

Graduate Certificate in Composition and Rhetoric

The Graduate Certificate in Composition and Rhetoric is awarded to students in the M.A. or Ph.D. programs in English when they complete a program of training in the theory and practice of composition-rhetoric consisting of 12 credit hours of coursework. At least 8 credits must be in graduate seminars or independent studies: English 480 (3 cr.), 481 (3 cr., topic must be in rhetoric), 485 (2 cr.), 491 (1-3 cr.), or 495 (3 cr.). The other 4 credits may be in seminars, independent studies, and/or any combination of courses in pedagogy, field work, or research: English 484, 486, 487, 488, or 489 (all 1 cr.).

Graduate students in the M.A. program in English will be able to complete the certificate requirements in four semesters alongside their M.A. coursework, by taking a total of 9 or 10 credits each semester; students who proceed from the M.A. to the Ph.D. can spread the courses over additional years. The certificate requires 12 credits of coursework. At least 8 credits must be in graduate seminars or independent studies, including English 485 (2 cr, Introduction to Writing Theory); English 480 (3 cr, Composition and Rhetoric); English 481 (3 cr, Theory and Criticism, topic in rhetoric); English 495 (3 cr, Independent Study); or English 491 (1-3 cr, Special Topics in Comp-Rhet); and 4 credits may be in seminars, independent studies, and any combination of 1-credit courses in pedagogy, field work, or research: English 486, 487, 488, and 489, some of which may be repeated for credit.

Sample course of study for M.A. students. Courses for the certificate are italicized and labeled “Comp”; courses for the M.A. in Literature and Social Justice are labeled “Lit.”

Fall, Year 1: *Comp: English 485 (2)*
Comp: English 486 (1)
Lit: Post-1830 Lit (3)
Lit: Pre-1830 Lit (3)

Spring, Year 1: Lit: Theories LSJ (3)
Comp: English 480 (3)
Lit: Post-1830 (3)
Comp: English 484 (1)

Fall, Year 2: Lit: Pre-1830 (3)
Lit & *Comp: English 481 Rhet Theory (3)*
Lit: Elective (3)
Comp: English 487 or 489 (1)

Spring, Year 2: Lit: MA Thesis (3)
Lit: Elective (3)
Comp: English 488 (1)
Lit: Elective (3)

Literature Courses = 30 credits

Composition-Rhetoric Courses = 12 credits (note that English 481, when offered on a topic in Rhetorical Theory, meets requirements for both M.A. in English and Certificate in Composition and Rhetoric).