

Student Learning Outcomes for Graduate Students in the Master of Arts Program in English at Kansas State University

The Master of Arts Program in English at Kansas State University is an academic community of professors and graduate students who are intellectually engaged, committed to creative and critical work in English, and dedicated to advanced research in the discipline as well as the primary goals of a liberal education: the ability to reason, think critically, communicate effectively, and appreciate excellent writing and thinking.

The Program values:

- Critical writing, carefully honed and revised, informed by current research in the problem or field, and aware of its own critical assumptions
- Creative work, carefully honed and revised, informed by the reading of other writers, including contemporary authors, and aware of its own exigence and aims
- Careful explication of texts
- Breadth of reading and breadth of historical and cultural knowledge
- Collaborative, interactive, and meaningful learning and instruction

It is the expectation of the Program that its students will join this academic community and share these intellectual and disciplinary values. Upon completion of the Master of Arts degree, graduate students in English are expected to demonstrate the ability to do the following:

- Read carefully, with historical and contextual perspective
- Conduct research within the field of English
- Think analytically and critically about literature and language
- Recognize and analyze the perspectives and assumptions that they and other readers and critics bring to texts and interpretations
- Write well, with an understanding of audience and purpose

Moreover, though no specific pieces of knowledge can define the Master of Arts in English for every student, Master of Arts students in English should be able to demonstrate the acquisition of a broad and deep knowledge about literature and language, especially within their selected area.