

Rhetoric, Theory, and Culture Doctorate

Department Information

- **Department Web Site:**
www.ndsu.edu/english/graduate/phd_rhetoric_theory_and_culture/ (http://www.ndsu.edu/english/graduate/phd_rhetoric_theory_and_culture/)
- **Application Deadline:**
Application review begins Feb. 1 and continues until all spots are filled.
- **Credential Offered:**
Ph.D.
- **English Proficiency Requirements:**
TOEFL ibt 100; IELTS 7; Duolingo 125
- **Program Overview:**
<https://www.ndsu.edu/programs/graduate/rhetoric-theory-and-culture>

Apply Now (https://ndsugrad.my.site.com/Application/TX_SiteLogin/?startURL=/Application/TargetX_Portal__PB)

| 1. Code | Title | Credits |
|---|--|--------------|
| Ph.D. Core | | 12 |
| ENGL 755 | Composition Theory | |
| ENGL 756 | Composition Research | |
| ENGL 760 | Graduate Scholarship | |
| ENGL 762 | Critical Theory | |
| Other research methods | | 3 |
| COMM 704 | Qualitative Research Methods in Communication | |
| COMM 767 | Rhetorical Criticism | |
| ENGL 649 | Usability and User Experience | |
| SOC 700 | Qualitative Methods | |
| SOC 701 | Quantitative Methods | |
| Pedagogy | | 3 |
| ENGL 764 | Teaching Workshop for Writing Instructors | |
| ENGL 765 | Upper Division Writing: Pedagogy, Practice, and Technology | |
| ENGL 766 | Teaching Literature | |
| Additional graduate-level courses ¹ | | 21-51 |
| Experiential learning ² | | 9 |
| Dissertation Research | | 15 |
| ENGL 899 | Doctoral Dissertation | |

¹ Students select, in consultation with their advisor, additional courses inside the English department that match their research and deepen their understanding of the field. Three additional methods, pedagogy, or theory courses may be taken from outside the English department, as approved by advisor and graduate director. Courses in this category may be at the 600-, 700-, or 800-level. Note that students with no background in English studies must include courses in literature and linguistics in their plan of study and that topics and studies courses may be repeated.

² Teaching Mentorship (0-6 credits); may be take twice but total may not exceed 6 credits.

- Students work with faculty to read theory and co-teach 200, 300, or 400 level class. ENGL 792 Graduate Teaching Experience or ENGL 892 Graduate Teaching Experience

Internship (0-6 credits); may be taken twice but total may not exceed 6 credits.

- Students work in administrative, editing, consulting, or writing roles.

Life experience (0-3 credits).

- Students submit, in consultation with their advisor and the graduate director, a portfolio that reflects their professional experience prior to enrolling in the program.

Experiential Learning forms are found on the department website. (<https://www.ndsu.edu/english/graduate/resources/#:~:text=Experiential%20Learning%20Forms>)

Comprehensive Exams

Comprehensive exams are taken after the successful completion of 72 credits (grade B or higher) and are administered by the student's supervisory committee, which is comprised of a committee chair and two readers from within the department. The exams consist of two timed, written exams.

Dissertation: 15 credits (English 899)

The dissertation proposal precedes formal work on the dissertation. The supervisory committee is comprised of the three members of the exam committee, plus a Graduate School Representative (GSR) from outside the department.

Admission and Application Requirements

Graduate School admission and application requirements are found on the Admission Information (<http://catalog.ndsu.edu/graduate/admission-information/>) page. In addition to these requirements, the following are required:

- In most cases, a completed Master of Arts or Science degree, but exceptional candidates may be admitted directly out of the bachelor's degree
- Have completed a Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science, Master of Arts, or Master of Science from an accredited educational institution.
- Have a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.5.
- An academic writing sample, not to exceed 20 pages, that reflects the student's academic or professional interests and that demonstrates the student's critical and analytical abilities
- A statement of purpose that includes the following:
 - coursework you plan to complete in the program
 - faculty members with whom you wish to study
 - research you plan to pursue
 - a sense of what you hope to do once you have completed a doctoral degree in English
 - how your education and/or life experience have prepared you for graduate work
- A letter stating the interest in and qualifications for a teaching assistantship.