



MASTER OF ARTS  
**ENGLISH**

**PURDUE UNIVERSITY®**  
**FORT WAYNE**

**Office of  
Graduate Studies**

[PFW.EDU/GRADUATE](https://pfw.edu/graduate)

# A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Greetings from the Department of English and Linguistics at Purdue University Fort Wayne! Within our department, we offer a Master of Arts degree with concentrations in literature, writing studies, and language and linguistics. We also offer a Master of Arts for Teachers degree with a more general focus and more flexible course work. Students can take courses in British and American literature, folklore, film studies, creative writing, rhetoric, technical and business writing, digital media and communications and linguistics.

Our TENL program also offers a graduate certificate in Teaching English as a New Language. Most of the courses taken for the TENL certificate could also count towards the M.A. and M.A.T. requirements. For in-service teachers who are looking for recertification credits, all of the courses in our TENL program can count toward that goal as well. Candidates completing the TENL certificate program successfully can also apply to the state DOE for the specialization in teaching English learners licensure to be added to their teaching license.

Our program is small enough to allow students to work closely with our faculty members on research projects and in the classroom, and our faculty provide a welcoming, supportive yet rigorous curriculum.



**Troy J. Basset, Ph.D.**

Professor of English  
English Graduate Program Director  
bassettt@pfw.edu

# BENEFITS

## ACHIEVE YOUR CREATIVE AND PROFESSIONAL GOALS

The Master of Arts in English is designed to enrich students' understanding of, and approach to, major issues in the study of literature, language, linguistics, or rhetoric, composition and writing. Students in our program gain the valuable skills through courses in British and American literature, folklore, film studies, creative writing, rhetoric, technical and business writing, digital media and communications, and linguistics. Our program is small enough to allow students to work closely with our faculty members on research projects and in the classroom.

## THE PURDUE FORT WAYNE DIFFERENCE

Stand out with a graduate degree that enhances your qualifications through:

- Small class sizes
- Personal attention from dedicated faculty
- Course offerings designed for working adults
- Internationally recognized degree at a fraction of the cost

## LEARN FROM DEDICATED, EXPERT FACULTY

Our faculty provide a welcoming, supportive yet rigorous curriculum. They are experienced and dedicated classroom instructors who also possess strong research and publication profiles, so we can offer our graduate students the mentorship of nationally respected scholars and writers.

English and linguistics faculty research areas include:

- Shakespeare
- Old English literature
- Nineteenth and twentieth century British Literature
- Native American literature
- Formal, anthropological, and computational linguistics
- Rhetoric and composition
- Contemporary African American poetry
- Inter-generational communication
- Pragmatics and language learning
- And more...

"I was initially attracted to a graduate degree in English at Purdue Fort Wayne because it offered an inexpensive program, and because every organization needs a good writer. During my time as a student, I realized many other benefits. My professors quickly became my mentors. I felt a wealth of support, and became part of a truly rich community that is passionate about the arts and education. I learned more about writing and storytelling than I thought possible, both in business and academic settings. I had access to a wide array of classes that influenced me in my career and shaped me as a person."

### Kristine O'Brien

"I decided to attend Purdue Fort Wayne because it was close to home, offered excellent courses, and was connected to the community in a positive way. I wanted to pursue a master's degree so that I could teach a wider variety of classes at different colleges in town. I never had better instructors in my entire academic career than some of the instructors I encountered during my time at Purdue Fort Wayne. Their ability to convey their knowledge and expertise in their field was inspiring, educational, compelling and a wonderful example for me to follow. Now that I completed my degree, I am more confident in my field, have more knowledge to impart to my students, and have the opportunity to teach a variety of courses."

### Hilary Armstrong

## MASTER OF ARTS IN ENGLISH (36 CREDIT HOURS)

The M.A. in English provides individuals and professionals the opportunity to advance their skills in analytical and critical thinking in the areas of literary studies, language, linguistics, or rhetoric, composition, and writing. Students in our program have a variety of educational and professional goals they are able to pursue through our course offerings and curriculum.

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### MA IN ENGLISH CORE REQUIREMENTS (9 CREDIT HOURS)

3 credits in ENGL 60501 Critical Theory

3 credits in one professional scholarship course in preferred area of concentration:

ENGL 50101 - Professional Scholarship in Literature

ENGL 51700 - Professional Scholarship in Writing Studies

LING 50500 - Professional Scholarship in Linguistics

### COURSE OF STUDY

The course of study requires completion of 36 credit hours with three components:

- Core requirements
- Concentration requirements
- Electives

The concentration component requires students to identify one of the three concentrations and complete 15 credit hours in the chosen area of study.

Concentrations include:

- Professional Scholarship in Literature
- Professional Scholarship in Writing Studies
- Professional Scholarship in Linguistics

Students should focus on an area of concentration that best reflects their own interests and career aspirations.

## **MASTER OF ARTS FOR TEACHERS IN ENGLISH (36 CREDIT HOURS)**

The M.A. for Teachers in English is a degree with a more general focus and more flexible coursework that allows teachers to enhance their knowledge of English with courses in British and American literature, folklore, film studies, creative writing, rhetoric, technical and business writing, digital media and communications, and linguistics.

The course of study requires completion of 36 credit hours with two components:

- Core requirements (9 credits)
- Nine additional courses (27 credits)

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### **MA FOR TEACHERS CORE REQUIREMENTS (9 CREDIT HOURS)**

One course in English language/linguistics

One course in rhetorical/composition theory

One course in ethnic/minority literature

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### **MA FOR TEACHERS ADDITIONAL COURSES (27 CREDIT HOURS)**

At least five (15 credits) of these must be courses administered by the Department of English & Linguistics

Up to four courses (12 credits) may be elected from approved courses offered by another department

#### **Seminar/Thesis requirement (3 credits)**

Students must either take one seminar administered by the Department of English & Linguistics or write a master's thesis

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### **TEACHING CERTIFICATION**

To receive the M.A.T. degree, in addition to completing the above requirements, you must hold at least provisional public-school teaching certification in English.

# REQUIREMENTS

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## **ADDITIONAL PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS FOR BOTH DEGREES**

A minimum of 9 credit hours of the concentration or electives must be completed in 600 level seminars offered by the Department of English and Linguistics.

- One professional scholarship course outside of the area of concentration may be counted toward the seminar requirements.
- A master's thesis for one of the three required seminars may be substituted. ENGL 69901 Master's Thesis (3 credit hours) would count as elective credit

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## **EDUCATIONAL PURSUITS**

Students who plan to pursue a doctorate in literary study should demonstrate reading proficiency in an approved foreign language under the auspices of the Department of International Language and Culture Studies by passing the following:

- 300-level literature course in a foreign language with a grade of at least a B
- A written examination that demonstrates a student's proficiency in reading and translating a foreign language.

Students on this path are also recommended to write a master's thesis (3 credit hours).

# CERTIFICATE

## **GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN TEACHING ENGLISH AS A NEW LANGUAGE (TENL)**

The graduate certificate in TENL is intended to familiarize students with the major theoretical foundations of teaching English as a New Language (ENL). Students will become acquainted with ENL pedagogy and resources and will acquire experience by teaching ENL learners in classroom settings. The TENL certificate can stand alone as a separate credential or be integrated with the requirements of the M.A. or M.A.T. program in English.

The TENL program, which matches most other such programs nationwide, leads to either of two career outcomes, the TENL Certificate and the ENL License. The program also allows students to build an excellent foundation for continued academic study in linguistics and applied linguistics.

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## **CERTIFICATE REQUIREMENTS (18 CREDIT HOURS)**

The TENL certificate will require satisfactory completion of 18 credit hours of course work in the areas of ENL pedagogy and materials preparation, second language acquisition theories, sociolinguistics and cultural issues, English grammar and practical classroom experiences. No course with a grade below 3.0 may be applied toward the certificate. Students must maintain a minimum overall 3.0 (of 4.0) GPA or better in all graduate courses. Transfer of credit hours from other accredited institutions may be considered based on evaluations of materials presented by students including transcripts, course syllabi and completed assignments.

LING 10300 or equivalent is a prerequisite for all TENL courses  
3 credits in ENG 5000 Introduction to the English Language  
3 credits in LING 51101 Methods and Materials for TESOL I  
3 credits in LING 51201 Methods and Materials for TESOL II  
3 credits in LING 53201 Second Language Acquisition  
3 credits in LING 61901 Language and Society  
3 credits in LING 53500 TESOL Practicum

# ENL LICENSE

## GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN TEACHING ENGLISH AS A NEW LANGUAGE (TENL)

The graduate certificate in teaching English as a new language is intended primarily for students working toward a graduate degree in English, as well as practicing teachers who wish to be trained in teaching English to non-native speakers. Other potential students include those who are preparing to live or work abroad, or those who have technical or business expertise and wish to work with ENL students in professional settings. With the expansion of English as the international language of commerce, education, science and technology, the need for qualified teachers continues to increase.

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## ENL LICENSE REQUIREMENTS

Candidates completing the TENL certificate program successfully can also apply to the state DOE for the specialization in teaching English Learners licensure to be added to their teaching license.

The ENL License program is a collaboration between the Department of English and Linguistics and the College of Education and Public Policy. This specialization in teaching English as a New Language (ENL) is intended for licensed teachers, candidates who are already licensed to teach in K-12 settings in Indiana in specific content areas at specific grade levels, or prospective teachers who are in the process of obtaining a license.

After completion of all course work in the TENL Certificate program, those seeking the ENL license must apply to the state of Indiana to have it applied to their license. Students will be assisted with applications through the Department of English and Linguistics and the College of Education and Public Policy.

## REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSION

- A Bachelor's degree from an accredited institution with a minimum GPA of 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale)
- A 3 credit hour introductory linguistics course, such as LING L10300 with a minimum GPA of 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale)
- A 3 credit hour college level writing course with a minimum GPA of 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale)

Applicants who do not meet these requirements may be admitted conditionally.

## HOW TO APPLY

To apply for the graduate certificate in TENL follow the application instructions outlined on the Application page of this document or visit [pfw.edu/tenl](http://pfw.edu/tenl).



# APPLICATION DEADLINES

**MAY**  
**1**

International: regular fall admission

**JUN**  
**30**

U.S. Citizen: regular fall admission

**NOV**  
**1**

International: regular spring admission

**NOV**  
**15**

U.S. Citizen: regular spring admission

## STEPS TO APPLY

### Application:

To begin your application create an account through the portal at [pfw.edu/grad-apply](http://pfw.edu/grad-apply). Applicants can make and save changes before submitting by logging in with the username and password used to create the account.

### Application Fee:

The Graduate School application fee is \$60 (U.S. dollars) for domestic applicants and \$75 (U.S. dollars) for international applicants. Your application will not be processed until your nonrefundable application fee has been paid.

### Transcripts:

Through the application portal, you must upload transcript(s) and/or academic document(s) for every institution of higher education you attended regardless of whether or not a degree was received. If a degree was received then it must be printed on the transcripts. If no degree conferral is printed on the transcripts then a copy of the original diploma (degree certificate) is needed. If the documents are not in English, you must upload an English translation certified by the college or university that issued it. For those who have completed degrees in the People's Republic of China, you will also be required to submit the Graduation Certificate.

### Statement of Purpose (Essay):

The Academic Statement of Purpose is typically a 500-word statement that outlines:

- Your academic and professional background, detailing how your experiences have prepared you for graduate study in this field.
- Your career goals and how a graduate degree from Purdue Fort Wayne will help you achieve them.

Focus on demonstrating how you fit with the program by discussing faculty members you want to work with, the program's qualities, or specific research or career opportunities.

### Personal History Statement:

Approximately 500 words, highlights your unique experiences, challenges, and achievements that have shaped who you are today. This is your chance to share:

- Your personal background, such as your upbringing, cultural heritage, or life events that influenced your perspective.
- Why you're a good fit for Purdue Fort Wayne's program beyond academics, emphasizing personal qualities like resilience, leadership, or community engagement.

This statement is your opportunity to stand out and present a compelling narrative about your journey and why you want to earn your graduate degree at Purdue Fort Wayne.

### Recommendations:

Submit names of at least two individuals who are qualified to evaluate your academic or on-the-job performance who can attest to your ability to pursue a graduate degree. In the online application to the Purdue Graduate School, once you click "Send to Recommender," each individual will receive an email with instructions for submitting their recommendation online. Once submitted, the graduate program to which you applied will have access to view your recommendation(s).

# INTERNATIONAL APPLICANTS

All international applicants must also submit the following items to be considered for admission:

- **English Proficiency Scores:**

TOEFL iBT Overall Score: 80 with the following minimum section requirements:

Reading: 19

Listening: 14

Speaking: 18

Writing: 18

IELTS Overall Score: 6.5 with the following minimum section requirements:

Reading: 6.5

Listening: 6.0

Speaking: 6.0

Writing: 5.5

TOEFL Essentials Overall Score: 8 with the following minimum section requirements:

Reading: 8

Listening: 8

Speaking: 8

Writing: 8

Duolingo English Test Overall Score: 115 with the following minimum section requirements:

Literacy: 115

Comprehension: 115

Conversation: 115

Production: 115

ELS- Certificate Level 112

## Waiver of English Proficiency Scores

Routine waivers of an English Proficiency exam are granted for applicants that meet an alternate criterion:

- Earned a Baccalaureate, graduate, or professional degree within the last 36 months prior to the time of recommendation for admission - from a school where English is the primary language of instruction, in a country where English is the native language.
- Citizen of official English-speaking country

Note: Some graduate programs may still require a test of English proficiency, please confirm the acceptance of the waiver with your department.

## OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPTS

You must provide official transcripts and/or academic records at the request of the graduate program or if you are admitted and choose to enroll. An official transcript bears the original signature of the registrar and/or the original seal of the issuing institution. An unofficial transcript printed from your current/previous institution(s) student system is not an acceptable document. Official documents should be submitted to:

**Purdue University Fort Wayne**  
Office of Graduate Studies  
Doermer School of Business Room 304  
2101 E. Coliseum Blvd.  
Fort Wayne, IN 46805-1499, USA  
[graduate@pfw.edu](mailto:graduate@pfw.edu)

Domestic transcripts must be sent directly from a Registrar's office to the Office of Graduate Admissions via mail or email. If you mail them yourself, it must be in an envelope sealed by the registrar.

# PURDUE UNIVERSITY® FORT WAYNE



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**260-481-6111**  
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