



Department of English
MA in Composition, Rhetoric, and Professional Writing
Curriculum Worksheet

Overview

The MA in Composition, Rhetoric, and Professional Writing is recommended for students preparing to advance as writers in professional contexts or to teach at the high school or community-college level.

A. Required Core Curricula: 16 units

The required core consists of the four courses listed below. To satisfy the Graduation Writing Requirement (GWAR) and advance to candidacy, students must receive a grade of “B” or higher in ENGL 220A.

- ENGL 220A: Teaching College Composition (4 units)
- ENGL 220D: Teaching and Composition Research (4 units)
- ENGL 220P: Professional Writing (4 units)
- ENGL 220R: Topics in Rhetorical Theory and Practice (4 units)

B. Select one of the following: 4 units

- ENGL 410A: Writing Center Theory and Practice: Internships (4 units)
- ENGL 410C: Internships (4 units)
- ENGL 410E: Internship in Teaching Writing (4 units)
- ENGL 410W: Writing Programs Internship (4 units)

C. Electives—select 8 units from the following:

- ENGL 220C: Topics in Composition Studies (4 units)
- ENGL 215B: ESL Writing/Composition (3 units)
- ENGL 210G: Second Language Acquisition (3 units)
- ENGL 200A: Methods and Materials of Literary Research (4 units)
- ENGL 201D: Contemporary Theory (4 units)
- ENGL 222: Understanding Multidisciplinarity in Writing Studies (1 unit)
- Any course from the following series: ENGL 230; ENGL 240; ENGL 250; ENGL 260; ENGL 275; ENGL 280 (4 units)

Note: Up to four units of upper-division (100-level) coursework in the English department may be counted toward the electives. Students taking a three-unit elective must also enroll in ENGL 222, a one-unit course.

D. Culminating Experience—Thesis: 2 units

All CRPW MA students complete the degree with a two-unit culminating experience: ENGL 500. The culminating experience for CRPW consists of a thesis, which is written under the supervision of a two-person faculty committee. It is the responsibility of the student to arrange the thesis committee. To enroll in 500, students must have the approval of the Graduate Coordinator and the thesis advisors, a prospectus, and an Advancement to Candidacy form on file with the Office of Graduate Studies.

- ENGL 500 Culminating Experience—Thesis

Recommended Course Sequencing

Because many 200-level classes are offered only once per year, it is important that you plan your coursework carefully so as not to delay your graduation. To complete the MA in two years, the following sequence is recommended for full-time students enrolled in eight units per semester:

	Fall	Spring
Year 1	ENGL 220A ENGL 220R	ENGL 220D ENGL 410
Year 2	Elective Elective	ENGL 220P ENGL 500

Advancing to Candidacy

Once you have completed 12 units toward the MA, you become eligible to advance to candidacy. You must have an approved Advancement to Candidacy form on file with the Office of Graduate Studies before you can enroll in ENGL 500, the culminating experience. Plan to file for Advancement to Candidacy no later than one semester prior to your enrollment in ENGL 500; please note that the deadline for advancing to candidacy is typically early in the semester and that late applications will not be considered. Please see the English Department website for instructions on filing your Advancement to Candidacy.

Enrolling in ENGL 500—The Culminating Experience

All CRPW MA students will complete a thesis for ENGL 500, the culminating experience. Eligibility to enroll in ENGL 500 requires the following:

1. You must have an approved Advancement to Candidacy on file with the Office of Graduate Studies. Please review your transcript, which will indicate your Advancement to Candidacy after it has been approved.
2. You must have completed, or be in the process of completing, all graduate coursework during the semester in which you enroll in English 500.
3. Your transcript must include no more than one grade of Incomplete.
4. You must have established a thesis committee consisting of two faculty readers. Please consult with your faculty and with the Writing Programs Coordinator to arrange your committee.
5. You must have a completed thesis prospectus, approved by your thesis committee.
6. When all the conditions above are met, please file a "[Permission to Enroll in ENGL 500—Thesis](#)" form with the English Department.

Additional Information

- Students must complete 30 units of coursework for the MA.
- One 100-level English course can apply as elective credit.
- Students must maintain a minimum GPA of 3.0. No units with a grade lower than "C" may apply towards the degree.
- Any deviation or substitutions for any of the required or elective courses should be discussed in advance with the Writing Programs Coordinator and with the Graduate Coordinator, whose approval must be obtained.

Questions?

If you have questions or need help, please contact the Graduate Coordinator by emailing engl-grad@csus.edu.