



NORTHWESTERN STATE

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH, FOREIGN LANGUAGES, AND CULTURAL STUDIES

Admission to Graduate Programs in English (rev. 5/22/19)

Applications are accepted on an ongoing basis; however, submit all materials by the following deadlines to ensure review and evaluation of your application before the beginning of the semester:

<u>To begin in</u>	<u>Submit all materials by</u>
FALL	AUGUST 1
SPRING	DECEMBER 15
SUMMER	MAY 1

Materials should be submitted to the Graduate School. Their contact information is as follows:

The Graduate School

Caspari Hall, Room 123

Natchitoches, LA 71497

phone: 318-357-5851

fax: 318-357-5019

Grad_school@nsula.edu

<https://graduateschool.nsula.edu/>

A complete application file for certificate programs in TESOL or Writing for Business, Industry and Technology requires the following:

- Admission to the Graduate School
 - The [online application for admission](#)
 - Receipt of official college transcripts
 - Receipt of two recommendations (form or letter)

A complete application file for the English MA program requires the following:

- Admission to the Graduate School—
 - The [online application for admission](#)
 - Receipt of \$25 Application Fee
 - Receipt of official college transcripts
 - Receipt of [immunization records](#)¹
 - Receipt of 2 letters of recommendation— and
- a writing sample of not more than 15 pages demonstrating facility in analysis, argument, research, and coherence emailed to grad_school@nsula.edu AND englishgrad@nsula.edu; and
- a statement of purpose of about 500 words describing career goals and/or rationale for pursuing graduate study in English. This statement should demonstrate a substantial commitment to graduate study. **Email to grad_school@nsula.edu AND englishgrad@nsula.edu.**

¹ Can be waived for online-only students: <https://www.nsula.edu/wp-content/uploads/Immunization-Form-WAIVER-ONLY.pdf>

Successful applicants to the MA program in English generally meet the following criteria, in addition to admission requirements established by the Graduate School:

- Undergraduate GPA of 3.0 or higher;
- Engaging and lucid writing in both the statement of purpose and writing sample, with the latter demonstrating thoughtful analysis, effective argumentation grounded specific evidence, apt research, and correct citation;
- Statement of purpose articulating professional goals and rationale for graduate study based in critical, intellectual, philosophical or pedagogical commitment to English studies; and
- Two letters of recommendation written by people who have supervised the applicant in an academic or similar setting and providing specific evidence of the applicants' intellectual engagement and potential for success in graduate studies.

International applicants

The Graduate School requires TOEFL scores for international applicants; the Department of English, Foreign Languages, and Cultural Studies will consider an IELTS score of 6.0 in lieu of the TOEFL.

TRANSFER CREDITS

A maximum of nine (9) credit hours with grades of at least B (3.0) may be transferred into the master's program upon admission. Courses taken concurrently (while pursuing the MA at NSU) will not be approved for transfer credit. Transfer credits must be for courses deemed equivalent to courses required for the NSU MA program curriculum. And the credits must be earned within six years of completing the MA at NSU—for instance, transferred credits earned at another institution in Spring 2020 expire for NSU as of 2026. Transfer credits must be approved by the Director of Graduate Studies and signed by the Department Head and Dean. A request to approve transfer credits form is available on the Graduate School's web page under "Graduate School Forms" or at the following link: <https://graduateschool.nsula.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/21/Graduate-School-Form-Application-for-Transfer-of-Graduate-Credit-Rev.-2017.pdf>

COURSE LOAD LIMITATIONS

Students with full academic eligibility status may take between three and twelve hours per 16-week semester. Approval must be obtained for a course load of 16 credit hours in a single 16-week term from the Director of Graduate Studies and the Department Head.

TUITION AND FEES

Graduate tuition and student fees are posted by semester on the right side of the Student Accounting page: <https://www.nsula.edu/student-accounting-cashiering/>. See "Internet Only Fees." for Graduate credits. These fees are subject to change without notice. All fees and charges assessed by NSU in connection with registration are due in full on scheduled fee payment dates. Deadlines are posted on the appropriate "Academic Calendars" found on the Registrar's page: <https://www.nsula.edu/registrar/>. Contact the Registrar or Financial Aid Office if you have questions about tuition and fees.

GRADUATE ASSISTANTSHIPS

Teaching and research assistantships are available for highly qualified graduate students on our Natchitoches campus. To be eligible for a graduate assistantship, the student must be accepted into the MA degree program and have achieved regular graduate admission status at Northwestern State University. Eligible students must apply for a Graduate Assistantship. A graduate assistant must be full-time (at least 9 hours) of

which 6 must be graduate, and no more than 12 (graduate/undergraduate) hours total. To be eligible to retain the assistantship, the student must maintain a 3.0 grade point average in all graduate courses, as well as meet all other stated requirements of the graduate school. Graduate assistants are required to work 20 hours a week. Those granted a graduate assistantship will receive a stipend over a nine-month period. Out-of-state tuition is waived, if applicable, but this is only in effect for those semesters the student is actually employed as a graduate assistant. Additional information and an application are available from the Graduate School office.

QUESTIONS?

Contact the Graduate School at the info listed above, or contact the Coordinator of Graduate Studies in English, Dr. J. Ereck Jarvis, jarvisj@nsula.edu.