The Ph.D. program requires 90 credits beyond the baccalaureate degree and a minimum of 60 graduate credits taken beyond the Master of Arts and at NDSU.

- Students must take 48 of 60 graduate credits from within the Department of English.
- Students must take a minimum of 30 credits at the 700- or 800-level.
- ENGL 764 Teaching Workshop for Writing Instructors is required of all graduate teaching assistants who have not taken a similar class elsewhere.
- Students with a master's degree in another discipline may be required to complete additional graduate course work in specific areas of English, as specified by their adviser and supervisory committee.
- No more than 10 credits may be transferred into the program.