Theory and Practice, gain valuable teaching experience by observing, assisting, and being mentored by professors teaching undergraduate classes. Because our curricular structure is flexible and we offer a wide variety of courses every term, students can, in consultation with their academic advisers, tailor their coursework to advance their personal and professional learning goals. Most courses

are offered in the beautiful, technologically advanced new Centennial Hall, where Graduate Assistants also share office space. Many classes are offered in the evening to accommodate working professionals. To learn more about the UWEC English graduate experience, please watch the video posted to the English Department's website; it was created by current graduate students who want you to know why they've found the UWEC English graduate experience so fulfilling.

Curriculum

The Writing emphasis curriculum consists of 33 credits in course- and thesis-work. All but 3 of these credits must be in English. Writing emphasis students typically take 27 semester credits in graduate course offerings and write a 6-credit Creative Thesis. ENGL 711: Critical Thinking, Reading, and Writing (3 credits) is required and should be taken in the first or second semester. 15-18 of the remaining credits (depending on thesis option) must come from graduate-level writing/language courses, including 6 credits from 700-level writing/language umbrella course offerings (these include ENGL 721, 723, 724, and 727). In addition, students must take 6 credits of graduate-level literature courses, including a minimum of 3 credits at the 700 level. As a culminating project, students produce a



thesis for 3 or 6 credits. If a student elects the 3-credit option, he or she must take 30 semester credits of graduate course work. Students may include up to 3 semester credits of independent or directed study courses in their curriculum.

Wondering?

If you are unsure about committing yourself to a full degree program immediately, you can explore your interest in an advanced degree as a Graduate Special Student and acquire up to 12 credits that can be applied to a degree program.

Please contact Dr. Audrey Fessler, Graduate Director, by email (fessler@uwec.edu) or phone (715-836-3016), with questions and to learn more.

Try It and See

Qualifications for Admission

- A bachelor's degree from an accredited institution.
- A minimum of 24 semester credits of undergraduate course work in English. (Applicants with fewer English credits may be admitted on the condition that they do additional course work at the undergraduate level, as determined by the English Graduate Executive Committee. These courses must be completed in addition to the minimum credits required for the master's degree.)
- An undergraduate grade-point average of 3.00 overall (or 3.15 in the second half of all undergraduate work) and 3.25 in English coursework, on a 4.00 scale.

Please note that the English department may consider admission of an applicant whose English GPA is no less than 3.0 and/or whose other qualifications do not meet all those specified above where there is convincing evidence that the applicant is capable of performing satisfactory graduate work in the department. Completion of 6 credits of graduate work with a grade of B or above in each course and completion of any courses required at the undergraduate level with a grade of B or above lead to full standing.

Application Procedure

To apply to the MA in English: Writing program, please submit the following:

- a completed application for graduate admission and the application fee,
- official transcripts from all postsecondary institutions previously attended,
- a letter of intent that explains your academic and career goals and expectations, and
- a writing sample, such as a portfolio of fiction, poetry, or professional writing that represents your best work.

To apply for a graduate assistantship, fellowship, or Advanced Opportunity Program (AOP) grant, please also complete the online Graduate Assistantship/Fellowship/AOP Application at www.uwec.edu/Admissions/graduate/assist-fellowapp.htm. Applications completed by March 1 will receive priority consideration for assistantships, fellowships, and AOP grants; however, applications completed thereafter will continue to be considered on a rolling basis.

Send materials to:
Graduate Admissions
UW-Eau Claire
Schofield Hall 111
Eau Claire WI 54702-4004
GradAdmissions@uwec.edu

For more information

For more information about graduate programs:
GRADUATE STUDIES
UW-Eau Claire, Schofield 210
Eau Claire, WI 54702-4004
715-836-2721 • www.uwec.edu/graduate

For more information about campus:
ADMISSIONS
Schofield Hall 111
UW-Eau Claire Eau Claire, WI 54702-4004
715-836-5415 • www.uwec.edu/admissions