

ENGLISH, MA/LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE, MLIS

In collaboration with several other academic units at UW-Milwaukee, SOIS offers students the opportunity to obtain two Master's degrees concurrently—one in Library and Information Science (MLIS) and one in a subject area.

Degree Requirements

- The number of degree credits needed for each of the coordinated programs is usually 12 fewer than the sum of the two programs if they were not taken simultaneously. *All degree requirements of each component must be satisfied.*
- The MLIS portion of the coordinated degrees can be completed online.
- Prerequisite to the award of either degree in this program is the simultaneous award of its counterpart degree.

MLIS Component

The Master of Library and Information Science (MLIS) component of each of the coordinated programs includes 30 credits of SOIS courses. These include the MLIS core courses (12 credits). The remaining 18 MLIS credits are selected from the School's offerings in accordance with the student's goals in the coordinated degree program.

MLIS/MA English

The MLIS/MA English Coordinated Degree Program prepares students for positions as humanities librarians.

Admission Requirements

Application Deadlines

Application deadlines vary by program, please review the application deadline chart (<http://uwm.edu/graduateschool/program-deadlines/>) for specific programs. Other important dates and deadlines can be found by using the One Stop calendars (<https://uwm.edu/onestop/dates-and-deadlines/>).

Admission

An applicant must meet the UWM Graduate School requirements plus all admission requirements of both the School of Information Studies and the coordinated degree department. Please review the admission details of each program and contact an advisor with any questions.

Requirements

Students interested in the English MA/MLIS program are expected to follow all the requirements and standards as described in this section of the Catalog with the following exceptions: the 21 credits required for the MA in English in the coordinated degree program are to be taken within the Department. Courses in related areas must be approved by the Director of Graduate Studies in English. For more information on this program, see the Library and Information Science page.

Credits and Courses

Basic Required MLIS Courses

Code	Title	Credits
Core Courses 12		
INFOST 501	Foundations of Library and Information Science	

INFOST 511	Organization of Information	
INFOST 571	Information Access and Retrieval	
INFOST 799	Research Methods in Information Studies	
Other MLIS courses		18
Total Credits		30

Important

You must refer to the catalog pages of both individual master's programs to ensure that you meet all requirements for both degrees.

English Courses

Students in the MA/MLIS program may subtract 9 elective credits from their chosen concentration below.

Students admitted to the master's program earn the degree by completing a minimum of 30 credits of graduate coursework in English, writing a final project, and passing an oral examination at the conclusion of their coursework.

Although students must enroll initially in one of the five plans of study described below, students who demonstrate a capacity for doctoral work, and wish to earn a Ph.D. at UWM, are advised to proceed as rapidly as possible to the PhD program. Ordinarily students are not allowed to proceed beyond 30 credits without having been admitted to the doctoral program. No more than 27 credits earned at the master's level may be included in the 54 credits required for the Ph.D.

Plan A (Literature and Cultural Theory)

A minimum of 30 credits, including:

Code	Title	Credits
ENGLISH 703	Introduction to Graduate Studies in Literature (must be taken in first semester)	1
ENGLISH 720	Modern Literary Theory	3
Select 9 credits in literature courses (at least 3 credits pre-1800)		9
Select 3 credits in 800-level seminar in literature or cultural theory		3
Select 6 credits in cultural theory		6
Select 8 credits of electives ¹		8
Total Credits		30

¹ Which may include up to 5 credits of ENGLISH 790.

Additional Requirements

- A final project, which shall be a paper of at least 30 pages which grows out of and significantly expands some aspect of the student's literary studies.
- An oral examination, usually lasting an hour and a half, which covers the final project and a separate 30-book reading list.
- All credits must be 600-level or above, with no more than 6 credits at the 600 level. (ENGLISH 701 must be counted as an elective.)

Plan B (Rhetoric and Composition)

A minimum of 30 credits, including:

Code	Title	Credits
ENGLISH 701	Writing Pedagogies	3
ENGLISH 750 or ENGLISH 751	History of Rhetoric and Writing Studies History of Rhetoric II:	3

or ENGLISH 753	Contemporary Rhetorical Theory	
ENGLISH 755	Issues in Writing Research	3
ENGLISH 812	Seminar in Theories of Composition and Rhetoric:	3
or ENGLISH 854	Seminar in College Writing Pedagogy:	
Select 18 credits of electives ¹		18
Total Credits		30

¹ Which may include up to 6 credits of ENGLISH 790.

Additional Requirements

- A final project, which shall be a research paper appropriate to the student's professional goals.
- An oral examination, usually lasting an hour and a half, which covers the final project and a reading list of at least 30 texts not listed in the project bibliography or works cited list.
- One course is strongly recommended in each of the following areas: Computers and Pedagogy (English at the 700 level); Research Methods

Note: Students who plan to apply to the Ph.D. program are advised to select 6 credits in literature or language courses as part of their electives.

Plan C (Creative Writing)

A minimum of 30 credits, including:

Code	Title	Credits
Select 6 credits in 600- or 700-level literature courses (at least 3 credits at the 700 level)		6
Select one of the following:		6
ENGLISH 715 & ENGLISH 815	Narrative Craft and Theory: and Seminar in Fiction Writing:	
ENGLISH 716 & ENGLISH 816	Poetic Craft and Theory: and Seminar in Poetry Writing:	
Select 6 credits in writing courses at the 600 or 700 level		6
Select 12 credits of electives ¹		12
Total Credits		30

¹ Which may include up to 6 credits of ENGLISH 790.

Additional Requirements

- No more than 12 credits may be earned in 600-level courses.
- A final project, which shall be a collection of fiction and/or poetry, a novel, or other substantial work of imaginative writing.
- An oral examination, usually lasting an hour and a half, which covers the final project and a reading list of at least 30 texts representative of the student's literary background and interests.

Plan G (Professional Writing)

A minimum of 30 credits, selected in consultation with the student's advisor, including:

Code	Title	Credits
Core		
ENGLISH 705	Public Rhetorics and Community Engagement Colloquium	3
ENGLISH 712	Theories in Public Rhetorics and Community Engagement	3
800-Level Seminar in Professional Writing¹		

ENGLISH 855	Seminar in Public Rhetorics and Community Engagement: (recommended)	3
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700-Level Professional Writing Practice or Pedagogy²

Select 12 credits of the following which are especially recommended:³ 12

ENGLISH 431	Topics in Advanced Communications: (Subtitle)	
ENGLISH 433	Creative Nonfiction for Publication	
ENGLISH 434	Editing and Publishing	
ENGLISH 439	Information Design	
ENGLISH 443	Grant Writing	
ENGLISH 444	Technical Editing	
ENGLISH 701	Writing Pedagogies	
ENGLISH 706	Seminar in Professional Writing Theory and Pedagogy	
ENGLISH 707	Writing for Business Management	
ENGLISH 708	Advanced Professional Writing	
ENGLISH 709	Rhetoric, Writing, and Information Technology	
ENGLISH 710	Advanced Project Management for Professional Writers	
ENGLISH 711	Topics in Public and Professional Writing: (Subtitle)	

Internship or Elective

Select an Internship or 700-level elective in Professional Writing that could lead to a final project⁴ 3

Additional Requirements

Select 6 credits in consultation with the student's advisor	6
Total Credits	30

¹ Or a related topic area approved by the advisor.

² Or at the 400 level with the approval of a Plan G faculty advisor.

³ Students can take no more than 6 credits in any combination of 400-level U/G courses and interdisciplinary courses.

⁴ Students should consult with their advisor about which option would best suit their background and career goals. In general, students with little workplace experience will take the internship and those with substantial workplace experience will take a 700-level elective.

Note: Students who elect to complete a workplace project should expect to prepare a 30-page report justifying the project development and decisions in relationship to the relevant scholarly literature and/or in terms of empirical methods or studies conducted by the student.

Plan H (Media, Cinema, and Digital Studies)

Code	Title	Credits
ENGLISH 742	Media Culture	3
Select 9 credits in 700-level seminars in digital studies (theory, criticism, or writing) film and/or media		9
Select two of the following:		6
ENGLISH 705	Public Rhetorics and Community Engagement Colloquium	
ENGLISH 709	Rhetoric, Writing, and Information Technology	
ENGLISH 711	Topics in Public and Professional Writing: (Subtitle)	

ENGLISH 714	Usability Studies	
ENGLISH 715	Narrative Craft and Theory: (Subtitle)	
ENGLISH 720	Modern Literary Theory	
ENGLISH 737	Literature and Aesthetics	
ENGLISH/HIST/ MALLT 740	Approaches to the Modern I	
ENGLISH/HIST/ MALLT 741	Approaches to the Modern II	
ENGLISH 743	Film Studies: (Subtitle)	
ENGLISH 753	Contemporary Rhetorical Theory	
ENGLISH 775	Modern English Literature: (Subtitle)	
FILMSTD 669	Screening Sexuality: (Subtitle)	
FILMSTD 700	Teaching Film Studies: (Subtitle)	
Select 12 credits of electives in courses numbered 700 and above ¹		12
Total Credits		30

¹ Which may include up to 6 credits of ENGLISH 790.

Additional Requirements

Major Professor as Advisor

The student must have a Major Professor to advise and supervise the student's work as specified in Graduate School regulations. The coordinator of the student's concentration serves as an initial advisor.

Final Project

A research paper or other project appropriate to the student's professional goals.

Oral Examination

Usually lasting an hour and a half, the oral exam covers the final project and a reading list of at least 30 texts not listed in the project bibliography or works cited list.

Regulations Concerning Final Projects and Oral Examinations

1. Students should consult with their advisors before completing 24 credits to determine a final project. Ordinarily, it is a revised and expanded course or seminar paper of at least 30 pages. The project should demonstrate the student's skills in research, critical analysis, argumentation, and prose style. For students in Plan C (Creative Writing), the project is a substantial portfolio, the exact character of which is determined in consultation with the student's MA Committee. The project serves both as a concluding effort at the master's level and also as an indication of a student's potential for doctoral study.
2. In consultation with the student, the Director of Graduate Studies appoints an MA Examining Committee. At least two of the three members must be English Graduate Faculty. The MA Examining Committee administers the final Oral Examination, covering the project and a separate reading list of at least 30 texts, to be selected by the student and approved by the Committee.
3. The project must be submitted and the oral examination completed within one year after the completion of 24 credits. Students should remember that a maximum of 27 credits at the master's level is applicable to the PhD 54 credit requirement.
4. The Examining Committee offers a recommendation regarding the student's qualifications for further graduate study at the doctoral level. The Committee Chair puts this recommendation in writing and places it in the student's academic file.

5. Students who fail the oral examination may be required to revise their final project, retake the examination, or both. The oral examination may be retaken only once. No additional credits may be earned for the revision of the project after a failed examination. For further information regarding the MA project and examination, see the English Graduate Program Handbook.

Time Limit

The student must complete all degree requirements within five years of initial enrollment.