Welcome

Welcome to the English Department at UNLV, offering programs recognized internationally for their excellence and for their innovative response to both traditional and newly emerging issues of language, writing, and literature. The department offers programs of study leading to the Master of Arts and to the Doctor of Philosophy degrees. The M.A. program involves graduate level course work in English and American Literature or in language/composition studies. This program is designed to supplement and advance the student’s undergraduate work in the field of English and to familiarize the student with professional standards, research methods and modes of thought essential to the discipline. Completion of this degree typically leads to professional advancement for the secondary school or community college teacher; to a career in writing, editing, and publishing; or to further studies in English at the doctoral level.

The Ph.D. program is highly specialized and individually focused. It prepares and qualifies a student for a career in college or university teaching via the acquisition of skills in research, critical thinking, and scholarly writing. The doctoral program is primarily devoted to literary study, although a concentration of six credit hours may be earned in composition theory and study. Upon admission, the student, with the approval of his or her advisor, chooses three areas in which to specialize: (1) a chronological period (Medieval, Renaissance, Modern etc.), (2) a literary genre (Poetry, Drama, Fiction etc.), and (3) an additional chronological period, a major author from outside the chosen period, or a special topic. All course work is then devoted to developing a high degree of professional competence and knowledge in the three chosen areas of specialization. Such knowledge is tested in a qualifying examination, the successful completion of which allows the student to go forward to write and to defend a doctoral dissertation.

Richard L. Harp, Ph.D., Chair
Donald Revell, Ph.D., Graduate Director

Mission Statements

The graduate faculty in English at UNLV are dedicated to the careful mentoring of each student. Individual attention to student progress and research goals is paramount. Throughout the academic year, the department offers a variety of activities designed to prepare degree candidates for the job market and for college and university careers. In addition to teaching, graduate assistants are involved with research assistance to individual graduate faculty, with journal editing and composition program administration, with the hosting of annual student conferences, and with non-academic internships. The department’s commitment to its students includes the guiding of their research towards publication and the provision of funds for travel to conferences and research facilities both in the United States and abroad.

Purpose

The purpose of this handbook is to provide program specific information that is not found in the UNLV Graduate Catalog. Students are responsible for understanding and following the policies and procedures delineated in this document and the UNLV Graduate Catalog, as well as the NSHE Code, UNLV Bylaws, and the UNLV Student Conduct Code. Questions about policies should be directed to the Graduate College: valarie.burke@unlv.edu or kendall.hartley@unlv.edu.
Department Graduate Faculty
A current listing of the graduate faculty can be found in the UNLV Graduate Catalog. Faculty must hold either associate or full graduate faculty status to be involved in graduate education at UNLV. For up to date information regarding graduate faculty status in your department, visit the Graduate Faculty status webpage.

Program Information
Master’s of English
Sub-Plan 1: Literature Emphasis Track
Master’s of English
Sub-Plan 2: Language/Composition Theory Track
Ph.D. of English
Sub-Plan 1: English Literature Track

Contact Information
http://english.unlv.edu/index.htmlht

Department Chair
Richard Harp, FDH 616, richard.harp@unlv.edu

Graduate Coordinator
Donald Revell, FDH 634, donald.revell@unlv.edu

Department Main Office
FDH 652, unlvenglishgradprogram@unlv.edu, 702-895-3533, 702-895-4801

Program Requirements
Program requirements regarding admission, coursework and culminating experience are found in the graduate catalog.

Advisory Committee Guidelines
For all programs, a student will organize a committee of at least three departmental members, one of whom is the student’s advisor. Additionally, a fourth member from outside the department, known as the Graduate College Representative, must be appointed. This committee will guide, examine, and mentor the student throughout their graduate experience here in the English Department at UNLV. They will also sign all the documentation and forms required after each step in the process by the Department and the Graduate College. See the Graduate College’s further policies for committee appointment guidelines.

Degree Program Benchmarks
Master’s of English
Sub-Plans 1 & 2: Literature Emphasis Track and Language/Composition Theory Track

1. Complete required coursework as outlined in the Graduate Catalog, including demonstrating reading knowledge or proficiency of one foreign language by examination in the Department or taking a translation class with the Department of Foreign Languages (FOL 198).
2. Organize a committee of at least three departmental members, one of whom is the student’s advisor. Additionally, a fourth member from outside the department, known as the Graduate College Representative, must be appointed.
3. Take a pass/fail comprehensive examination, either:
   a. a three-hour written exam OR
   b. a sixty- to ninety-minute oral exam
BOTT1 based on a reading list prepared with the supervision of the student’s advisor and committee members. Further reading list requirements are outlined in the Graduate Catalog and on the English Department’s website. If taken during the semester of graduation, the
exam must be scheduled no later than three weeks before the end of classes. See the Graduate College deadlines for each semester. If the exam is not passed, the student is allowed \textbf{ONE} additional opportunity to pass the exam.

4. An optional master's thesis carries six credits in the \textbf{Literature Emphasis Track}. See guidelines set forth by the Graduate College in the Graduate Catalog and in its Thesis and Dissertation Manual. If the student selects the thesis option, he/she must successfully \textit{orally defend} his/her thesis by the posted deadline and submit final, properly formatted, \textit{hard copy} to the Graduate College and the approved \textit{electronic version} to ProQuest.

5. Submit all required \textit{forms} to the Graduate College \& \textit{apply} for graduation.]

\textbf{Ph.D. of English}
\textbf{Sub-Plan 1: English Literature Track}

1. Complete required \textit{coursework} as outlined in the Graduate Catalog, including demonstrating reading knowledge of two foreign languages or proficiency in one by examination in the Department or taking translation classes with the Department of Foreign Languages (FOL 198).

2. Organize a \textit{committee} of at least three departmental members, one of whom is the student’s advisor. Additionally, a fourth member from outside the department, known as the Graduate College Representative, must be appointed.

3. Take a pass/fail \textit{qualifying examination}, consisting of the following:
   a. Three, four-hour written exams in three major areas of study (usually a genre, a significant literary period, and a specialty derived from, for instance, literary theory).
   b. A ninety-minute oral defense of the student's written exam.

   \textbf{Both} based on the three reading lists prepared with the supervision of the student's advisor and committee members. Further reading list requirements are outlined in the Graduate Catalog and on the English Department's website. If either part of the exam (written and oral) is not passed, the student is allowed \textbf{ONE} additional opportunity to pass the exam.

4. Write a \textit{dissertation} worth twelve credits toward the degree. See guidelines set forth by the Graduate College in the Graduate Catalog and in its Thesis and Dissertation Manual.

5. After completing a dissertation that has been accepted by the student's committee, he/she must successfully \textit{orally defend} his/her dissertation.

6. Submit final, properly formatted \textit{hard copy} to the Graduate College and the approved \textit{electronic version} to ProQuest.

7. Submit all required \textit{forms} to the Graduate College \& \textit{apply} for graduation.]

\textbf{Program Timeline}
\textbf{Master's of English}
\textbf{Sub-Plans 1 \& 2: Literature Emphasis Track and Language/Composition Theory Track}

Of the 30 total credits required (see Graduate Catalog for the kind and number of credit hours that must be taken to complete the degree): Four full-time (from 6 credits with GA to 9 credits without) semesters or two full academic years is the average duration of the program of study for the MA.

\textbf{Ph.D. of English}
\textbf{Sub-Plan 1: English Literature Track}

Of the 48 total credits required (see Graduate Catalog for the required credit hours that must be taken to complete the degree): Eight full-time (from 6 credits with GA to 9 credits without) semesters or four full academic years is the minimum duration of the program of study for the Ph.D. Graduate College regulations stipulate a maximum. The duration has typically been between 5 and 7 years.

\textbf{Professional Code of Ethics/Discipline Guidelines}
UNLV Graduate College policy regarding academic integrity can be found in the graduate catalog.

\textbf{Annual Review Procedures}
Each spring term, graduate students are required to complete the Graduate Student Annual Review survey. This survey will be sent by the Graduate College to the student’s Rebelmail account. The review covers the prior calendar year and assesses student progress while setting goals for the year ahead.

**Discipline Resources**
The Department sponsors a number of prestigious journals, including the *Ben Jonson Journal* (Edinburgh University Press), *Interim*, a long-established and well-known literary journal, and the *Far West Popular Culture Review* (as well as its accompanying annual meeting in Las Vegas). Students participate in editing all these journals. In addition, the Black Mountain Institute, one of the West’s leading literary institutes, publishes the award-winning journal *Witness*, which our students also help to edit.

**University Resources**

**Academic Success Center**
The goal of the Academic Success Center is to help students do well academically and complete they studies on time. They offer or will refer you to such programs and resources as tutoring, advising, skills testing, career exploration and more. They guide students every step of the way to the many established resources created to ensure they complete their educational goals. Learn more about the programs and services the center currently offers.

**Alumni Association**
With an alumni base 90,000 strong, the UNLV Alumni Association offers a variety of services and opportunities in support of alumni and their families. UNLV alumni are encouraged to support the values of higher learning through advocacy, involvement, and giving.

**Commencement Office**
Located in the UNLV Registrar’s Office, the commencement office is the last step in the graduation process. Please check with the commencement office for information on the commencement ceremony and your diploma; for all other information about graduate student degree completion and graduation, including thesis/dissertation requirements and doctoral hooding, please contact the Graduate College.

**Office of Diversity Initiatives**
The vision of the Office of Diversity Initiatives is to advocate, promote, and support the advancement of equity, inclusiveness, and empowerment of a continuously changing collegiate and global community. The mission of the Office of Diversity Initiatives is to provide leadership and support for UNLV’s diversity mission: *to nurture equity, diversity, and inclusiveness that promotes respect, support, and empowerment.* This Office also handles UNLV Title IX questions, inquiries, and reporting.

**Disability Resource Center (DRC)**
The DRC is committed to supporting students with disabilities at UNLV through the appropriate use of advocacy, accommodations, and supportive services to ensure access to campus courses, services, and activities. The DRC is the university-designated office that determines and facilitates reasonable accommodations in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Graduate students with disabilities must disclose to the DRC in order to receive appropriate accommodations.

**Office of International Student and Scholars**
International Students and Scholars (ISS) ensures compliance with both SEVIS (Student and Exchange Visitor Information System) and federal law, so that the university can continue to be authorized by the U.S. federal government to enroll international students; host and hire international scholars; assist and advise employment eligibility and authorization relating to international students and scholars, and visa, travel, and immigration issues; provide critical and specialized services to the international students and scholars of the UNLV community; and facilitate their transition to the campus and the U.S.
Jean Nidetch Women’s Center
The Jean Nidetch Women’s Center is committed to creating a supportive and inclusive environment for all genders through programming, services, and advocacy for the UNLV community. The Women’s Center has informational resources, brochures, and flyers for a variety of on and off campus organizations to help empower and protect yourself, and learn about your options. They also provide free tampons, pads, and condoms.

UNLV Libraries
UNLV Libraries has always been more than books; they are about encouraging students and creating quality programs that elevate growth and learning. Please visit their website for important information about the services they offer to graduate students.

Graduate & Professional Student Association (GPSA)
The Graduate & Professional Student Association serves all currently enrolled University of Nevada, Las Vegas graduate and professional students. The GPSA maintains the Graduate Student Commons located in the Lied Library room 2141. The facility a working office equipped with a copier, fax, flatbed scanners, color laser printer, office supplies, and computers with printers and a small kitchen area. The GPSA is the graduate student governance body at UNLV; the GPSA Council consists of one graduate student representative from each graduate department, and they meet monthly. The GPSA also provides volunteer opportunities, sponsors social events, and supports graduate student research through the graduate research and travel grants program.

Office of Student Conduct
The Office of Student Conduct is a student-centered, service-oriented office located within the Division of Student Affairs. The Office of Student Conduct collaborates with the UNLV community to provide an inclusive system through enforcement of the UNLV Student Code of Conduct by:

- Promoting awareness of student rights and responsibilities;
- Establishing accountability for student choices;
- Creating opportunities for involvement in the process; and
- Striving to uphold the values and ethics that advance the common good.

Office of Veteran Services
The UNLV Office of Veteran Services is staffed with veterans and GI Bill-experienced staff to assist more than 1,000 veterans, dependents, active duty service members, National Guard members, and reservists. Their mission is to develop a welcoming, veteran-friendly campus environment that fosters academic and personal success.

The Financial Aid & Scholarships Office
The Financial Aid & Scholarships Office supports higher-education access and persistence by providing financial aid to eligible students. The office partners with student organizations, the UNLV Foundation, the Graduate College, and other external constituents to provide financial aid learning opportunities and scholarship support for graduate students.

Writing Center
This is a free service to UNLV students to help you with any writing project, from papers to creative writing, to resumes, and we can work with you at any stage of the writing process. The center can help you brainstorm, make an outline, work on your drafts, or just be a soundboard for your ideas. The center staff can assist you in person, or via the Online Writing Lab (OWL) page.

University Policies and Procedures
Graduate students are responsible for knowing and acting in accordance with UNLV Policies and Procedures. To view the most commonly referenced campus policies and procedures, you can refer to the following websites:

- Academic Integrity
To ensure compliance with Graduate College policies and procedures, please review the relevant sections of the Graduate Catalog:

- Academic Calendar
- Academic Policies
- Admission and Registration Information
- Degree Progression Policies & Procedures

In addition, the Graduate College website contains additional information regarding policies and procedures.

*Nothing in this handbook supersedes any NSHE, UNLV, or Graduate College policy.*

### Handbook Information

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<td>10/08/2014</td>
<td>Donald Revell, Graduate Coordinator &amp; assts.</td>
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