

# MA & PHD PROGRAMS OF THE ENGLISH DEPARTMENT: STUDENT MANUAL

(Revised & approved by Graduate Committee November 18, 2015)

## I. GENERAL INFORMATION AND GUIDELINES FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS

### 1.1 Basic Requirements for Admission and Graduation

#### Master's (M.A.) Program

For more than 35 years, the M.A. program of the Department of English of the College of Humanities has offered advanced studies in the areas of Literature and Linguistics. Subjects for study in the field now range widely and represent the variety of Anglophone Literature, Language, and Culture from six continents: from Old English to postcolonial theory, from Shakespeare to reggae and calypso lyrics, from generative syntax to ethnolinguistics, from *Paradise Lost* to feminism and film theory. Yet the program's principal aim remains the pursuit of academic excellence in English-language studies within the context of higher education and cultural life in Puerto Rico and the Caribbean region as a whole.

#### ***Basic Requirements for Admission:***

- a Bachelor's degree in English (or in a related field such as Literature, Linguistics, Communication, Translation, or Education);
- the approximate number of credits needed for an undergraduate major in the field;
- a grade-point average of at least B (3.0).

These requirements remain flexible, and admission is sometimes possible even though the student does not have the equivalent of an undergraduate major in English. The specialization in Linguistics requires students to have had an introductory Linguistics course (ENGL 4205 or the equivalent in any language or department), plus three additional hours in Linguistics. The specialization in Literature requires students to have had survey courses in English and North American literatures and at least one advanced writing course.

Students who do not meet admissions requirements but wish to take courses may request a special Study Permit (*Permiso de Estudio*). Such a permit does not guarantee eventual admission to a degree program, but if the student is still interested in applying for admission and later meets the requirements, then some of the courses taken may be counted toward a degree if the grade received was B or higher.

The application form must be accompanied by two (2) letters of recommendation utilizing the form provided in the admissions application, two (2) official transcripts, and

a personal statement essay. Application is done electronically via APPLY YOURSELF at: <https://app.applyyourself.com/?id=UPR-GRAD>.

***Requirements for the Completion of the M.A. in English:***

- an academic concentration in literature, linguistics, or related field;
- ENGL 6205 (formerly 5005) (Seminar in Critical Writing);
- a minimum of 27 credits at the 6000 level passed with an average of B (3.0) or better;
- reading knowledge of a language other than English and Spanish (see 2.3 below);
- a passing grade on a written comprehensive examination;
- the completion of an acceptable M.A. thesis.

To meet the residency requirement, a student must complete at least six (6) credits for each of two semesters. Students should not take more than twelve (12) hours of course-work during a regular semester or more than six (6) hours during the summer session.

The period of time allowed for completion of the Master's Degree in the Department of English is five (5) years. Only under extraordinary circumstances will requests for extensions be considered and those will normally not exceed a one-year period. Time is measured from initial registration in the program and is based on academic years, ending either December 15 or May 15. Time continues to count when a student is not enrolled, unless the student officially withdraws from the program. Petitions for extensions must be made in writing to the Graduate Steering Committee at least three months prior to the end of the five-year period. A letter of support from the adviser and a solidly conceived work plan must accompany a student's petition. Last-minute requests may be summarily denied. Observing the time limit is in large part the student's responsibility, although the Department will attempt to stay abreast of the student's progress and advise the student of potential problems. The student should take seriously the advice of his/her adviser and of other members of the Graduate Committee and try to complete the degree in the most expedient manner possible given the student's particular situation.

Note: Our Graduate Program curriculum is currently under revision. The implementation of time-to-degree policy is subject to final institutional approval of the new curriculum. Students admitted under the current curriculum will have the option to change to the new curriculum once it has been implemented.

## **Doctoral (Ph.D.) Program**

The English Department in the College of Humanities offers a doctor of philosophy degree in English with the literature and language of the English speaking Caribbean as its areas of specialization. The program began in January 2000 and aims to prepare scholars, critics, linguists, and cultural specialists who will contribute to the development of Caribbean studies as a field of academic and cultural knowledge inside the context of higher education in Puerto Rico and the Caribbean community at large.

The University of Puerto Rico-Río Piedras Campus has a long tradition in Caribbean Studies and maintains specialized bibliographic holdings in the field. The new Ph.D. program in English places emphasis on (1) critical studies of oral and scribal forms of Anglophone literary and cultural expression and (2) the analysis of the development and structure of Anglophone Creole languages within the broader context of Caribbean, Caribbean Rim, and diasporic metropolitan societies and cultures.

### ***Requirements for Admission:***

Besides the general requirements for admission to the Río Piedras Campus, candidates must satisfy the following requirements:

- a Master of Arts degree or its equivalent in literature, linguistics or related field;
- a grade point average of 3.0 in the specialization and all previous graduate work;
- proficiency in English and knowledge of Spanish (can be acquired during the course of study);
- a 3 to 5 page essay (in English) describing the candidate's reasons for pursuing a doctorate in English with specialized studies in Caribbean literature or linguistics;
- an interview (when feasible) with the members of the Graduate Admissions Committee;
- three letters of recommendation;
- an original piece of research in the field of Caribbean or related studies (i.e. M.A. thesis, published article, scholarly research paper, etc.).

Additional course work to supplement the M.A. degree can be required, if deemed necessary, at the time of admission and will be so specified in the letter of acceptance. This work must be passed with a grade of B or better, and 3 credits can be used to satisfy the minimum of 36 required credits. This applies particularly to ENGL 6051, Syntax I, and ENGL 6499, Phonology of English, but also to remediation of Master's-level deficiencies in Literature. It does not apply to the prerequisite 6000-level Caribbean courses.

### **Requirements for Graduation:**

Besides the general requirements for graduation from the Río Piedras Campus, Ph.D. students must:

- satisfy a one-year residency requirement;
- demonstrate evidence of knowledge of French, Afro-Caribbean Creole or a justifiable substitute language other than English or Spanish. This requires 6-12 credits (depending on the nature of the courses taken) in French or a substitute language justified by research needs, or the equivalent competency examination;
- take ENGL 6488 (The Literature, Language, and Culture of the English-speaking Caribbean), before taking the doctoral seminars;
- take three 6000-level courses in Caribbean literature (ENGL 6410, ENGL 6486, ENGL 6489 for the Literature specialization) and Caribbean language and Linguistics (three from among ENGL 6045, ENGL 6469, ENGL 6475, ENGL 6051, ENGL 6499 for the Linguistics specialization);  
**Note: only 6 of these credits count toward the 36 credits.**
- complete 36 graduate credits beyond the M.A., of which a minimum of 15 are English doctoral (8000-level) seminars in area of specialization (see below for requirements that the other 21 credits must meet);
- complete a research seminar (ENGL 8099: Research in Caribbean Literature and Linguistics);
- pass comprehensive examinations;
- write a successful Ph.D. dissertation in the field.

Note: these requirements were in force prior to November of 2015.

Revised General Requirements (effective as of November 18, 2015):

- satisfy a one-year residency requirement;
- demonstrate evidence of knowledge of French, Afro-Caribbean Creole or a justifiable substitute language other than English or Spanish. This requires 6 credits minimum in French or a substitute language justified by research needs, or the equivalent competency examination;
- take ENGL 6488 (The Literature, Language, and Culture of the English-speaking Caribbean);
- take two Caribbean specific 6000-level courses: ENGL 6410, ENGL 6486, ENGL 6489 for the Literature specialization or ENGL 6045, ENGL 6469, ENGL 6475, ENGL 6051, or ENGL 6499 for the Linguistics specialization);  
**Note: if completed after the M.A., these count as Electives in English.**
- take one Caribbean specific 6000-level course in the “other concentration”: ENGL 6410, ENGL 6486, ENGL 6489 for the Linguistics students and ENGL 6045, ENGL 6469, ENGL 6475 for the Literature students.
- complete 36 graduate credits beyond the M.A., of which a minimum of 15 are English doctoral (8000-level) seminars in area of specialization (see below for the breakdown of credit requirements);

- complete a research seminar (ENGL 8099: Research in Caribbean Literature and Linguistics);
- pass comprehensive examinations;
- write and defend a successful Ph.D. dissertation in the field.

All requirements for the Ph.D. must be completed within eight (8) sequential calendar years from the date of first admission/enrollment as a Ph.D. student. Only under extraordinary circumstances will requests for extensions be considered, and those will normally not exceed a one-year period. Time is measured from initial entry to the program and is based on academic years, ending either December 15 or May 15. Time continues to count when a student is not enrolled, unless the student officially withdraws from the program and then subsequently applies as a new student.

Note: Our Graduate Program curriculum is currently under revision. The implementation of time-to-degree policy is subject to final institutional approval of the new curriculum. Students admitted under the current curriculum will have the option to change to the new curriculum once it has been implemented.

## **1.2 Advising Procedure**

Upon being accepted into the program, every new graduate student will meet with the Graduate Coordinator. Later, the student will be assigned an adviser from among the professors who constitute the English Graduate Committee. (See list of professors, Appendix C).

The adviser can later be changed as the student's program becomes more specialized and focused. Such a change requires only the consent of the new adviser and a letter notifying the Graduate Coordinator and the initial adviser. This is the responsibility of the student.

After completion of 24 credits of course work (this applies to both the M.A. and the Ph.D.), the student is expected to maintain regular communication with his/her adviser. Failure to "keep in touch" may jeopardize the student's ability to finish the degree. "Lost" students may find their requests for extensions seriously prejudiced and will suffer from lack of exam and thesis advising and career counseling, as well as in many less tangible ways. The student who does not make full use of an adviser is not likely to derive full benefit from the Graduate Program.

There are other sources of information and guidance as well, and many of the more routine administrative problems relating to registration, deadline, transcripts, etc. can usually be most efficiently solved by the Graduate Program secretary. (See Appendix D for relevant deadlines.)

### 1.3 The Administration of the Graduate Program

The English Department Graduate Committee is the governing body of the M.A. and Ph.D. program in English. It is composed of the members of the English Graduate Faculty, the Director of the Department, and at least two -- one M.A., one Ph.D.-- elected student members. The Graduate Committee makes the final decisions on most matters concerning graduate students in English according to the norms established for all graduate programs of the College of Humanities, the Dean of Graduate Studies, the Río Piedras Campus, and the University as a whole.

The English Department Graduate Coordinator is the elected chairperson of the Graduate Committee. He/she also coordinates Research and Teaching Assistants in consultation with the Liaison, the Seminar Room Director, other research project directors, the ESL Coordinator, the Department Director, and the Assistant Dean for Graduate Studies in the College of Humanities.

Student questions and petitions should be directed in writing to the Graduate Coordinator as chairperson of the Graduate Steering Committee, which consists of the Liaison and two professors (one of Literature and one of Linguistics) chosen by the Coordinator. The Steering Committee works with the coordinator to handle most day-to-day business of the graduate program. Student requests for examinations, credit transfers, extensions, waivers, etc. are screened in the Steering Committee and passed on with recommendations to the Graduate Committee as a whole. The Steering Committee also coordinates curricular revisions. The Graduate Committee as a whole must subsequently ratify almost all recommendations by the Steering Committee, but initial correspondence should be addressed to the Coordinator or to the Steering Committee.

In the event of an insurmountable breakdown in communication between a thesis student and his/her director or members of his/her committee, the problem may be referred (in formal written form) to the Graduate Steering Committee for resolution. The Steering Committee may effect a change in the director of the thesis or thesis committee members, in which case a new signed thesis proposal must be filed.

The Linguistics faculty, the Literature faculty, and the Ph.D. faculty committee are also standing subcommittees of the Graduate Committee. They meet and pass resolutions concerning their respective fields and interests for Graduate Committee ratification. All Graduate Committee members are also members of the Linguistics subcommittee or (and in some cases) the Literature subcommittee, determined by the area of graduate courses taught and fields of research.

The composition of the Ph.D. faculty committee is determined by (1) active research and publication in the field(s) of the program's specialization or (2) proposing and teaching a Ph.D. (8000-level) course.

The Graduate Coordinator is an ex-officio member of all subcommittees, but can also chair the pertinent subcommittee(s). The Graduate Liaison can also chair the pertinent subcommittee(s). Each subcommittee determines its own internal structure.

Other administrative work of the Graduate Program is handled by the Admissions Subcommittee and by the Director of the Richardson Seminar Room, who with the Seminar Room librarian, directs the use and general management of the Seminar Room, including book ordering.

## **II. PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS**

### **2.1 M.A. Program Courses and Credits**

Students in the M.A. program are required to complete a minimum of 30 credits in 5000 and 6000 level courses. The credit requirement must be met with a minimum 3.0 G.P.A. Graduate credit is allowed for two courses (six credits) with the grade of C, but a B average must be maintained for the student to remain in good standing in the program (for every C, the student must have a balancing A). However, certain required courses such as ENGL 6499: Phonology of English and ENGL 6051: Syntax I must be passed with a B or better grade to graduate in English Linguistics. ENGL 6205 (formerly 5005): Seminar in Critical Writing, must also be passed with a grade of B or better.

The 30-credit minimum consists of 27 credits in 6000 level courses plus ENGL 6205 (formerly 5005). (See related section on ENGL 6205 below). Comprehensive Exam and Thesis courses are for the purpose of registration and do not count toward the 30-credit minimum.

A student may take a maximum of six 6000-level credits as electives in the other specialization offered by the department (linguistics or literature) or in any other department or field such as Comparative Literature, History, Hispanic Studies, Communication, Translation, Linguistics, Sociology, Education, etc. Linguistics students must use three of those credits in a literature course offered in the Department and may apply the other three credits to any other courses of interest either within or outside the Department. Students should consult their advisers when electing to take courses outside the department. The Graduate Committee may accept a maximum of six credits of graduate courses taken at another university.

A student who wishes to substitute another course for a required course in either literature or linguistics must present a petition, with the endorsement of his/her adviser, to the Steering Committee before taking the substitute course.

Students must choose one of these two areas of specialization: literature or linguistics. Students planning to teach in Puerto Rico can further broaden their employment prospects by taking one or two courses concerning teaching English as a Second Language (ESL). These courses are offered through the TESL program in the Graduate Department of the College of Education.

A. **ENGL 6205** (previously 5005)

During their first semester of studies, all M.A. students are required to enroll in ENGL 6205 (Seminar in Critical Writing) to enhance competence in writing and in working with scholarly materials. The ENGL 6205 requirement applies to students of both literature and linguistics. ENGL 6205 can also be required as a condition of admission to the Ph.D. program. The class must be passed with a grade of B or better. (In some cases, a student can be excused from 6205 if a similar course has already been taken or evidence can be presented to demonstrate highly developed academic writing and research skills. A petition to that effect must be submitted in writing to the Graduate Steering Committee. Students who have taken ENGL 3291-92 as undergraduates in this Department, should consult with the Graduate Coordinator before enrolling in 6205.)

Note: ENGL 5005 was renumbered as 6205 in 2014.

**B. M.A. Specialization in Literature**

The program in literature provides a comprehensive view of the full range of English-language literatures as well as the opportunity for in-depth study and research in specialized subject areas selected by the individual student. To accomplish these aims, students take 30 credits which are divided by sections:

- 3 credits in Critical Writing
- 3 credits in Literary Criticism and Theory
- 9 credits in Period Specific courses
- 9 credits in Studies in Genre/Author/Topic
- 6 credits in electives (3 in Linguistics and 3 in 6000-level courses from any department)

Note: 6 of the 30 credits must be in pre-1800 literature courses. In consultation with the adviser, students can use Caribbean Specific courses to count toward the 9 credits in Studies in Genre/Author/Topic.

**C. M.A. Specialization in Linguistics**

The program in English linguistics provides an in-depth view of the modern approach to the structure and use of language. It also provides breadth and the opportunity for detailed study and research. Students in this specialization must pass ENGL 5005: Seminar in Critical Writing, ENGL 6051: Syntax I, and ENGL 6499: Phonology of English with grades of B or better. (Whenever possible, these courses should be taken during the first year in the program.) They are also required to take three (3) courses

from the core content courses listed below. The remaining 12 credits are electives (see guidelines below).

**Required courses** (9 credits)

- 6205 Seminar in Critical Writing (formerly 5005)
- 6051 Syntax I
- 6499 Phonology of English

**Core Courses** (9 credits)

- 6045 Language and Culture
- 6052 Syntax II
- 6408 Comparative Analysis of the Phonology of English and Spanish
- 6435 Grammatical Structures of English and Spanish
- 6440 Dialects of American English
- 6466 Studies in Bilingualism
- 6467 History & Development of English
- 6469 Creole Languages
- 6475 Dialectology of the English-speaking World(s)
- 6488 The Literature, Language, and Culture of the English-speaking Caribbean
- 6496 Topics in the Analysis of Contemporary English
- 6505 Semantics of Modern English
- 6507 The Acquisition of English

**Electives** (12 credits)

- A minimum of two (2) M.A. Linguistics courses not otherwise utilized. Linguistics courses from other programs (e.g., Programa Graduado de Lingüística) may be accepted with prior permission from student's adviser.
- One M.A. course in Literature
- The last three (3) credits may be taken in any M.A. program.

***D. Independent Studies (ENGL 6905)***

Guidelines for students

Students who would like to focus on a topic not covered by any existing (or regularly offered) course in the Master's degree program in English can propose a 3-credit independent study to pursue their interests. Students can take a maximum of two independent study courses during their tenure in the graduate program.

Only students who have completed a full-time semester of graduate studies with at least a 3.0 average and show independence in research skills can request an independent study.

Students who are interested in pursuing an independent study should:

1. Conceptualize a clear, focused idea for a course of study.
2. Meet the professor whose expertise is in this area of study to discuss the possibility of scheduling an independent study.
3. Submit to the professor a proposal for the study which includes:
  - a. a statement of purpose with a clear justification for the independent study
  - b. a detailed description of the proposed course of study
  - c. a reading list
  - d. a working bibliography
  - e. a tentative schedule of readings and consultations
4. Revise the proposal according to the critiques of the supervising professor.
5. Submit the proposal to the Graduate Steering Committee for official approval by the dates published by the Graduate Coordinator during the semester prior to the independent study.
6. Register for the independent study with the approval of the Graduate Steering Committee.

Should the Graduate Steering Committee request revisions, the student should make these revisions as soon as possible and resubmit the proposal for reconsideration. Late revisions may result in an independent study being postponed to the following semester.

#### Guidelines for professors

1. The student must initiate the proposal for an independent study.
2. The area proposed by the student must be the professor's area of expertise.
3. The professor can have only one student in an independent study course.
4. The professor can have only one independent course per semester.

In most cases, an independent study will result in a seminar paper submitted to the supervising professor for evaluation. Depending on the content of the course, alternative forms of evaluation can be proposed. The student (in consultation with the professor) should clearly include this in the course proposal.

For information on how to use independent study in preparation for writing creative thesis, see Creative Thesis below.

### ***E. Creative Thesis***

The option of writing a Creative Thesis exists at the Master's level. In order to carry out such a thesis, the student must do the following:

1. Select a mentor who has a degree in creative writing and active and current publishing in creative writing. Part of the mentoring process is professional development and advice about where and how to publish, obtain grants, and join associations for writers, etc. The mentor will become the director of the eventual creative thesis.

2. Enroll in ENGL 6905: Independent Study. (The section number corresponds to the individual professor serving as mentor.) This allows the mentor to assess beforehand the creative writing skills of the student in order to ascertain whether the student has the potential to produce a good creative thesis.

3. Prepare a week-by-week independent study proposal in consultation with the mentor. Once it is complete, it must be submitted to the Graduate Steering Committee for approval prior to the semester in which the work is to be done. (The exact date for submission should be consulted with the Graduate Program Coordinator.)

It is important to note that the Independent Study in creative writing is part of the regular coursework. It is an opportunity for the student to work closely with the mentor to discuss writing techniques utilized in a series of literary works within the same genre as the intended creative thesis. The Independent Study course takes the place of a creative writing workshop at the graduate level. It is taken prior to the comprehensive exams. It is not the thesis course.

Once the Independent Study course and all other required courses are successfully completed, then the student proceeds to the comprehensive exam (ENGL 6900) and, after that, to the thesis course (ENGL 6896). Once enrolled in the thesis course, the student should follow the procedure outlined under Thesis.

## **2.2 M.A. Comprehensive Examinations**

Students are required to enroll in ENGL 6900 for the semester in which they intend to take the four-hour written examination in either literature or linguistics. This examination is graded as PB (Pass Bueno), PN (Pass Notable), PS (Pass Sobresaliente), or NP (No Pass). Students who do not pass the exam, or pass only a portion of it, receive an NP to be removed by retaking the exam the following semester.

Each student's Examination Committee will normally be composed of his/her adviser and two other professors with knowledge of the areas of specialization. The Student should submit a reading list to his/her committee by no later than the 1st week of September for Fall and the 1st week of February for Spring. The Committee has two weeks to respond or approve the reading list. Committees normally have three members who compose, administer, and evaluate the examination. Passing the examination requires the approval of an absolute majority of the committee members.

*Students have two (2) opportunities to pass the comprehensive exams.*

**1. Literature:** The written examination in English literature tests the student's ability to write knowledgeably about two areas of concentration. The student in consultation with his/her adviser constructs these areas based on his/her interests and program of study

**2. Linguistics:** The written examination covers two areas of linguistics which are selected by the student from any of the following sub-disciplines:

- 1) History of English
- 2) English Language Variation
- 3) Languages in Contact
- 4) Semantics
- 5) Language Acquisition
- 6) Syntax
- 7) Phonology

The student should consult with his/her adviser in deciding on these areas and preparing for the examination.

Comprehensive exams are given at a specific time each semester: mid-November in the Fall semester and mid-April in the Spring semester.

### **2.3 Ph.D Program Courses and Credits**

The main field of study for the Ph.D. in English is the literature and language of the English-speaking Caribbean; complementary fields are studies in literary genres and language and linguistics. ENGL 6488, "The Literature, Language, and Culture of the English-speaking Caribbean," is required of all entering students regardless of their specialization in Literature or Linguistics.

#### **Program Requirements beyond the M.A. (prior to November 18, 2015) Credits**

Core English courses: five (5) at the 8000 level in area (Lit or Ling) of specialization	15
Caribbean-specific Linguistics or Literature courses: two (2) at the 6000 (6410, 6486, or 6489 for linguistics students, and 6045, 6469, or 6475 for literature students) and/or 8000 levels	6
Electives in English: Three (3) at the 6000 and/or 8000 levels	9*
Free electives: two (2) at the 6000, 7000, and/or 8000 levels	6
Research Seminar (INGL 8099)	0

Writing of Doctoral Critical Essays (Comprehensive exams)	0
Dissertation I	0
Dissertation II	0
Total credits	36

**Program Requirements for the revised Ph.D. (as of November 18, 2015)**

	<b>Credits</b>
ENGL 6488	3
8000-level Seminars in Caribbean: five (5) at the 8000 level in area (Lit or Ling) of specialization	15
One Caribbean specific 6000-level course in other concentration (6410, 6486, or 6489 for Linguistics students and 6045, 6469, or 6475 for Literature students)	3
Electives in English: Three (3) at the 6000 and/or 8000 levels	9*
Free electives: two (2) at the 6000, 7000, and/or 8000 levels	6
Research Seminar (ENGL 8099)	0
Writing of Doctoral Critical Essays (Comprehensive exams)	0
Dissertation I	0
Dissertation II	0
Total credits	36

\*6 of the 9 credits for Electives may come from the two required 6000-level courses in area of specialization (ENGL 6410, ENGL 6486, ENGL 6489 for Literature and ENGL 6045, ENGL 6469, ENGL 6475 for Linguistics). See item 4 under "Requirements for Graduation."

It is advisable that new Ph.D. students focus on courses in their own area (literature or linguistics) during their first semester of studies. The course required in the other specialization should be taken from the list of Caribbean specific 6000-level courses; however, in special cases, students may take an 8000-level course to fulfill this requirement with the Professor's approval.

A student may take up to 6 credits of Free Electives in the other specialization (linguistics or literature) or in any other department or field such as Comparative Literature, History, Hispanic Studies, Linguistics, etc. Students should consult their advisors when electing to take courses outside the department.

***Independent Studies (ENGL 8045)***

Students who would like to focus on a topic not covered by any existing (or regularly offered) course in the Doctoral degree program in English can propose a 3-credit

independent study to pursue their interests. Students can take a maximum of two independent study courses during their tenure in the graduate program.

Only students who have completed a full-time semester of graduate studies with at least a 3.0 average and show independence in research skills can request an independent study.

Students who are interested in pursuing an independent study should:

1. Conceptualize a clear, focused idea for a course of study.
2. Meet the professor whose expertise is in this area of study to discuss the possibility of scheduling an independent study.
3. Submit to the professor a proposal for the study which includes:
  - a. a statement of purpose with a clear justification for the independent study
  - b. a detailed description of the proposed course of study
  - c. a reading list
  - d. a working bibliography
  - e. a tentative schedule of readings and consultations
4. Revise the proposal according to the critiques of the supervising professor.
5. Submit the proposal to the Graduate PhD Committee for official approval by the dates published by the Graduate Coordinator during the semester prior to the independent study.
6. Register for the independent study with the approval of the Graduate PhD Committee.

Should the Graduate PhD Committee request revisions, the student should make these revisions as soon as possible and resubmit the proposal for reconsideration. Late revisions may result in an independent study being postponed to the following semester.

#### Guidelines for professors

1. The student must initiate the proposal for an independent study.
2. The area proposed by student must be the professor's area of expertise.
3. The professor can have only one student in an independent study course.
4. The professor can have only one independent course per semester.

In most cases, an independent study will result in a seminar paper submitted to the supervising professor for evaluation. Depending on the content of the course,

alternative forms of evaluation can be proposed. The student (in consultation with the professor) should clearly include this in the course proposal.

## **2.4 PH.D. COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION (INGL 8890)**

Doctoral students take comprehensive examinations after completing 36 credits of graduate course work. Students select one primary and two secondary areas from one of the following lists, in consultation with her/his adviser:

### **Literature**

- a) poetry
- b) drama
- c) narrative
- d) criticism/theory/language
- e) historical texts and non-fiction

### **Linguistics**

- a) morpho-syntax
- b) phonology
- c) socio-cultural
- d) historical-comparative
- e) language acquisition

These areas are understood as reflecting Anglophone literature and linguistics especially of the Caribbean region and its diaspora. They represent fields of knowledge and not strictly course work.

For the primary area, the student's position paper which was prepared and approved during the Research Seminar course will be used. See note below.

For the two secondary areas, students take sit-down exams over a consecutive two-day period for three (3) hours each. These exams are scheduled for the second week in November (Semester I) or the second week in April (Semester II). (Exact dates will be announced at the beginning of the academic year.)

Note: As of February 21, 2012, the primary area essay will be prepared during the Research Seminar (INGL 8099). For the Research Seminar, the student prepares a position paper which is submitted at the end of the semester, along with an annotated bibliography related to the primary area of study and unannotated bibliographies for the two secondary areas of study. Once accepted and graded (PB, PN, PS), the position paper will be put in the student's file and will count as the pre-approved primary essay when the student subsequently takes English 8890 (Comprehensive Exam course).

The comprehensive examination is graded as PB (Pass Bueno), PN (Pass Notable), PS (Pass Sobresaliente), or NP (Fail). Students who do not pass the exam or pass only a portion of it receive a NP (No Pass) and must enroll in ENGL 8890 the following

semester. Students have *two (2)* opportunities to pass the comprehensive examinations.

## **2.5 THE FOREIGN LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT (M.A. and Ph.D.)**

A student is required to demonstrate reading knowledge of a language other than English or Spanish. The language should be useful and relevant to the student's planned course of study. Technically, this foreign language requirement is an entrance requirement for the M.A. and Ph.D. degrees. Students are urged to fulfill this requirement as early as possible in the course of their studies if they have not already fulfilled it in their undergraduate work. French or Afro-Caribbean Creole are the recommended languages for Ph.D. Students. Other languages can be substituted if justified by the needs of dissertation research.

The language requirement may be fulfilled in any one of the following ways:

1. Having taken as an undergraduate a minimum of six (6) credit hours in a language other than English or Spanish with a grade of B or better in each class.
2. Having taken, or taking while studying for the M.A. or Ph.D., a minimum of six (6) credit hours in a foreign language. The grade for these courses must be B or better in each class. (These classes can also be taken under provisions of the Certification 8-A [1973-74] exam).
3. Passing the foreign language exam offered every semester by the Department of Foreign Languages.
4. Taking and successfully completing a one-year "language as a research tool" course (six credits) offered by the Department of Foreign Languages for graduate students. The courses (usually French) will be offered on a rotation basis, and the availability of professors for the courses may affect the rotation. (Students interested in taking these courses should ascertain when the language they are interested in will be offered. Questions should be directed to the Director of the Foreign Language Department.) Students should consult their advisers when deciding on a language.

## **2.6 THE M.A. THESIS**

Note: what follows is the existing policy; however, there are changes pending approval that will affect the nature of the final written product of in the M.A. program. Once these are officially approved, students already enrolled in the M.A. program will have a choice between continuing with the old requirements or following the new. All students admitted after official approval of the changes will be subject to the new terms.

The thesis, as the final requirement for the completion of the M.A. degree, should demonstrate knowledge of the theories and research methodologies of the field. Each

student is responsible for finding a graduate professor willing to serve as a thesis director. As a preliminary step to writing the thesis, the student submits a Thesis Proposal to his/her committee. This consists of a statement on the purpose of the research project which includes a detailed explanation of the thesis statement and the methodology, a tentative outline, and a working bibliography confirming the availability of research and/or critical materials. The thesis proposal is submitted to the thesis adviser and the two readers, who may accept or reject it or meet with the student to discuss the proposal and suggest changes. Once the thesis proposal has been approved, the thesis adviser submits the thesis proposal to the Coordinator of the Graduate Program to be formally filed.

The length of the thesis should be determined by the requirements of the subject, but the usual minimum requirement is 10,000 words. A superior paper for a course may be brought to the student's thesis committee for them to evaluate whether it may be revised and expanded into an acceptable thesis.

When writing the thesis, the student must work under the supervision of the thesis director. The student and thesis adviser will jointly decide on a procedure for having the thesis read by the other members of the committee.

As the student nears completion of the thesis, he/she should follow these recommendations: Students planning to graduate in a given semester should submit an adviser-approved draft to the other committee members for reading and approval no later than November 15 for December graduation and April 15 for May graduation. Students should not expect to graduate at the end of the semester if the deadline is not met.

After the director and the readers have approved the thesis, the student will hand the original plus two copies, all bound, to the Department. The student will submit an electronic copy on a CD to the Richardson Seminar Room in lieu of a bound copy. The original will be the copy with the original signed title page. They should be of letter-quality (typewritten, computer-generated or word-processed) printing and good quality photocopies. The thesis must be handed in on time for the Department to process the graduation papers.

The thesis is awarded a Bueno (PB), Notable (PN), or Sobresaliente (PS) as a final grade in ENGL 6895.

Once again, we wish to draw the student's attention to the rather strict time limits now in force for completion of the degree.

See Appendix D for a guide to important dates.

### ***Policy on Student Progress in ENGL 6895-6896 Thesis***

Students can enroll in 6895-96 for a maximum of four semesters, one semester of 6895 and a maximum of three of 6896. Thus, students must write their thesis proposal and complete the thesis in no more than four semesters of 6895-96. (Appeals for extensions beyond four semesters must be addressed to the Graduate Steering Committee.)

Students who enroll in 6895 are expected to work on their thesis proposal. In order to enroll in 6896, students must have an approved thesis proposal on file. A student will receive a grade of I-NP (Incomplete, No Pass) in 6895 until the thesis is completed with a final grade of PB, PN or PS.

Students who enroll in 6896 are expected to work on their thesis and complete it in no more than a total of three semesters.

In order to enroll in 6895-96, a student must have the written approval of his/her adviser (the professor in whose section he/she is enrolling) and of the Graduate Coordinator or the person representing the Coordinator during the registration period.

ENGL 6900: Comprehensive Examination (See 2.2 above) is a required course that allows a student studying for his/her degree examination, but not enrolled in any other course, to enjoy all the privileges of a regular graduate student. (Students can no longer enroll in ENGL 6895: Thesis, to prepare for and take their comprehensive examination.) Enrollment in ENGL 6895/6896 is contingent upon having passed ENGL 6900, Comprehensive Examination.

## **2.7 THE PH.D. DISSERTATION**

Ph.D. dissertation work begins with the required non-credit course ENGL 8099: Research in Caribbean Literature and Linguistics. This course is taken after the completion of the five (5) required 8000-level core courses and before the Ph.D. comprehensive exams. ENGL 8099 can only be taken once; if the student fails to complete the work, s/he will receive an INP (incomplete no pass). If the work is not completed by the following semester, the student will not be able to continue in the Program.

On completion of the Research course, the student enrolls in ENGL 8890: Writing of Doctoral Critical Essays in order to fulfill the requirements of the comprehensive exams. After successfully passing the exams, the student then enrolls in 8891 Dissertation I to write and submit an acceptable dissertation proposal no later than the first week of November (1st semester) or April (2nd semester); it can be handed in any time before. Advisers have ONE week to read the proposal and return it to the

student for revisions. Students have ONE week to revise the returned proposal which will then be submitted to the other readers and a date for the defense established.

In all subsequent semesters, while working on the dissertation, the student enrolls in ENGL 8892: Dissertation II. (Please note that all requirements for the Ph.D. must be completed within eight (8) sequential calendar years from the date of first admission / enrollment as a Ph.D. student.) Once the student has successfully defended the dissertation proposal, the Registrar will officially certify the student as ABD (all but dissertation). (Note: time to degree will change for all graduate programs once the revisions are officially approved.)

According to Middle States and UPR-Río Piedras criteria, professors who direct thesis and dissertations must be active and productive scholars in the area of specialization of the dissertation. The dissertation committee should have at least three (3) members (including the director), of whom two should belong to the Ph.D. subcommittee of the Graduate Committee of the Department of English. However, committees can be as large as five (5) members (in rare cases more) and draw on qualified professors from other disciplines if the dissertation subject so warrants.

The dissertation is the final requirement for the Ph.D. as well as an initiation in professional academic scholarship. It permits Ph.D. candidates the opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge of the theories and research methodologies of the field as well as their mastery of style and form, and coherent analytical discourse. The dissertation should represent an original and significant contribution to the knowledge of the field.

No specific limitations are placed on the scope and length of the Ph.D. dissertation. However, it is assumed that the study will be highly focused, involve research or analysis not previously recorded in published form, and achieve a depth of vision not usually possible in less than 200 double-spaced pages of text. At the same time, the direction and focus should be sufficiently sharp to insure that the dissertation does not exceed 600 double-spaced pages. (Dissertations that incorporate creative or performance elements follow these same guidelines.)

All Ph.D. dissertations will be published by University Microfilms International and must conform to the format established by the Office of the Dean of Graduate Studies and Research to that effect. A fee is required for that purpose.

For more detailed information on the dissertation proposal, the selection of the dissertation adviser and committee members, turning in the completed dissertation before the defense, the defense itself, and the submission of official copies after the dissertation defense, please refer to the *Reglamento General de los Programas Graduados* (October 2006) of the College of Humanities of the University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus.

## **2.8 POLICY ON INCOMPLETE GRADES**

Incomplete grades will be granted ONLY in instances of serious illness / accident or extreme personal circumstances. Once the Incomplete grade is granted, the student has one semester to hand in the work required. Otherwise, the provisional grade becomes the final grade without possibility of further change.

## **2.9 PLAGIARISM STATEMENT**

As defined in the most recent edition of the *MLA Style Manual*, plagiarism is the use of another person's ideas or experience in your writing without acknowledging the source, including repeating another's particular apt phrase without appropriate acknowledgement, paraphrasing someone else's argument as your own, introducing another's line of thinking as your own development of an idea, and failing to cite the source for a borrowed thesis or approach. Plagiarism may be punished by failure in a course as well as by suspension or dismissal from the English Graduate Program and the University.

### **III. OTHER ASPECTS OF THE PROGRAM**

#### **3.1 THE M.A. READING LISTS**

The English Department no longer maintains reading lists for the purposes of exams. Students put together their own reading lists in collaboration with their committees.

#### **3.2 THE RICHARDSON SEMINAR ROOM**

The English Department maintains a Seminar Room library on the first floor of Pedreira next to the English Language Center. The Seminar Room provides research material on English Literature and Linguistics to graduate English majors and serves as a reference center for graduate students and professors of the English Department. The Seminar Room is open Monday through Friday.

#### **3.3 FINANCIAL AID**

##### ***A. Types of Aid***

In general, there are four types of financial aid available to graduate students:

### **1. Graduate assistantships.**

Currently we offer research assistantships (*PEAFs*) and teaching assistantships (Proyecto Piloto).

Research assistantships involve aiding faculty members with permanent research projects such as the editing of *Sargasso*, the operation of the Richardson Seminar Room, or the annual Eastern Island Culture conference (November) and the Caribbean 2000 / Doctoral Studies symposium (February-March). This type of assistantship provides the student with valuable experience in research-related professional duties in literature or linguistics under the guidance of faculty members.

Research assistantships require eighteen hours of work weekly while taking 9 hours of graduate courses during the semester or being enrolled in ENGL 6900, 6895-96, 8099 Research, or 8890 Writing of Doctoral Critical Essays, or 8891-92 Dissertation I-II. The student is exempted from the cost of tuition and receives a monthly stipend. Students apply to the Graduate Coordinator as soon as they are admitted or at any stage in their degree work in order to be considered.

Teaching assistantships are currently available to PhD students. They typically cover conversational English, grammar, or introductory undergraduate courses in literature and linguistics, although other courses may be possible depending on departmental need and the doctoral student's preparation in a given field. Note: the future of the TA program is not certain.

### **2. Supplementary financial aid (Programa de Ayuda Suplementaria--PAS) and Legislative fellowships**

Both of these are grants based on need (see below) and may be combined. PAS can grant up to \$2,000 per year for full time (8 credits or more per semester) graduate students, and the Legislative Fellowships can give up to \$1,000 per year. Students carrying between 4 and 7 credit hours are eligible for lesser amounts. Application must be made to the Student Financial Aid Office at the Dean of Students. Newly admitted students have up to fifteen days after receiving notice of admission to apply. Other students should apply by April 30 for aid starting in August of the following academic year. Late applications will not be considered. General requirements for both are listed below and also apply to student loans (#3) and work-study (#4).

### **3. Student loans. There are two types of student loans:**

**a. Stafford Loans** (Federally guaranteed student loans, which the students pay back after graduation). Applications for these low interest loans are made through the Student Financial Aid Office. These loans are based on student need, and the amounts that may be borrowed from a participating bank are determined according to a standard table of average costs and the federal limits established by law. A booklet called *The Student Guide, Financial Aid from the U.S. Department of Education*,

available at the Student Financial Aid section of the Dean of Students' Office, gives detailed information.

**b. Perkins Loans** (especially low interest loans, repaid after graduation). Graduate and undergraduate students with exceptional financial need, as determined by the University, are eligible for these loans. The students must apply through the Financial Aid Office.

#### **4. Work-study programs**

These federally funded programs provide jobs for students who need financial aid. They pay at least the current Federal minimum hourly wage, but graduate students may be paid a weekly or monthly salary. Application is made through the Student Financial Aid Office.

#### **5. Scholarships/fellowships**

Through the Dean of Graduate Studies (DEGI), qualifying students may apply for Merit Scholarships as well as Dissertation Fellowships. For more information visit their website at: [http://graduados.uprrp.edu/asuntos\\_estudiantiles/becas.htm](http://graduados.uprrp.edu/asuntos_estudiantiles/becas.htm).

### ***B. General Requirements for Financial Aid***

All graduate students who apply for financial aid (but not assistantships) must fulfill the following requirements:

1. Be a U.S. citizen or legal resident of the U.S.
2. Carry a minimum of eight credit hours in graduate courses per semester. A student is considered full time when enrolled in 6900, 6895-6896, or the 8000-level Research, Examination, and Dissertation courses.
3. Fulfill the academic progress requirement. The Council of Higher Education defines this progress as having passed 50% of the credit hours taken. The Student Financial Aid Office can provide further details.
4. Show economic need, based on a formula that takes into account the family and student contributions to the cost of education. The approximate cost of tuition, books, fees, room, board, and transportation are deducted from this amount.
5. Show evidence of having been admitted to the Graduate Program.

Students are also encouraged to apply for scholarships from outside sources such as the Ford Foundation, Andrew W. Mellon Fellowships that are periodically announced. Several offices on Campus provide help in preparing documentation

required for external funding: DEGI, the Office of the College of Humanities, the Office of the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, etc.

### **3.4 EMPLOYMENT PROSPECTS**

Most graduate students in the Program in English are already teaching or, upon graduation, able to find teaching positions at the high school, junior college, or college level. The English Department cannot guarantee that the M.A. or Ph.D. degree will lead directly to employment, nor does the Graduate Committee conduct an employment service. However, the graduate faculty is at times made aware of openings at private schools, junior colleges, and local colleges and universities, and makes such information available to M.A. and Ph.D. candidates and graduates.

### **3.5 COMMUNICATIONS**

The department maintains a mailing list of all active graduate students. Any change in home address, telephone number, or e-mail should be reported immediately to the departmental secretary. Active students should keep themselves up to date on department activities by regularly checking bulletin boards, meeting with their advisers, and contacting their graduate student representative.

### **3.6 THOMAS SULLIVAN AWARD**

Professor Thomas Sullivan was a distinguished faculty member who dedicated his life to teaching and research. In his honor, the Graduate Committee has established the Thomas Sullivan Award granted yearly to outstanding M.A. graduate students who minimally a) complete all degree requirements in five years; b) receive a PS ("sobresaliente") in the comprehensive examination; c) finish their course work with a 3.9 average or higher; and d) receive a PS ("sobresaliente") in ENGL 6895 (Thesis).

### **3.7 THE JOAN FAYER AWARD**

To be awarded yearly to a Ph.D. student who has excelled in coursework, research, comprehensive examinations, and dissertation.

## APPENDIX A: Courses for MA Degree

### I. LITERATURE COURSES

- (6205) Seminar in Critical Writing (formerly 5005)
- (6415) Introduction to Literary Criticism and Theory

#### Period Specific:

- (6035) African Literature
- (6049) Contemporary U.S. Latino/a Literature
- (6127) Twentieth-Century U.S. Literature
- (6405) Themes in Nineteenth-Century American Literature
- (6425) Seventeenth-Century British Literature
- (6428) Nineteenth-Century American Romanticism and Transcendentalism
- (6430) Shakespeare: Selected Topics
- (6438) Sex, Love, & Marriage in Restoration & Eighteenth-Century British Literature
- (6449) Major Themes in Medieval and Renaissance Literature
- (6456) The Age of Satire: 1660-1750
- (6480) The Age of Shaw
- (6490) Introduction to Anglo-Saxon Language and Literature
- (6491) Studies in Anglo-Saxon Literature
- (6497) Colonial and Eighteenth-Century American Literature

#### Studies in Genre/Author/Topic:

- (6029) Special Topics in Literature
- (6037) Studies in Fiction
- (6066) Texts/Authors and Their Critics
- (6067) Studies in Literature and Film
- (6439) Studies in Poetry
- (6447) Studies in Drama
- (6059) Current Trends in Literary Criticism and Theory

#### Caribbean Specific:

- (6069) Minority Literatures and Cultures of the Caribbean
- (6410) Caribbean Poetry and Drama
- (6486) Caribbean Theory and Literature
- (6488) Literature, Language & Culture of the English-Speaking Caribbean
- (6489) Caribbean Narrative

## II. LINGUISTICS COURSES

(See 2.1.C above for a list of linguistics courses according to requirements.)

- (6045) Language and Culture
- (6051) Syntax I
- (6052) Syntax II
- (6100) Introduction to Linguistics
- (6106) Applied Linguistics
- (6408) Comparative Analysis of the Phonology of English and Spanish
- (6426) Chaucer
- (6435) Grammatical Structures of English and Spanish
- (6440) Dialects of American English
- (6446) The Language of Earlier Literature
- (6466) Studies in Bilingualism
- (6467) History and Development of English
- (6469) Creole Languages
- (6475) Dialectology of the English-speaking World(s)
- \*(6488) Literature, Language and Culture of the English-speaking Caribbean
- \*(6490) Introduction to Anglo-Saxon Language and Literature (Old English)
- (6496) Topics in the Analysis of Contemporary English
- (6499) Phonology of English
- (6505) Semantics of Modern English
- (6507) The Acquisition of English

\*Courses also listed under Literature

## APPENDIX B: MA Exam Areas

### I. AREAS FOR THE M.A. EXAMINATION IN LITERATURE

The student chooses TWO areas of concentration for the exam. The student, with the aid of an adviser, constructs those areas based on the student's interests and program of study.

### II. AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION FOR THE M.A. EXAMINATION IN LINGUISTICS

The student, with the aid of an adviser, chooses any TWO of the following areas .:

- (1) History of English
- (2) English Language Variation
- (3) Languages in Contact
- (4) Semantics
- (5) Language Acquisition
- (6) Syntax
- (7) Phonology

A student must consult with her/his adviser in choosing areas of specialization. The adviser will then inform the Graduate Coordinator concerning the student's plans.

In rare instances, a student may want to study an area not included on the above list. In such a case, the student must petition the Graduate Committee for permission to take an examination in the unlisted area. Such a petition must be in writing and should provide adequate justification for the student's decision.

### **APPENDIX C: Graduate Faculty**

Ann Albuyeh, PhD, University of Wisconsin-Madison 1985; Historical Linguistics, Psycholinguistics, Ethnolinguistics, Prof.

Loretta Collins, PhD, University of Iowa 1999; Performance Studies, Creative Writing, Black Popular and Urban Cultural Studies, Postcolonial Theory, Caribbean Diaspora Studies, Prof.

James P. Conlan, PhD, University of California-Riverside 1999; Medieval and Renaissance Literature, Textual Criticism, Early New World Travel Narrative, Prof.

Robert Dupey, PhD, University of Puerto Rico-Rio Piedras 2007; Contrastive Analysis, Narrative Discourse, Critical Writing and Research, Code-Switching, Phonology/Phonetics. Assoc. Prof.

Nicholas Faraclas, PhD, University of California-Berkeley 1989; Syntax, Creole Languages, Language and Power, Phonology, Phonetics, Anthropological Linguistics, West African Languages, Prof.

Lowell Fiet, PhD, University of Wisconsin-Madison 1973; Modern Drama, Performance Studies, Caribbean Studies, Prof.

Dannabang Kuwabong, PhD, McMaster University 1997; Creative Writing, Oral Traditions, Women's Poetry, Diaspora Studies, Prof.

Nalini Natarajan, PhD, University of Aberdeen 1984; 19th-Century British Fiction, Women's Literature, Cultural Studies, Post-colonial Theory, Prof.

Christopher Olsen, PhD, University of Maryland 2000, Theatre History, Theory Criticism, Intercultural theatre, Semiotics, African Performance, Contemporary British and American. Assoc. Prof.

Mark Pedreira, PhD, University of Maryland 1994; 17th and 18th-Century British Literature, Literary Criticism, Lexicography, Textual Criticism and Rhetoric, Prof.

Alicia Pousada, PhD, University of Pennsylvania 1984; Language Planning, Applied linguistics, Sociolinguistics, Language and Gender, Bilingualism, Prof.

Yolanda Rivera Castillo, PhD, University of California-Davis 1994; General Linguistics, Syntax, Phonology, Creole Studies, Prof.

Carmen Haydée Rivera Vega, PhD, Northeastern University 2001; 19th-Century American Literature, Multiethnic Literatures of the US, Contemporary US Latino/a Literature, Literature of the Puerto Rican Diaspora, Cultural Studies, Prof.

Reinhard Sander, PhD, University of Texas-Austin 1979; Caribbean Studies, African and African-American Literature, Colonial, 18th & 19th-Century American Literature, Prof.

Michael Sharp, PhD, University of Wisconsin-Madison 1985; Romanticism, Victorian Literature & Ideas, Poetry, Prof.

Alma Simounet, EdD, Interamerican University 1987; Bilingualism, Applied Linguistics, Language and Ideology, Ethnolinguistics, Prof.

Maritza Stanchich, Ph. D, University of California-Santa Cruz 2003; 19th and 20th-Century US literatures, Caribbean Studies, US Latino Studies, Cultural Studies, Post-Colonial Studies, Prof.

Richard Swope, PhD, West Virginia University 2001; 20th-Century American and Contemporary Fiction, Cultural Studies, Prof.

#### **APPENDIX D: Important Deadlines For Graduate Students**

An official campus calendar with specific dates is published each semester (see [http://uprrp.edu/registrador/calendarios\\_academicos.php](http://uprrp.edu/registrador/calendarios_academicos.php))

Registration	Before registering all students should consult their adviser.
Week One	First thesis draft acceptable to adviser due, for possibility of graduation in current semester. The proposal must be approved and signed by all the professors on the thesis committee.
Week Two	Deadline to apply for graduation, usually about Sept.15 and Feb.15. See official calendar for exact dates.
Week Five	Examination requests due (six weeks prior to the exam).

Week Seven     Deadline to request extensions for the following semester.

Week Eleven     M.A. Examinations: Mid-November and Mid-April. Thesis in final form at least four weeks before the semester ends.

Foreign Lg. Exam:     Must be passed before student can apply for graduation. (See official calendar for date.)

Appeals: An appeal to the Graduate Committee must be written, signed by the adviser, and submitted to the Graduate Steering Committee in good time for the committee to consider it. (Note: The Graduate Steering Committee usually meets only once during a semester, usually toward the end of that semester.)

## APPENDIX E

### GRADUATE COURSES OFFERED BY THE ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

#### M.A. Courses

##### INGL 5035 Travel Study in Literature, Communication, and Linguistics

A combination of study and travel in which students will be able to encounter the places, cultural artifacts and history of subjects in the study of literature, communication, or linguistics. Different variants of study trips will be offered to give students the experience of travel to the countries of the literature, communication, or linguistics studied and give them the opportunity to engage directly with the culture, language, discourse, history, art, architecture of the periods, authors or types of literature, or to acquire first-hand experience of the communication or linguistic topics being studied. (Can be taken up to three times when topics are different).

##### ENGL 6029 Special Topics in Literature

A specialized topics course reflecting current trends and issues in the study of literature and culture. Topics vary per semester.

##### ENGL 6035 African Literature

A study of some of the major creative writings and films by 20th-century and contemporary African authors. Special emphasis is given to the development of distinctively African techniques and themes.

##### ENGL 6037 Studies in Fiction

A specialized topics course reflecting trends and issues in the study of fiction. Topics vary per semester.

##### ENGL 6045 Language and Culture

A study of the relationship between language and culture. An examination of sociolinguistics, ethnography of speaking, language variation, methodologies of investigation, and current research in the field.

##### ENGL 6049 Contemporary US Latino/a Literature

A comprehensive study of contemporary U.S. Latino/a literature within a social/cultural/historical framework that lends itself to theoretical readings and in-depth critical literary analysis.

ENGL 6051 Syntax I Prerequisite: ENGL 4205 or 4207

An introduction to modern syntactic theory, with a focus on English.

ENGL 6052 Syntax II Prerequisite: ENGL 6051

Continuation of Syntax I. An in-depth study of influential literature in modern syntactic theory.

ENGL 6059 Current Trends in Literary Criticism and Theory

A specialized topics course reflecting trends and issues in the study of literary criticism and theory. Topics vary per semester.

ENGL 6066 Texts/Authors and Their Critics

This course will focus on one author or a related set of authors and their texts as well as the criticism surrounding their work

ENGL 6067 Studies in Literature and Film

A specialized topics course reflecting trends and issues in the study of film and literature. Topics vary per semester.

ENGL 6069 Minority Literatures and Cultures of the Caribbean

This course examines the literatures and literary representations of ethnic minorities in the Caribbean (Chinese, Arabs, Jews, and Muslims) whose histories and cultures have been integral to the formation of Caribbean cultures, but which have been neglected, erased, marginalized and/or silenced in Caribbean literary and cultural studies.

ENGL 6100 Introduction to Linguistics

English 6100 is designed for students beginning the Graduate Program who have little or no background in linguistics and the study of language. The course includes an introduction to the study of contemporary linguistic theory in the following areas: phonetics and phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, applied linguistics, discourse analysis, as well as language variation and change. This course has a twofold purpose: to familiarize the student interested in language instruction with field specific problems and terminology; and to provide a theoretical background for those interested in continuing the study of language.

ENGL 6127 Twentieth-Century U.S. Literature

A study of the literary forms and shifts in period style as well as the cultural logic that informed U.S. literature of the 20th century.

ENGL 6205 Seminar in Critical Writing (formerly 5005)

An intensive course to practice the writing of essays on literature and language. Students will make full use of the library, computing and the Internet.

ENGL 6405 Seminar in Nineteenth-Century American Literature

A study of selected works and movements of the period excluding Romanticism and Transcendentalism.

ENGL 6408 Comparative Analysis of the Phonology of English and Spanish

Phonetic and phonemic analysis of the sound systems of English and Spanish, including major dialectal varieties, vocalic, consonantal, and syllabic structures, stress and intonation patterns.

ENGL 6410 Caribbean Poetry and Drama

A detailed study of major works in these genres by Anglophone Caribbean writers. Social and historical background will provide a frame for the discussion of the works.

ENGL 6415 Introduction to Literary Criticism and Theory

A study of the major literary theories and schools of criticism.

ENGL 6425 Seventeenth-Century British Literature

Trends in early seventeenth-century literature

ENGL 6426 Chaucer

The language and poetic techniques. Focus on *The Canterbury Tales*, its cultural background and its continental influences. Study of the shorter poems.

ENGL 6428 Nineteenth-Century American Romanticism and Transcendentalism

An intensive study of earlier nineteenth-century American Literature with stress on Romanticism and Transcendentalism. Focus is on the major figures of the period: Poe, Hawthorne, Melville, Emerson, Thoreau, and Whitman.

ENGL 6430 Shakespeare: Selected Topics

A study of representative tragedies, comedies, romances, histories, and problem plays.

ENGL 6435 Grammatical Structures of English and Spanish

A study of similarities and differences between the principal syntactic and morphological structures of the two languages.

ENGL 6438 Sex, Love, and Marriage in Restoration and Eighteenth-Century British Literature

Study of sex, love, and marriage and related gender, legal, and cultural issues as portrayed in poetry, prose, drama and fiction from 1660 to 1820.

ENGL 6439 Studies in Poetry

A specialized topics course reflecting trends and issues in the study of poetry. Topics vary per semester.

ENGL 6440 Dialects of American English

Phonological, grammatical, and lexical variations of Spoken English in North America and the Caribbean.

ENGL 6446 The Language of Earlier Literature

Detailed study of the language and rhetoric of literary texts spanning the major periods of the history of English.

ENGL 6447 Studies in Drama

A specialized topics course reflecting trends and issues in the study of drama. Topics vary per semester.

ENGL 6449 Major Themes in Medieval and Renaissance Literature

Source study and comparative analysis will be used in order to read literary works of the period in their largest possible contexts. Consideration of European backgrounds followed by close analysis of the main texts.

ENGL 6456 The Age of Satire (1660-1750)

The art of satire as practiced during the Neoclassical Period, including background and theory. Emphasis on Dryden, Pope, and Swift.

ENGL 6466 Studies in Bilingualism

A consideration of major issues of bilingualism in Puerto Rico, the Americas, and elsewhere.

ENGL 6467 History and Development of English

The historical stages in the development of the English language. Analysis of the important external and internal events from the 6th century to the present.

ENGL 6469 Creole Languages

A study of Creole languages, primarily of the Western Hemisphere. Examination of the socio-historical and sociolinguistic factors involved in linguistic and cultural creolization.

ENGL 6475 Dialectology of the English-speaking World(s)

A study of English as a native, second, and international auxiliary language. Analysis of the structure and functions of these varieties.

ENGL 6480 The Age of Shaw

British drama before World War II, with special emphasis on the plays of Shaw.

ENGL 6486 Caribbean Theory and Literature

A study of Caribbean literary and cultural theory from the in relation to literary texts from the region.

ENGL 6488 The Literature, Language and Culture of the English-speaking Caribbean

The leading contemporary poets and novelists with special attention to their use of English Creole languages and with reference to their socioeconomic and historical backgrounds.

ENGL 6489 Caribbean Narrative

A study of Anglophone Caribbean fiction with emphasis on the development of distinctively Caribbean themes, techniques, and language.

ENGL 6490 Introduction to Anglo-Saxon Language and Literature (Old English)

The phonology, grammar, and vocabulary of Anglo-Saxon. Readings for analysis.

ENGL 6491 Studies in Anglo-Saxon Literature Prerequisite: ENGL 6490

The study of the major works of Anglo-Saxon Literature in their textual and cultural contexts.

ENGL 6496 Topics in the Analysis of Contemporary English

Examination of a current topic in linguistics of relevance to the analysis of English. The topic may change from semester to semester.

ENGL 6497 Colonial and Eighteenth-Century American Literature

A study of the primary religious, political, philosophical, creative, and journal writers in North America during the colonial period and the first years of independence.

ENGL 6499 Phonology of English

Current approaches to the analysis of the phonology of contemporary English.

ENGL 6505 Semantics of Modern English

Detailed consideration of selected topics in semantic representation, with examples from contemporary English. Consideration of various theoretical approaches.

ENGL 6507 The Acquisition of English

Language acquisition is considered from various theoretical perspectives.

ENGL 6895 M.A. Thesis (enrollment for one semester only)

ENGL 6896 M.A. Thesis (continuation)

ENGL 6900 M.A. Comprehensive Examination (enrollment for one semester only)

ENGL 6905 Independent Study (may be repeated once)

**Banked M.A. Literature Courses (not currently being offered)**

ENGL 6005 Contemporary American Drama

A study of important American dramatists from Edward Albee to the present. Playwrights will include such figures as Sam Shepard, Imamu Amiri Baraka, David Rabe, David Mamet, and August Wilson.

ENGL 6036 African-American Fiction

A study of some of the major novels and short stories by African-American writers from Olaudah Equiano to the present. Special emphasis is given to the development of distinctively African-American techniques and themes.

ENGL 6046 Decadents, Esthetes, Pre-Raphaelites

From the middle to the end of the nineteenth century, a very productive and often brilliant literary and artistic group. Their work has close ties to the Symbolist movement on the continent and to Modernismo in Latin America. The course treats poetry and prose.

ENGL 6057 Writing Fiction

Intensive, individual work in the writing of creative prose.

ENGL 6065 Cities and the Nineteenth-Century British Novel

An investigation of the connection between the British novel and the city of the nineteenth century.

ENGL 6105 Gender and Sexuality Discourses

Introduction to the paradigms that inform influential theories of gender and sexuality. An exploration of the ways various discourses of gender and sexuality construct the relationship between identity and community.

ENGL 6400 African-American Drama and Poetry

A study of some of the major dramas and poems by African-American writers from Lucy Terry to the present. Special emphasis is given to the development of distinctively African-American techniques and themes.

ENGL 6406 The Age of O'Neill

American Drama with special emphasis on the plays of Eugene O'Neill.

ENGL 6407 Contemporary British Drama

British drama since World War II.

ENGL 6411 Writing Poetry

Intensive, individual work in the writing of poetry. ENGL 6416 Twentieth-Century British Poetry. Detailed study of the work of selected poets with attention to critical work by and on them.

ENGL 6417 Late Twentieth-Century American Fiction

A study of selected works in fiction informed by the experience of World War II, the politics of peace and the Cold War, and the changing norms of the military/industrial society of North America.

ENGL 6418 Modern American Poetry

A study of the poetry of selected American poets, with consideration of the criticism written on their works.

ENGL 6419 Modernism and the British Novel

The study of the British novel in the context of the term "modernism" with its implication in British and European society from fin-de-siècle to the start of World War II.

ENGL 6420 Gothicism to Naturalism: Studies in British Fictional Techniques

The Romantic strain (gothic, historical, detective and sensational novels), and the growth of realism and naturalism, with attention to innovations in structure and characterization. Selections from contemporary criticism.

ENGL 6427 Whitman and Dickinson

The poetry of Walt Whitman and Emily Dickinson and their influence on twentieth-century poets like Pound, Williams, and Cummings.

ENGL 6429 Feminism in Literature

An overview of feminist critical theory, an examination of the literary canon in the light of this theory, and a study of key texts by women, particularly those produced during the last two centuries.

ENGL 6431 Shakespeare and the Question of Genre

A study of Shakespeare's plays and their reception in terms of the historically important role of genre criticism in the analysis of his drama, especially his comedies and romances.

ENGL 6436 Restoration and Eighteenth-Century British Drama

A study of the plays of the Restoration and the eighteenth century. Emphasis will be on the critical background of these plays and their importance to the development of the English theater.

ENGL 6437 British Literature of the Renaissance: Tudor and Stuart Theater

Readings from the dramatic works of Lyly, Kyd, Marlowe, Jonson, Beaumont and Fletcher, and others, excluding Shakespeare.

ENGL 6450 The Eighteenth-Century British Novel

The major novelists of the period--Defoe, Richardson, Fielding, Sterne, and Smollet--paying particular attention to their contribution to the emerging novel form.

ENGL 6455 The Age of Johnson

An intensive consideration of the literary concepts of the age as exemplified in representative prose, poetry, and drama, excluding the novel.

ENGL 6457 Milton

The poetry and prose of John Milton with special attention to *Paradise Lost*.

ENGL 6458 The Romantic Quest

Background and general trends of the Romantic Movement in England. The major poets: Wordsworth, Coleridge, Byron, Shelley and Keats; representative literary criticism.

ENGL 6460 The Victorian Poets

A study of the major Victorian poets: Tennyson, Browning, Arnold; selections from other poets such as Kipling, Hardy, and Housman, and prose that deals with poetics and aesthetics in relation to the figures studied.

ENGL 6465 Wordsworth to Arnold: Nineteenth-Century Literary Criticism

Selected criticism of Wordsworth and Coleridge, with emphasis on the preface to the *Lyrical Ballads* and *Biographia Literaria*; Romantic essayists, major Victorian prose writers, and social novelists.

ENGL 6468 Late Twentieth-Century British Fiction

A study of selected contemporary novelists, chosen on the basis of themes, techniques, or other criteria.

ENGL 6470 Realism and Naturalism in American Literature

American literature of the latter nineteenth century and early twentieth century with emphasis on the realistic and naturalistic movements in fiction. Major writers of the period: Twain, Howells, James, Crane and Dreiser.

ENGL 6485 Early Twentieth-Century American Fiction

A study of the major American novelists of the period 1900 to World War II, paying particular attention to their themes and techniques.

ENGL 6509 Modern Rhetoric of Western Civilization

A survey of the significant rhetorical theories grounded in the classical tradition of Plato and Aristotle.

ENGL 6515 Film and Literature

The study of the relationship between film and literature focusing upon the way in which both art forms have technically and thematically influenced and collaborated with each other.

ENGL 6517 Literary Criticism and Film Theory

The study of film and literary theory as developed by literary theorists and filmmakers in the twentieth century.

**Ph.D. Courses**

(Note: ENGL 6488: The Literature, Language, and Culture of the English-speaking Caribbean, or the professor's authorization, is a prerequisite for all doctoral courses.)

ENGL 8001 Language Typology and Creole Languages

A study of the typological relations between Creoles, substrata, lexifiers, and other languages.

ENGL 8005 Pidgin and Creole Languages Prerequisite: ENGL 6469

A diachronic and synchronic analysis of English-based Caribbean creoles; current theories of the process of pidginization, creolization and decreolization.

ENGL 8006 The Encounter Between Africa and the West

This course places Africa as its geographical center, and the relationship between Africa and the West during the last five hundred years as its thematic focus.

ENGL 8007 Language Birth and Language Death Suggested prerequisite: ENGL 6467 or 6469

Analyzes the "life cycle" of languages, beginning with birth and proceeding through change, spread, maintenance, shift, death, and revival.

ENGL 8008 The Art of Derek Walcott Prerequisite: ENGL 6410

The examination of Walcott's artistic maturation through the four decades in which he has been the leading Caribbean poet and playwright writing in English.

ENGL 8009 Language Acquisition and Creoles Prerequisite: ENGL 6507

The unique gestation of creole languages viewed as test cases for questions in the field of language acquisition posed from the perspective of two frameworks: Bickerton's Language Bioprogram Hypothesis and Chomsky's Universal Grammar.

ENGL 8010 Caribbean Children's and Young Adult Literature and Theory

This course explores the development of literature addressed to a specific audience (schoolchildren) within the context of nations developing independently both politically and imaginatively, especially Jamaica, Trinidad, Barbados, Antigua and St. Lucia.

ENGL 8015 V.S. Naipaul Prerequisite: ENGL 6489

The study of one of the most prolific Caribbean writers, who has excelled in the novel, the short story, the travel book and the essay.

ENGL 8016 Oral and Scribal Traditions of Caribbean Verse

The history and development of Anglophone Caribbean poetry and poetic oral expression, and the emergence of the impressive body of formal poetry written over the past fifty years.

ENGL 8017 Phonological Aspects of Caribbean Creoles Prerequisite: ENGL 6499

A study of the major phonological aspects of (primarily) English-derived Caribbean creoles, though reference to other European-language-derived creoles will also be made, e.g. to Haitian Creole and to Dutch Antillean Papiamentu.

ENGL 8018 Caribbean Drama and Performance

Prerequisite: ENGL 6410

A close examination of the development of twentieth-century Caribbean drama and performance as a cultural mosaic that reflects (1) syncretic folk festivals, plays, masquerades, and spectacles, (2) the formal theater, and (3) the social milieu of the postcolonial Caribbean.

ENGL 8019 Fieldwork in Caribbean Languages: Methodology and Analysis Prerequisite: ENGL 6045, 6469

The problems and principles of studying language in its social and cultural context. It focuses on fieldwork methodology, particularly collection of data, the analysis and interpretation of data, and their interrelationships.

ENGL 8020 Caribbean Women's Fiction

Prerequisite: ENGL 6489

Analysis of fiction by Caribbean women writers in the context of recent critical approaches, such as narrative, feminist/womanist, postcolonial, historical, and socio-political theories.

ENGL 8026 Caribbean Literature in Metropolitan Contexts

A study of the experience of migration, primarily from the Anglophone Caribbean to Europe and North America, as recorded in fiction, screenplays, travel writings, memoirs, and testimonies by Caribbean authors writing in metropolitan centers.

ENGL 8028 The Historiography of Travel Writing Prerequisite: ENGL 6488

An Exploration of how travel writing helps determine images of "other" peoples and "other" lands, through which an image and/or identity of "home" is constructed. The course examines historical accounts of travel logs and experiences, and contrasts them with modern travel documents.

ENGL 8035 Postcolonial Theory and Caribbean Literature Prerequisite: ENGL 6486

A study of the major approaches, texts and critiques of colonial discourse analysis and postcolonial literary theory and their connection to Caribbean issues and literary texts.

ENGL 8045 Independent Study

Independent Study course on a topic in literature or linguistics, not offered as a regular course, arranged between a professor and student. The course may be taken only once.

ENGL 8080 Caribbean Literatures and Languages in a Global Context

Study of contemporary issues in literary form, cultural theory, and linguistic analysis as they affect the study of Caribbean Literatures and Languages. The content and subtitle of the course changes each time it is offered to focus on specific academic issues as they surface in Caribbean literary and linguistic studies. (Can be repeated three times for credit)

ENGL 8099 Research in Caribbean Literature and Linguistics Prerequisite: five 8000-level core courses (enrollment for one semester only)

Study and development of the research methods and sources necessary for the successful writing of a Ph.D. dissertation proposal.

ENGL 8105 Tense, Mood and Aspect in Caribbean Creoles Prerequisite: ENGL 6051, 6469

A synchronic and diachronic analysis of the verbal systems of English-based Caribbean creoles.

ENGL 8106 Language and Power: The Construction of Socio-Political Discourse in the Caribbean and Beyond

This course is a survey of the growing body of academic work that focuses on the role of language in the construction of socio-political discourses and systems, written by specialists from a wide spectrum of disciplines.

ENGL 8107 Imagining Caliban: The Presence of the Caribbean in the American Imaginary Prerequisite: ENGL 6488

The exploration of the Caribbean (its region and its people) as a presence that informs the texture of the American imaginary in the formation of an identity and in the production of a definition of aesthetics that affect literature, cinema, and popular culture.

ENGL 8109 The Political Novel Prerequisite: ENGL 6489

Study and analysis of the Caribbean novel using critical and cultural theories centered on ideology as developed by R. Williams, F. Jameson, L. Hutcheon, T. Eagleton, E. Said, and S. Hall.

ENGL 8201 Seminar in Fieldwork in the Languages and Cultures of the Afro-Caribbean

This course prepares students to do effective linguistic fieldwork. Students survey scholarly work on the language and literature of their target group, then go into the field

in the Anglophone Afro-Caribbean to collect data from native speakers, and finally do linguistic and cultural analysis of the data.

ENGL 8890 Writing of Doctoral Critical Essays (comprehensive exams: enrollment for three semesters only)

ENGL 8891 Dissertation I (enrollment for one semester only)

ENGL 8892 Dissertation II (continuation in subsequent semesters)