

# English

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The Berkeley English Department offers a wide-ranging PhD program, engaging in all historical periods of British and American literature, Anglophone literature, and critical and cultural theory. The program aims to assure that students gain a broad knowledge of literature in English as well as the highly-developed skills in scholarship and criticism necessary to do solid and innovative work in their chosen specialized fields.

Please note that the department does not offer a master's degree program or a degree program in Creative Writing. Students can, however, petition for an MA in English with an emphasis in Creative Writing upon completion of the PhD course requirements (one of which must be a graduate writing workshop) and submission of a body of creative work.

Students interested in combining a PhD in English with studies in another discipline may pursue designated emphases programs in Film Studies, Medieval Studies, and Women, Gender and Sexuality.

## Admission to the University

### Minimum Requirements for Admission

The following minimum requirements apply to all graduate programs and will be verified by the Graduate Division:

1. A bachelor's degree or recognized equivalent from an accredited institution;
2. A grade point average of B or better (3.0);
3. If the applicant comes from a country or political entity (e.g., Quebec) where English is not the official language, adequate proficiency in English to do graduate work, as evidenced by a TOEFL score of at least 90 on the iBT test, 570 on the paper-and-pencil test, 230 on the computer-based test, or an IELTS Band score of at least 7 (note that individual programs may set higher levels for any of these); and
4. Sufficient undergraduate training to do graduate work in the given field.

### Applicants Who Already Hold a Graduate Degree

The Graduate Council views academic degrees not as vocational training certificates but as evidence of broad training in research methods, independent study, and articulation of learning. Therefore, applicants who already have academic graduate degrees should be able to pursue new subject matter at an advanced level without need to enroll in a related or similar graduate program.

Programs may consider students for an additional academic master's or professional master's degree only if the additional degree is in a distinctly different field.

Applicants admitted to a doctoral program that requires a master's degree to be earned at Berkeley as a prerequisite (even though the applicant already has a master's degree from another institution in the same or a closely allied field of study) will be permitted to undertake the second master's degree, despite the overlap in field.

The Graduate Division will admit students for a second doctoral degree only if they meet the following guidelines:

1. Applicants with doctoral degrees may be admitted for an additional doctoral degree only if that degree program is in a general area of knowledge distinctly different from the field in which they earned their original degree. For example, a physics PhD could be admitted to a doctoral degree program in music or history; however, a student with a doctoral degree in mathematics would not be permitted to add a PhD in statistics.
2. Applicants who hold the PhD degree may be admitted to a professional doctorate or professional master's degree program if there is no duplication of training involved.

Applicants may apply only to one single degree program or one concurrent degree program per admission cycle.

Any applicant who was previously registered at Berkeley as a graduate student, no matter how briefly, must apply for readmission, not admission, even if the new application is to a different program.

## Required Documents for Applications

1. **Transcripts:** Applicants may upload *unofficial* transcripts with your application for the departmental initial review. *If the applicant is admitted*, then *official* transcripts of all college-level work will be required. Admitted applicants must request a current transcript from every post-secondary school attended, including community colleges, summer sessions, and extension programs. Official transcripts must be in sealed envelopes as issued by the school(s) attended.  
If you have attended Berkeley, upload your unofficial transcript with your application for the departmental initial review. *If you are admitted*, an official transcript with evidence of degree conferral *will not* be required.
2. **Letters of recommendation:** Applicants may request online letters of recommendation through the online application system. Hard copies of recommendation letters must be sent directly to the program, not the Graduate Division.
3. **Evidence of English language proficiency:** All applicants from countries or political entities in which the official language is not English are required to submit official evidence of English language proficiency. This applies to applicants from Bangladesh, Burma, Nepal, India, Pakistan, Latin America, the Middle East, the People's Republic of China, Taiwan, Japan, Korea, Southeast Asia, most European countries, and Quebec (Canada). However, applicants who, at the time of application, have already completed at least one year of full-time academic course work with grades of B or better at a US university may submit an official transcript from the US university to fulfill this requirement. The following courses will not fulfill this requirement: 1) courses in English as a Second Language, 2) courses conducted in a language other than English, 3) courses that will be completed after the application is submitted, and 4) courses of a non-academic nature. If applicants have previously been denied admission to Berkeley on the basis of their English language proficiency, they must submit new test scores that meet the current minimum from one of the standardized tests.

## Where to Apply

Visit the Berkeley Graduate Division application page (<http://grad.berkeley.edu/admissions/apply>) .

## Curriculum

The general goal of the first two years of the program is to assure that the student has a broad and varied knowledge of the fields of British and American literature in their historical dimensions, and also is familiar with a wide range of literary forms, critical approaches, and scholarly methods. A coherent demonstration of this knowledge is the aim of the course requirement, the breadth requirement, and the system of regular advising and evaluation of student work. At the end of the two-year period, the student's record is reviewed in its entirety in order to ascertain whether he or she is able and ready to proceed to the qualifying examination and the more specialized phase of PhD study.

Students will complete twelve graduate-level courses, and remove all incomplete grades, before taking the qualifying examination. (A required thirteenth course in reading and composition pedagogy may be taken later.) If a student has not previously completed a college course in Shakespeare, such a course (graduate or upper division) must be taken at Berkeley. If the Shakespeare course has been taken *prior* to enrollment at Berkeley, credit for this course counts as one of a maximum of three classes for which a student can get graduate level course credit (see page 3 of the Graduate Study in English handbook ([http://english.berkeley.edu/ckeditor\\_assets/attachments/240/2014-15%20Handbook.pdf?1424461777](http://english.berkeley.edu/ckeditor_assets/attachments/240/2014-15%20Handbook.pdf?1424461777)), PDF). The distribution of the 12 courses is as follows:

ENGLISH 200 Problems in the Study of Literature
Medieval through 16th-Century (British)
17th- through 18th-Century (British and/or American)
19th-Century (British, American and/or Anglophone)
20th-Century (British, American and/or Anglophone)
A course organized in terms other than chronological coverage (special problems, theory, minority discourse, etc.,)
Electives: Six courses

## English

ENGLISH 200 Problems in the Study of Literature 4 Units  
Terms offered: Fall 2017, Fall 2016, Fall 2015  
Approaches to literary study, including textual analysis, scholarly methodology and bibliography, critical theory and practice.

### Rules & Requirements

**Prerequisites:** Open only to students in the English Ph.D. program

### Hours & Format

**Fall and/or spring:** 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

### Additional Details

**Subject/Course Level:** English/Graduate

**Grading:** Letter grade.

ENGLISH 201B Topics in the History of the English Language 4 Units  
Terms offered: Fall 2010, Spring 2009

### Rules & Requirements

**Repeat rules:** Course may be repeated for credit as topic varies. Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

### Hours & Format

**Fall and/or spring:** 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

### Additional Details

**Subject/Course Level:** English/Graduate

**Grading:** Letter grade.

ENGLISH 203 Graduate Readings 4 Units  
Terms offered: Fall 2017, Spring 2017, Fall 2016  
Graduate lecture courses surveying broad areas and periods of literary history, and directing students in wide reading. Offerings vary from semester to semester. Students should consult the department's "Announcement of Classes" for offerings well before the beginning of the semester.

### Rules & Requirements

**Prerequisites:** Open to advanced undergraduates, with the consent of the instructor

**Repeat rules:** Course may be repeated for credit. Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

### Hours & Format

**Fall and/or spring:** 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

### Additional Details

**Subject/Course Level:** English/Graduate

**Grading:** Letter grade.

ENGLISH 205A Old English 4 Units  
Terms offered: Fall 2013, Fall 2011, Fall 2009

### Rules & Requirements

**Prerequisites:** Open to undergraduates with the consent of the instructor

**Credit Restrictions:** Offered for 4 units in fall and in spring, 3 units in summer.

### Hours & Format

**Fall and/or spring:** 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

### Additional Details

**Subject/Course Level:** English/Graduate

**Grading:** Letter grade.

**ENGLISH 205B Old English 4 Units**

Terms offered: Spring 2017, Spring 2016, Spring 2014

**Rules & Requirements**

**Prerequisites:** Open to undergraduates with the consent of the instructor

**Credit Restrictions:** Offered for 4 units in fall and in spring, 3 units in summer.

**Hours & Format**

**Fall and/or spring:** 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

**Additional Details**

**Subject/Course Level:** English/Graduate

**Grading:** Letter grade.

**ENGLISH 211 Chaucer 4 Units**

Terms offered: Fall 2017, Spring 2017, Fall 2014

Discussion of Chaucer's major works.

**Hours & Format**

**Fall and/or spring:** 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

**Additional Details**

**Subject/Course Level:** English/Graduate

**Grading:** Letter grade.

**ENGLISH 212 Readings in Middle English 4 Units**

Terms offered: Fall 2016, Fall 2012, Spring 2012

Rapid reading of selections in Middle English, from the twelfth century through the fifteenth.

**Hours & Format**

**Fall and/or spring:** 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

**Additional Details**

**Subject/Course Level:** English/Graduate

**Grading:** Letter grade.

**ENGLISH 217 Shakespeare 4 Units**

Terms offered: Fall 2016, Fall 2014, Spring 2013

Discussion of selected works of Shakespeare.

**Rules & Requirements**

**Repeat rules:** Course may be repeated for credit. Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

**Hours & Format**

**Fall and/or spring:** 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

**Additional Details**

**Subject/Course Level:** English/Graduate

**Grading:** Letter grade.

**ENGLISH 218 Milton 4 Units**

Terms offered: Fall 2012, Spring 2011, Spring 2009

Discussion of Milton's major works.

**Hours & Format**

**Fall and/or spring:** 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

**Additional Details**

**Subject/Course Level:** English/Graduate

**Grading:** Letter grade.

**ENGLISH 243A Fiction Writing Workshop 4 Units**

Terms offered: Spring 2017, Spring 2015, Fall 2012

A writing workshop in fiction for graduate students.

**Rules & Requirements**

**Prerequisites:** Consent of instructor, normally based on prior writings submitted

**Repeat rules:** Course may be repeated for credit. Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

**Hours & Format**

**Fall and/or spring:** 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

**Additional Details**

**Subject/Course Level:** English/Graduate

**Grading:** Letter grade.

**ENGLISH 243B Poetry Writing Workshop 4 Units**

Terms offered: Fall 2017, Fall 2016, Spring 2016

A writing workshop in poetry for graduate students.

**Rules & Requirements**

**Prerequisites:** Consent of instructor, normally based on prior writings submitted

**Repeat rules:** Course may be repeated for credit. Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

**Hours & Format**

**Fall and/or spring:** 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

**Additional Details**

**Subject/Course Level:** English/Graduate

**Grading:** Letter grade.

**ENGLISH 243N Prose Nonfiction Writing Workshop 4 Units**

Terms offered: Spring 2017, Spring 2016, Fall 2014

A writing workshop in prose nonfiction for graduate students.

**Rules & Requirements**

**Prerequisites:** Consent of instructor, normally based on prior writings submitted

**Repeat rules:** Course may be repeated for credit. Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

**Hours & Format**

**Fall and/or spring:** 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

**Additional Details**

**Subject/Course Level:** English/Graduate

**Grading:** Letter grade.

**ENGLISH 246C Graduate Proseminars: Renaissance: Sixteenth century (excluding, or at least not prominently featuring, Shakespeare) 4 Units**

Terms offered: Spring 2017, Fall 2014, Spring 2009

Proseminars in the major chronological fields of English and American literature providing graduate instruction in scholarly and critical approaches appropriate to each field.

**Hours & Format**

**Fall and/or spring:** 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

**Additional Details**

**Subject/Course Level:** English/Graduate

**Grading:** Letter grade.

**ENGLISH 246D Graduate Proseminars: Renaissance: Seventeenth century through Milton 4 Units**

Terms offered: Fall 2017, Spring 2015, Fall 2011

Proseminars in the major chronological fields of English and American literature providing graduate instruction in scholarly and critical approaches appropriate to each field.

**Hours & Format**

**Fall and/or spring:** 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

**Additional Details**

**Subject/Course Level:** English/Graduate

**Grading:** Letter grade.

**ENGLISH 246E Graduate Proseminars: Restoration and early 18th century 4 Units**

Terms offered: Spring 2014, Fall 2010, Fall 2008

Proseminars in the major chronological fields of English and American literature providing graduate instruction in scholarly and critical approaches appropriate to each field.

**Hours & Format**

**Fall and/or spring:** 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

**Additional Details**

**Subject/Course Level:** English/Graduate

**Grading:** Letter grade.

**ENGLISH 246F Graduate Proseminars: Later 18th century 4 Units**

Terms offered: Spring 2016, Fall 2013, Fall 2011

Proseminars in the major chronological fields of English and American literature providing graduate instruction in scholarly and critical approaches appropriate to each field.

**Hours & Format**

**Fall and/or spring:** 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

**Additional Details**

**Subject/Course Level:** English/Graduate

**Grading:** Letter grade.

**ENGLISH 246G Graduate Proseminars: Romantic 4 Units**

Terms offered: Fall 2017, Spring 2015, Spring 2011

Proseminars in the major chronological fields of English and American literature providing graduate instruction in scholarly and critical approaches appropriate to each field.

**Hours & Format**

**Fall and/or spring:** 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

**Additional Details**

**Subject/Course Level:** English/Graduate

**Grading:** Letter grade.

**ENGLISH 246H Graduate Proseminars: Victorian 4 Units**

Terms offered: Spring 2017, Fall 2007, Spring 2006

Proseminars in the major chronological fields of English and American literature providing graduate instruction in scholarly and critical approaches appropriate to each field.

**Hours & Format**

**Fall and/or spring:** 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

**Additional Details**

**Subject/Course Level:** English/Graduate

**Grading:** Letter grade.

**ENGLISH 246I Graduate Proseminars: American to 1855 4 Units**

Terms offered: Spring 2015, Fall 2012, Fall 2011

Proseminars in the major chronological fields of English and American literature providing graduate instruction in scholarly and critical approaches appropriate to each field.

**Hours & Format**

**Fall and/or spring:** 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

**Additional Details**

**Subject/Course Level:** English/Graduate

**Grading:** Letter grade.

**ENGLISH 246J Graduate Proseminars: American 1855 to 1900 4 Units**

Terms offered: Spring 2017, Spring 2014, Fall 2012

Proseminars in the major chronological fields of English and American literature providing graduate instruction in scholarly and critical approaches appropriate to each field.

**Hours & Format**

**Fall and/or spring:** 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

**Additional Details**

**Subject/Course Level:** English/Graduate

**Grading:** Letter grade.

**ENGLISH 246K Graduate Proseminars: Literature in English 1900 to 1945 4 Units**

Terms offered: Fall 2014, Spring 2013, Spring 2012

Proseminars in the major chronological fields of English and American literature providing graduate instruction in scholarly and critical approaches appropriate to each field.

**Hours & Format**

**Fall and/or spring:** 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

**Additional Details**

**Subject/Course Level:** English/Graduate

**Grading:** Letter grade.

**ENGLISH 246L Graduate Proseminars: Literature in English 1945 to Present 4 Units**

Terms offered: Fall 2015, Spring 2014, Fall 2012

Proseminars in the major chronological fields of English and American literature providing graduate instruction in scholarly and critical approaches appropriate to each field.

**Hours & Format**

**Fall and/or spring:** 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

**Additional Details**

**Subject/Course Level:** English/Graduate

**Grading:** Letter grade.

**ENGLISH 250 Research Seminars 4 Units**

Terms offered: Fall 2017, Spring 2017, Fall 2016

Required of all Ph.D. students. Advanced study in various fields, leading to a substantial piece of writing. Offerings vary from semester to semester. Students should consult the department's "Announcement of Classes" for offerings well before the beginning of the semester.

**Rules & Requirements**

**Repeat rules:** Course may be repeated for credit. Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

**Hours & Format**

**Fall and/or spring:** 15 weeks - 2-3 hours of seminar per week

**Additional Details**

**Subject/Course Level:** English/Graduate

**Grading:** Letter grade.

**ENGLISH 298 Special Studies 1 - 4 Units**

Terms offered: Fall 2017, Spring 2017, Fall 2016

Directed research. Open to qualified graduate students wishing to pursue special topics. If taken to satisfy degree requirements, must be taken for four units and a letter grade.

**Rules & Requirements**

**Repeat rules:** Course may be repeated for credit. Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

**Hours & Format**

**Fall and/or spring:** 15 weeks - 3-12 hours of independent study per week

**Additional Details**

**Subject/Course Level:** English/Graduate

**Grading:** Letter grade.

**ENGLISH 299 Special Study 1 - 12 Units**

Terms offered: Fall 2017, Spring 2017, Fall 2016

Normally reserved for students directly engaged upon the doctoral dissertation.

**Rules & Requirements**

**Repeat rules:** Course may be repeated for credit. Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

**Hours & Format**

**Fall and/or spring:** 15 weeks - 1-12 hours of independent study per week

**Additional Details**

**Subject/Course Level:** English/Graduate

**Grading:** Offered for satisfactory/unsatisfactory grade only.

**ENGLISH 310 Field Studies in Tutoring Writing 1 - 3 Units**

Terms offered: Fall 2017, Spring 2017, Fall 2016

Tutoring Berkeley undergraduates in College Writing R1A, R1A, R1B, and other writing and/or literature courses. Seminar topics: the writing process, responding to writing, composition theory, grammar, collaborative learning, tutoring methods. Tutors keep a weekly journal, read assigned articles, videotape their tutoring, and write a final paper. This course cannot be used toward fulfillment of the major requirements.

**Rules & Requirements**

**Prerequisites:** Pre-enrollment interviews required

**Repeat rules:** Course may be repeated for a maximum of 6 units. Course may be repeated for a maximum of 6 units.

**Hours & Format**

**Fall and/or spring:** 15 weeks - 0 hours of fieldwork per week

**Additional Details**

**Subject/Course Level:** English/Professional course for teachers or prospective teachers

**Grading:** Offered for pass/not pass grade only.

**ENGLISH 375 The Teaching of Composition and Literature 3 Units**

Terms offered: Fall 2017, Fall 2016, Fall 2015

Discussion of course aims, instructional methods, grading standards, and special problems in the teaching of composition and literature, with practice in handling sample essays. When given for graduate student instructors in the ENGLISH R1A-R1B Program or the English 45 series, the course will include class visitation.

**Rules & Requirements**

**Repeat rules:** Course may be repeated for credit with different topic. Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

**Hours & Format**

**Fall and/or spring:** 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

**Additional Details**

**Subject/Course Level:** English/Professional course for teachers or prospective teachers

**Grading:** Offered for satisfactory/unsatisfactory grade only.

**Formerly known as:** English 302

**ENGLISH 602 Individual Study for Doctoral Students 1 - 12 Units**

Terms offered: Fall 2017, Spring 2017, Fall 2016

Individual study in consultation with the major field adviser, intended to provide an opportunity for qualified students to prepare themselves for the various examinations required of candidates for the Ph.D. May not be used for unit or residence requirements for the doctoral degree.

**Rules & Requirements**

**Prerequisites:** Graduate standing

**Repeat rules:** Course may be repeated for credit. Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

**Hours & Format**

**Fall and/or spring:** 15 weeks - 0 hours of independent study per week

**Additional Details**

**Subject/Course Level:** English/Graduate examination preparation

**Grading:** Offered for satisfactory/unsatisfactory grade only.