Admission Requirements

Master of Arts: English

The application process is competitive. Satisfying the admission requirements does not guarantee admission to the program.

The applicant must hold:

- A B.A. in English, or a B.A. degree that includes at least 30 hours of sophomore-, junior- or senior-level English courses, or the equivalent. Applicants with fewer than 30 hours of undergraduate English courses may be admitted and assigned additional coursework as part of their program. These extra hours are added to the hours required for graduation.
- A 3.0 cumulative grade-point average in undergraduate work and a 3.0 average in undergraduate English coursework. In unusual circumstances, the graduate committee may consider applicants with lower grade-point averages.

The applicant must submit:

- A complete application to the university. The university application should be sent to the UMKC Admissions Office. All other materials should be sent to Graduate Programs, Department of English, Cockefair Hall 106.
- A complete Application for Admission to the Master of Arts: English.
- A recommended 60 percent or higher score on the verbal aptitude portion of the Graduate Record Exam (GRE).
- A writing sample, 8-15 pages, that engages academic analysis and argumentation. Ideally, the paper would have a research component. We recommend you submit your best paper from an upper-division English (or equivalent) course when applying to the MA program.
- A statement of purpose should be between 250-500 words and include a discussion of the following: 1) Your qualification and potential for studying English at the MA level, emphasizing how your undergraduate education has prepared you for graduate school; 2) Your scholarly areas of interest, including (but not limited to) specific genres, periods, authors, or critical approaches; 3) Why the MA/MFA program in English at UMKC appeals to you.
- Three letters of recommendation that evaluate the applicant's readiness for graduate study written by three professors or others who know the applicant's abilities and potential well.
- **Optional:** A complete Graduate Teaching Assistantship application and Teaching Statement if you would like to be considered for this opportunity.

Students may not take more than six hours of graduate credit in English before entering the program as a "fully admitted" student.
Master of Arts: English
University of Missouri-Kansas City

The Department of English offers the Master of Arts in English, which focuses on literary study, as well as two tracks that allow students to concentrate their studies in a particular area: 1) Language and Literature, and 2) Manuscript, Print Culture, and Editing. Through courses in English and American literature, creative and expository writing, film, linguistics, composition/rhetoric, literary criticism, the history of books and print culture, as well as editing, these programs of study are designed to prepare students for teaching, research, and writing careers, for careers in editing, and for further study at the doctoral level.

The 31-hour M.A. in English is designed for students desiring a general background in English and American literature and is strongly recommended for students planning further graduate study in English and/or American literature.

The Language and Literature track is designed for students who wish to combine graduate study of literature with the study of linguistics and/or composition and rhetoric. This track is recommended for students interested in teaching in community colleges or secondary schools and for students interested in pursuing the Ph.D. in composition and rhetoric or linguistics.

The Manuscript, Print Culture, and Editing track is designed for students who wish to combine the study of literature with the study of book history, print culture, and editing. This track is recommended for students interested in editorial careers, offering several internship experiences in print and online media, and for students interested in pursuing the Ph.D. in Book History and Print Culture.

Members of the graduate faculty are assigned as advisers to newly admitted M.A. students. New graduate students should meet with their advisers as soon as possible to prepare an official program of study.

Students graduating with an M.A. in English will be able to:

- Create sophisticated academic arguments that situate texts within aesthetic, social, and historical contexts;
- Produce work in dialogue with current and historical conversation in the field;
- Evaluate and engage methodological approaches appropriate to academic discourse;
- Develop and defend, both orally and in writing, their critical perspectives;
- Synthesize interrelations across diverse fields of study;
- Demonstrate a broad grounding in the diversity of fields in English studies;
- Produce written work in a vivid, appropriate style that demonstrates mastery of mechanics and grammar.
MASTER OF ARTS: ENGLISH
DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

Total credits required for graduation: 31 credit hours
At least 15 credit hours must be at graduate level, (courses that are numbered 5000 and above) and taught by a member of the graduate faculty and at least 9 hours must be in 5000-level seminars or other 5000-level courses which are not cross-listed with 400-level courses.

There are three Masters of English Degree tracks offered:

Literature
Language and Literature
Manuscript, Print Culture, and Editing

*Students must remain continuously enrolled, except in Summer, for a minimum of 1 credit hour per semester. ENGLISH 5899 is the continuous enrollment course number.*

*Students must maintain a 3.0 (B) grade-point average to remain in the M.A. program and to complete the degree.*

*Students must complete all coursework in seven years for all three tracks.*

Foreign Language Requirement

Students must fulfill a foreign language requirement by satisfactorily completing (with a C or better) one year (two university semesters) of the same foreign language.

The foreign language requirement may also be satisfied by scoring a “C” or better on the final exam of a course in a foreign language. See the graduate director for further details on this option.

Program of Study

Students must complete a formal Program of Study and have it signed within a year after admission. A final Program of Study must be submitted and signed during the semester a student files to graduate.

*Students must take ENGLISH 5000 and successfully complete one hour of ENGLISH 5599 for their “Culminating Experience.*

Courses and Credits Required

Master of Arts: English

Students must take at least one course from five of the seven designated areas, including at least one course from areas I & II, one course from areas III & IV, and one course from areas V-VII:
I. Criticism and Scholarship
ENGLISH 447/5547, 5550G, 5555G
II. Language and Rhetoric
ENGLISH 400CH, 445/5545, 470, 5519, 5520, 5550J, 5550M, 5555J, 5555M
III. Literature Through the Middle Ages
ENGLISH 400CF, 412/5512, 422/5522, 452/5552, 5503, 5550A, 5550R, 5555A
IV. Renaissance Literature
ENGLISH 400CA, 413/5513, 414/5514, 423/5523, 451/5551, 452/5552, 461/5561, 5550B, 5555B, 5555R
V. Late 17th- and 18th-Century Literature
ENGLISH 415/5515, 416/5516, 426/5526,
*ENGLISH 455/5556,
ENGLISH 462/5562, 5550C, 5555C
VI. Nineteenth-Century Literature
** ENGLISH 410/5510,
*ENGLISH 416/5516,
ENGLISH 418/5518, 426/5526,
** ENGLISH 440/5540,
*ENGLISH 455/5556,
ENGLISH 5550D, 5550E, 5555D

VII. Twentieth-Century Literature
** ENGLISH 410/5510,
ENGLISH 417/5517, 427/5527, 428/5528,
** ENGLISH 440/5540
ENGLISH 453/5553, 463/5563, 465/5565, 5550F, 5555E, 5555F
*Satisfies 18th- or 19th-Century requirement, depending on the content.
**Satisfies 19th- or 20th-Century requirement, depending on the content.

Other courses in the catalog may satisfy an area requirement if the content is appropriate, e.g., ENGLISH 5550H Graduate Seminar: Studies in Fiction or ENGLISH 433/5533 Histories of Writing, Reading, and Publishing.

Students who focus on Literature must complete ENGLISH 5601 Culminating Experience (1) on a topic related to the study of Literature.

**Language and Literature Track**

If desired, a student may elect the Language and Literature Track when obtaining the M.A. in English. At least 12 hours selected from the following list of courses are required: ENGLISH 445/5545, 447/5547, 470, 5519, 5520, 5550G/5555G, 5550J/5555J, 5550M/5555M, and 5550P. For students interested in teaching in community colleges or secondary schools or in pursuing a Ph.D. in composition and rhetoric, ENGLISH 5519 is highly recommended. ENGLISH 5519 is required for graduate teaching assistants.

In addition to the requirements for areas I & II, students must take at least one course from three of the five remaining areas (III-VII), including at least one course from areas III-IV and at least one course from areas V-VII.
Students who focus on Language & Literature must complete ENGLISH 5602 Culminating Experience (1) on a topic related to the study of Language & Literature.

**Manuscript, Print Culture, and Editing Track**

If desired, a student may elect the Manuscript, Print Culture, and Editing Track when obtaining the M.A. in English. This track examines the social, cultural, economic, and political history of the written word. It considers relationships among authors, editors, publishers, printers, illustrators, and booksellers as well as the reception of texts by readers, reviewers, and critics. In addition, it allows students to study the production of texts through the centuries while also gaining hands-on editing experience through internal and external publishing internships. Students will take a wide variety of courses covering a range of historical periods that have a significant emphasis on the history of reading, writing, and authorship as well as courses that focus on aspects of contemporary publishing and editing.

This track also follows the distribution requirements for the M.A. in English, and it requires that students take twelve (12) of the 31 required credit hours in courses that have been designated as ones fulfilling the goals of the concentration in Manuscript, Print Culture, and Editing; some courses will always be so designated, including the following:

ENGLISH 448 External Internship
ENGLISH 449A Publication Practicum
ENGLISH 449B Publication Practicum
ENGLISH 5501 Magazine Editing
ENGLISH 5533 Histories of Writing, Reading, and Publishing
ENGLISH 5541 Girls and Print Culture

The following courses may also be used to fulfill the requirements for the concentration in Manuscript, Print Culture, and Editing if approved by the Graduate Committee. Each semester, courses so designated will be listed on the Department of English website: ENGLISH 5508, 5510, 5512, 5513, 5514, 5515, 5516, 5517, 5518, 5522, 5523, 5526, 5527, 5528, 5531, 5534, 5540, 5545, 5550A, 5550B, 5550C, 5550D, 5550E, 5550F, 5550I, 5551, 5552, 5553, 5555A, 5555B, 5555C, 5555D, 5555E, 5555F, 5555I, 5556, 5561, 5562, 5563, 5565. New courses may receive the designation if approved by the Department of English's Graduate Committee.

Students who elect the MPCE track must complete ENGLISH 5603 Culminating Experience (1) on a topic related to the study of Manuscript, Print Culture, and Editing.

**Culminating Experience Paper and Oral Defense**

At the end of their M.A. (either in the last or second to last semester), students will revise a seminar paper from a previous course under the guidance of a faculty mentor. Along with the CE paper, students will submit a copy of their individual Plan of Study (POS) as well as responses to a Self-Assessment form two weeks before the date of the CE defense. While the CE paper will be the focus of the defense, both the POS and Self-Assessment will help facilitate a discussion of the student’s program and his or her particular track.

The goal of the paper revisions will be to produce a polished essay of about 20-30 pages that could possibly be the basis for a conference paper, a writing sample, or a publishable article.
Students will enroll in one hour of 5601 (Literature), 5602 (Language and Literature), or 5603 (Manuscript, Print Culture, and Editing) in order to work on this final paper with their chosen faculty mentor.

Final papers and the student's POS and Self-Assessment will be reviewed by a CE committee comprised of three graduate English faculty members (excluding Creative Writers): the student's chosen faculty mentor and two additional members appointed by the Director of Graduate Studies.

Faculty mentors are responsible for arranging an oral defense (including the student and all CE committee members) before the end of the semester in which the course (5601, 5602, or 5603) is taken.

The purpose of the CE defense is twofold: first, to evaluate the student's CE paper and provide feedback about the project and how it might be further revised or developed; and second, to review the student's POS and Self-Assessment in order to evaluate the department's graduate coursework and how well it serves students' needs.

At the end of the defense, the CE Committee will provide oral feedback to the student and assign a grade of high pass, pass, low pass, or fail. These forms are then placed in the student's file and used by the Graduate Committee as data for its annual program assessment report.
GRADUATE PROGRAM IN ENGLISH – M.A. Application

Application due for Fall admission: January 15  For Spring admission: September 15

Print, complete, and submit this form, writing sample, and statement of purpose in one packet to: Director of Graduate Studies, Department of English, University of Missouri-Kansas City, 5100 Rockhill Rd., Kansas City, MO 64110. Official GRE scores and recommendations should be mailed to this address. These materials cannot be submitted electronically. Submit the required UMKC (university) application and transcripts to: Admissions Office, UMKC, Administrative Center, 5100 Rockhill Rd., Kansas City, MO 64110.

1. APPLICANT INFORMATION:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Last Name</th>
<th>First Name</th>
<th>Middle Name</th>
</tr>
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2. CONTACT INFORMATION (address to which the English Department will direct all correspondence)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Street</th>
<th>Apartment</th>
<th>Home Phone</th>
<th>Cell Phone</th>
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</thead>
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<td>(include area/country code)</td>
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</table>

City | State or Province | Country | ZIP or Postal Code | Email address

Notify the department of any change in contact information.

3. RECOMMENDERS

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Department/Institution</th>
<th>Email</th>
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4. EDUCATION “English GPA” is based on grades in junior and senior-level and graduate courses in English only.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>UNDERGRADUATE INSTITUTION(S)</th>
<th>MAJOR</th>
<th>DATES ATTENDED</th>
<th>DEGREE(S) RECEIVED</th>
<th>OVERALL GPA</th>
<th>ENGLISH GPA</th>
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5. HONOR, AWARDS, PUBLICATIONS, SCHOLARSHIPS:

6. GRE TEST RESULTS

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<th>GRE GENERAL TEST:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Test Date</td>
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Please mark which program you are applying for:

- Language/Literature
- Literature
- Manuscript, Print Culture, and Editing

RELEVANT EMPLOYMENT (e.g., teaching, tutoring, editing)
University of Missouri-Kansas City
Department of English

Graduate Teaching Assistantship Application Form

If you wish to be considered for a Graduate Teaching Assistantship (see description), please attach a 250-500 word statement addressing your interest in and qualifications for teaching and/or tutoring. (NOTE: Positions in the College of Arts & Science's APP tutoring program may also be available. For more information, contact Dr. John Barton, Graduate Director in English, at bartonjc@umkc.edu.

Name:

Graduate Emphasis Area:

______ M.A. in English
______ M.A. in English, Language and Literature track (Composition, Rhetoric, Linguistics, and Literature)
______ M.A. in English, Manuscript, Print Culture, and Editing track
______ M.F.A. in Creative Writing and Media Arts
______ I-PhD in __________ (Coordinating Discipline) and __________ (Co-Discipline)

Please include a sample of academic writing from an upper-level college course. A GTA will teach one section of a freshman composition class per semester.
**DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH  ■  M.A. DEGREE (LANGUAGE & LITERATURE)  ■  PROGRAM OF STUDY WORKSHEET**

In consultation with the advisor, the student should initiate this application prior to completion of 15 credit hours.

**Apply for GRADUATION if final POS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>name (printed)</th>
<th>social security number</th>
<th>e-mail address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>degree sought</td>
<td>emphasis area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>city, state, zip</td>
<td>phone</td>
<td>foreign language</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Colleges and universities attended and degree received (give dates)

List below courses proposed for your advanced degree program. A minimum of 31 hours must be taken at the graduate level, of which at least 15 hours must be in courses numbered 5500 or above and at least 9 hours must be in 5500-level graduate seminars not cross-listed with 400-level courses. Students must also complete one year of a single foreign language.

**Requirements:** *At least 12 hours from Categories I & II. *At least one course from three of the five remaining areas (III-VII) including at least one course from areas I & IV and one course from areas V-VII. *English 5500. *One hour of 5599 (Culminating Experience).*

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<tr>
<th>Course # Selected</th>
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<th>Semester</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Credits at</th>
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<td>5500 level</td>
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**I. Criticism and Scholarship**

ENG 447/5547, 5550G, 5555G

**II. Language and Rhetoric**

ENG 400CH, 445/5545, 470, 5519, 5520, 5550J, 5550M, 5550P, 5552J, 5553M

**III. Literature Through the Middle Ages**

ENG 400CF, 412/5512, 422/5522, 452/5552, 5503, 5550A, 5550R, 5555A

**IV. Renaissance Literature**

ENG 400CA, 413/5513, 414/5514, 423/5523, 451/5551, 452/5552, 461/5551, 481/5581, 5550B, 5555B, 5555R

**V. Late 17th and 18th Century Literature**

ENG 415/5515, 416/5516, 426/5526, 455/5556, 462/5562, 482/5582, 550C, 5555C

**VI. 19th-Century Literature**

ENG **410/5510, 416/5516, 418/5518, 426/5526, 440/5540, 455/5556, 483/5583, 5550D, 5550E, 5555D**

**VII. 20th-Century Literature**


*(NOTE: Other courses in the catalog may satisfy an area requirement if the content is appropriate, e.g., ENG 5550H/5555H and 433/5533)*

**ENG 5500: Intro. To Graduate Studies**

**ENG 5599: Culminating Experience**

**ELECTIVES**

* Satisfies 18th or 19th century requirement, depending on the content.

** Satisfies 19th or 20th century requirement, depending on the content.

I certify that I have read and understood the requirements for the masters degree program as stated in the UMKC General Catalog, and that I have reviewed these with my advisor pursuant to preparing this plan of study:

Advisor __________________________ Date ______

Principal Graduate Advisor __________________________ Date ______

Student signature __________________________ Date ______

Distribution: Original to master file of worksheets, copy to student file, and copy to advising file.

07-25-10
In consultation with the advisor, the student should initiate this application prior to completion of 15 credit hours.

**Apply for GRADUATION if final POS**

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<th>name (printed)</th>
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<td>degree sought</td>
<td>emphasis area</td>
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<tr>
<td>city, state, zip</td>
<td>foreign language</td>
<td>date completed</td>
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</table>

Colleges and universities attended and degree received (give dates)

List below courses proposed for your advanced degree program. A minimum of 31 hours must be taken at the graduate level, of which at least 15 hours must be in courses numbered 5500 or above and at least 9 hours must be in 5500-level graduate seminars not cross-listed with 400-level courses. Students must also complete one year of a single foreign language.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirements: *One course from five of the seven areas, including at least one course from areas I &amp; II, one course from areas III &amp; IV, and one course from areas V-VII. *English 5500. *One hour of 599 (Culminating Experience).</th>
<th>Course # Selected</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<td>I. Criticism and Scholarship ENG 447/5547, 5550G, 5555G</td>
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<td>II. Language and Rhetoric ENG 400CH, 445/5545, 470, 5519, 5520, 5550I, 5550M, 5555I, 5555M</td>
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<td>III. Literature Through the Middle Ages ENG 400CF, 412/5512, 422/5522, 452/5552, 5503, 5503A, 5505R, 5555A</td>
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<td>IV. Renaissance Literature ENG 400CA, 413/5513, 414/5514, 423/5523, 461/5551, 452/5552, 461/5561, 481/5581, 5550B, 5555B, 5555R</td>
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<td>V. Late 17th and 18th Century Literature ENG 415/5515, 416/5516, 426/5526, 485/5555, 462/5562, 482/5582, 550C, 5555C</td>
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<td>VII. 20th-Century Literature ENG **410/5510, 417/5517, 427/5527, 428/5528, **440/5540, 453/5553, 463/5563, 465/5565, 5550F, 5555E, 5555F</td>
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(NOTE: Other courses in the catalog may satisfy an area requirement if the content is appropriate, e.g., ENG 5550H/5555H and 433/5533)

ENG 5500: Intro. To Graduate Studies

ENG 5599: Culminating Experience

ELECTIVES

| | | | | | | |

*Satisfies 18th or 19th century requirement, depending on the content.

**Satisfies 19th or 20th century requirement, depending on the content.

I certify that I have read and understood the requirements for the masters degree program as stated in the UMKC General Catalog, and that I have reviewed these with my advisor pursuant to preparing this plan of study:

Advisor __________________________ Date __________

Principal Graduate Advisor __________________________ Date __________

Student signature __________________________ Date __________

Distribution: Original to master file of worksheets, copy to student file, and copy to advising file.

07-23-10
**Apply for GRADUATION if final POS**

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Colleges and universities attended and degree received (give dates)

List below courses proposed for your advanced degree program. A minimum of 31 hours must be taken at the graduate level, of which at least 15 hours must be in courses numbered 5500 or above and at least 9 hours must be in 5500-level graduate seminars not cross-listed with 400-level courses. Students must also complete one year of a single foreign language.

### Requirements:
- One course from five of the seven areas, including one course from areas I & II, one course from areas III & IV, and one course from areas V & VII.
- At least 12 hours must be courses designated as fulfilling the MPCE track.
- One hour of 5599 (Culminating Experience), focused on a MPCE topic.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Requirements</th>
<th>Course</th>
<th>MPCE</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Credits at 400 level</th>
<th>Credits at 5500 level</th>
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<tr>
<td>I. Criticism and Scholarship</td>
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<td>II. Language and Rhetoric</td>
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<td>III. Literature Through the Middle Ages</td>
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<tr>
<td>IV. Renaissance Literature</td>
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<tr>
<td>V. Late 17th- and 18th-Century Literature</td>
<td>ENG 415/5515, 416/5516, 426/5526, 645/5556, 462/5552, 482/5552, 5550C, 5555C</td>
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<tr>
<td>VI. 19th-Century Literature</td>
<td>ENG *410/5510, 416/5516, 418/5518, 422/5526, **440/5540, *455/5556, 485/5583, 5550D, 5550E, 5555D</td>
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<tr>
<td>VII. 20th-Century Literature</td>
<td>ENG **410/5510, 417/5517, 427/5527, 428/5528, **440/5540, 453/5553, 463/5563, 465/5565, 5550F, 5555E, 5555F</td>
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(ONOTE: Other courses in the catalog may satisfy an area requirement if the content is appropriate, e.g., ENG 5550H/5555H and 433/5533)

ENG 5500: Intro. To Graduate Studies

ENG 5599: Culminating Experience

**ELECTIVES**

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<th>Course</th>
<th>MPCE</th>
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<th>Credits at 400 level</th>
<th>Credits at 5500 level</th>
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**Satisfies 18th or 19th century requirement, depending on the content.**

**Satisfies 19th or 20th century requirement, depending on the content.**

I certify that I have read and understood the requirements for the masters degree program as stated in the UMKC General Catalog, and that I have reviewed these with my advisor pursuant to preparing this plan of study.

Advisor

Date

Principal Graduate Advisor

Date

Student signature

Date

Distribution: Original to master file of worksheets, copy to student file, and copy to advising file. 07.25.10
Evaluation for Graduate Work in English or Creative Writing

I realize that I do have a right under PL 93-380, "The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974," to inspect my references held by UMKC. I hereby voluntarily waive my right of access to the confidential statements contained in this form.

Student Signature: ____________________________ Date: ____________________________

**********

is a candidate for the graduate program in English at the Department of English at The University of Missouri – Kansas City. Please attach a letter that addresses the applicant's abilities and aptitude for graduate work in English. Please also address the applicant's abilities as a teaching assistant or research assistant.

Return completed evaluation forms to:
Graduate Program - Department of English
University of Missouri – Kansas City, 5100 Rockhill Road, Kansas City, MO 64110

1. How long and in what capacity have you known the applicant?

2. Compared with other students of similar age and experience known to you, what is your judgment of the applicant’s

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<th>Information Inadequate for Reply</th>
<th>Below Average</th>
<th>Average</th>
<th>Above Average</th>
<th>Well Above Average</th>
<th>Truly Exceptional</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>competence</td>
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<td>quality of training in major field</td>
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<td>breadth of intellectual interest</td>
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<td>effectiveness in teaching or tutoring</td>
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3. Please use the reverse side for further comments or attach a letter.

Name: __________________________________________

Signature: ____________________________

Title/Position: ____________________________

Institution: __________________________________

E-mail: ____________________________

Date: ____________________________