



WESTERN
CONNECTICUT
STATE UNIVERSITY

SCHOOL OF ARTS & SCIENCES

SCHOOL OF ARTS & SCIENCES

Linda Vaden-Goad, Dean, Warner Hall 300
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Phone: (203) 837-9401
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Departments

Biological & Environmental Sciences • Thomas Lonergan, Chair, SB201, (203) 837-9894
Faculty: P. Boily; F. Dye; R. Gyure; R. Halliburton (Graduate Coordinator); T. Lonergan; S. Maskel; T. Philbrick; T. Pinou; S. Wagener; E. Wong.

Chemistry • Yuan Mei-Ratliff, Co-Chair, SB310, (203) 837-8443
Russell Selzer, Co-Chair, SB334, (203) 837-8448
Paul Hines, Assoc. Chair, SB315, (203) 837-8444

Faculty: P. Hines (Assoc. Chair); Y. Mei-Ratliff (Co-Chair); M. Rajabzadeh; A. Roberts; P. Secondo; R. Selzer (Co-Chair); Y. Yen.

Communication • Bill Petkanas, Chair, B213c, (203) 837-8255

Faculty: J.C. Barone; J. Eckstein; T. Keys; K. Lever; W. Petkanas; K. Raftery; D. L. Stephenson; K. Wiss.

Computer Science • William Joel, Chair, WS110, (203) 837-9353

Faculty: G. Ganchev; R. Gurkewitz; T. Ivanov; W. Joel.

English • Michael Chappell, Chair, B210D, (203) 837-9366

Faculty: M. Chappell; D. Gagnon; A. Govardhan; H. Levy; M. Maguire; M. Murray; I. Pruss; S. Qi (Graduate Coordinator); M. Sullivan; C. Usekes.

History & Non-Western Cultures • Burton Peretti, Chair, WA221, (203) 837-8309

Faculty: K. Allocco; J. Duffy; W. Gadkar-Wilcox; K. C. Gutzman; L. Lindenauer; M. May; M. Nolan (Graduate Coordinator); B. Peretti; J. Rosenthal; A. Saad.

Mathematics • David Burns, Chair, H102F, (203) 837-9346

Faculty: D. Burns; J. Hamer; S. Hayes; R. Kutz; S. Lightwood (Graduate Coordinator); A. Lubell; P. Maida; B. Mittag; L. Novozhilova; C. Rocca; C.E. Sandifer; X. Wang.

Philosophy & Humanistic Studies • James Munz, Chair, WH021B, (203) 837-8782

Faculty: K. Aronson; J. Munz.

Physics, Astronomy & Meteorology • Alice Chance, Chair, SB178, (203) 837-8667

Faculty: J. Boyle (Graduate Coordinator); A. Chance; D. Dawson; R. Eisenson; A. Owino.

Psychology • Norine Jalbert, Chair, WA314, (203) 837-8476

Faculty: D. Barrett; R. Flanagan; N. Gallucci; N. Jalbert; R. Khoo; T. Kuther; S. Murphy; M. Nelson; P. O'Neill; D. Sheskin.

Social Sciences • Robert Whittemore, WA206, Chair, (203) 837-8461

A. Manes, Assoc. Chair, WA203, (203) 837-8452

Faculty: C. Bandhauer; D. Isik; C. Kukk; A. Manes (Assoc. Chair); O. Owoye; Z. Pan; S. Skinner; A. Standish; S. Ward; L. Weinstein; R. Whittemore.

World Languages & Literatures • Galina Bakhtiarova, Chair, B215, (203) 837-8734

Faculty: G. Bakhtiarova; S. Skar.

Writing, Linguistics and Creative Process • Oscar De Los Santos, Chair, B215c, (203) 837-9044

Faculty: J. Briggs (Graduate Coordinator); B. Clements (Coordinator, M.F.A. in Professional Writing); O. De Los Santos; E. Hagan; P. Ryan; J. Scrimgeour; A. Zink.

Master of Arts & Master of Fine Arts Degree Programs

Mission and Objectives

The School of Arts and Sciences offers Master of Arts degrees in biological and environmental sciences, earth and planetary sciences, English (three options: literature, writing, and TESOL), history and mathematics. The school also offers the Master of Fine Arts in Professional Writing.

In keeping with the state of Connecticut's goals for higher education, the School of Arts and Sciences, with its graduate programs, seeks to:

- Enhance student learning and promote academic excellence.
- Join with elementary and secondary schools to improve teaching and learning at all levels.
- Ensure access to and affordability of higher education.
- Promote the economic development of the state to help business and industry sustain strong economic growth.
- Respond to the needs and problems of society.
- Ensure efficient use of resources.

The School of Arts and Sciences plays a central role in the education of every student at the university. The school serves students of diverse interests and needs and from many different segments of the community. The arts and sciences faculty believe that teaching is an art. Their highest priority is to help students learn.

Graduate Programs

The Master of Arts (M.A.) degree programs at WestConn are designed to provide opportunities for the pursuit of advanced study in the fields of biological and environmental sciences, earth and planetary sciences, English, history, and mathematics. Master of Arts programs provide in-depth study of a specific field for professional advancement, personal development, or preparation for further advanced study.

The Master of Fine Arts (M.F.A.) program is a performance-based program leading to the highest degree awarded in professional fields in the arts.

Master of Arts degree programs:

- Biological and Environmental Sciences
- Earth & Planetary Sciences
- English
- History
- Mathematics

Master of Fine Arts in Professional Writing

Admissions

Applicants who wish to be admitted to a Master of Arts program must submit the following material to the Office of Graduate Studies:

1. Application for admission to the Division of Graduate Studies with a \$50 application fee.
2. Official transcript, including all earned grades and degrees, mailed (not hand-delivered) to the Office of Graduate Studies from each college or university previously attended. (For initial non-matriculated, one-semester enrollment, a transcript indicating a 2.5 undergraduate grade point average or higher and the baccalaureate degree will suffice.)
3. If an applicant's cumulative undergraduate grade point average (GPA) is below 2.5, the applicant must fulfill one of the following:
 - a. Present a score rated at the 35th percentile or higher on the Miller Analogies Test, as indicated below:
Undergraduate GPA MAT Score Required

- 2.5 or higher MAT not required
- 2.4 to 2.49 35th Percentile
- 2.3 to 2.39 45th Percentile
- 2.2 to 2.29 50th Percentile
- Below 2.2 60th Percentile

- b. Provide transcripts indicating successful previous graduate study at an accredited institution.
4. Supporting documents, such as letters of reference, as required for a particular program.
 5. Evidence of successful completion of any required prerequisite courses as established for a particular program.

After the above materials have been submitted, the applicant should call (203) 837-8243 to make an appointment for an admission interview in the Office of Graduate Studies.

Master of Arts in Biological & Environmental Sciences

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Biological and Environmental Sciences Overview

The Master of Arts (M.A.) in Biological and Environmental Sciences degree program provides an opportunity for advanced study through intensive classroom presentations, seminars, laboratory and field experiences.

The M.A. program enables students to: (1) pursue industrial, public service, or technical careers in the biological and environmental sciences; (2) upgrade their knowledge in support of secondary school teaching; (3) prepare for further studies leading to the Ph.D. in biology.

Program Mission, Goals, and Objectives

A student completing an M.A. in Biological and Environmental Sciences should:

- a. Demonstrate an understanding of the scientific process and be able to apply it to designing and analyzing biological experiments.
- b. Demonstrate an in-depth understanding of the factual and theoretical bases of one or more areas of biology.
- c. Be able to communicate effectively in both oral and written presentations.
- d. Acquire the specific knowledge and understanding needed to further his or her professional career.
- e. Possess the computer and library skills necessary to continue learning beyond the M.A. degree, as well as information relevant to his or her specific interests and needs.

Admission Requirements

A student seeking admission to the M.A. in Biological and Environmental Sciences program must meet the following requirements in addition to the general requirements described in this graduate catalog:

1. Applicants must hold a bachelor's degree in the biological sciences with a GPA of at least 2.70, or equivalent background. Applicants with an undergraduate GPA of less than 2.70, or with an undergraduate degree in a field other than biology, may be required to submit scores on the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) in biology in support of their application. Both the undergraduate record and GRE scores will then be considered.
2. A narrative statement describing the student's career goals and an explanation as to why they would like to pursue a graduate degree; in particular, students should cite why they are seeking admission to Western Connecticut State University.

Final admission requires approval by the program coordinator, and the dean of graduate studies.

Degree Requirements

Advising Committee

Each student will choose an adviser based on his or her interests. After the student completes six credits with a GPA of 3.0 or higher, the student and adviser will then choose two other faculty members to comprise the student's committee. A committee member from outside the department of biological and environmental sciences must be approved by the department.

Course Work and Related Requirements

Students must complete 24-30 semester hours of course work, depending upon choice of the thesis or non-thesis option, and must pass a final examination. A cumulative GPA of at least 3.0 is required for graduation.

Master of Arts in Biological and Environmental Sciences

- a. Required Course: BIO 500 Graduate Seminar 3 SH
- b. Additional Course Requirements: 21 - 27 SH to be chosen from the following list:

- BIO 504 Limnology
- BIO 510 Current Topics in Biology
- BIO 516 Current Techniques in Cell and Molecular Biology
- BIO 530 Population Genetics
- BIO 535 Advanced Molecular Biology
- BIO 536 Molecular Oncology
- BIO 537 Molecular Endocrinology
- BIO 538 Molecular Mechanisms of Animal Development
- BIO 539 Molecular Biology of Prokaryotes
- BIO 540 Aquatic Vascular Plants
- BIO 543 Stream Ecology
- BIO 545 Advanced Systematic Biology
- BIO 551 Soil Ecology
- BIO 555 Environmental Physiology
- BIO 556 Herpetology
- BIO 560 Behavioral Ecology
- BIO 565 Topics in Animal Behavior
- BIO 592 Independent Thesis Research
- BIO 598 Faculty Developed Study
- BIO 599 Student Developed Study

Other 500 level BIO courses may be added to this list. A student should see the program coordinator before taking a BIO course not on this list. A maximum of six semester hours in 400 level courses may be applied to the degree. Some 400 or 500 level courses from other departments may be approved by the student's committee. A student should obtain committee approval before taking a course in another department.

- c. Thesis or non-thesis option. Students will choose from the following:
 1. *Thesis*. A minimum of 24 semester hours of course work, plus a thesis. All courses must be approved by the student's committee. The thesis proposal must be approved by the student's committee, the program coordinator, and the director of university admissions. Thesis students will be required to present their research in a department seminar.
 2. *Non-Thesis*. A minimum of 30 semester hours in a planned program of courses. All courses must be approved by the student's committee.
- d. Final Examination
Thesis students must pass a thesis defense. Non-thesis students must pass a comprehensive examination. The examination or thesis defense will be administered by the student's committee during the student's final semester. The student's GPA must be at least 3.0 at the time of the thesis defense or comprehensive examination.
- e. Grade Point Average
A student's cumulative GPA must be at least 3.0 to be eligible for graduation.

Master of Arts in Earth & Planetary Sciences

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Earth and Planetary Sciences Overview

The department of physics, astronomy, and meteorology offers a Master of Arts (M.A.) degree in Earth and Planetary Sciences. Students have the opportunity for advanced course work in physics, meteorology, astronomy, oceanography and geology. In addition, for their capstone experience, students have the option of either performing independent thesis research or, for those who are teachers, completing two education courses and passing a comprehensive examination.

Students also may choose to concentrate in meteorology/climatology or astronomy/astrophysics.

Program Mission, Goals and Objectives

The missions of the M.A. in Earth & Planetary Sciences program is to provide students with the scientific knowledge and technical skills to: (1) pursue careers in meteorology, astronomy, oceanography or geology either in the private sector or in government; (2) enhance knowledge in support of a career in secondary education, or; (3) allow students to continue with additional studies leading to a Ph.D. in atmospheric science, astronomy, oceanography or geology.

The goals and objectives include:

- Imparting an in-depth understanding of the factual and theoretical bases of the various disciplines in earth and planetary sciences;
- Promoting scientifically-based critical thinking with regard to current issues in the earth and planetary sciences;
- Familiarizing students with the application of technology and of scientific methods through astronomical observations, weather analysis and forecasting as well as data collection for meteorological, oceanic and geological applications via remote sensing and in-situ platforms;
- Promoting an understanding of the scientific process and have students apply it to designing and analyzing experiments in support of independent research, and;
- Promoting effective communication of scientific concepts in the both oral and written format.

Admission Requirements

For admission to the M.A. program, a student must have received an earned bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university with a combined undergraduate GPA of at least 2.5 and:

- a. A minimum of 45 semester hours in the sciences and mathematics, including 6 – 8 semester hours in three of the following disciplines: astronomy, biology, chemistry, computer sciences, earth sciences, geology, mathematics, meteorology, oceanography and physics. Deficiencies may be rectified by taking undergraduate courses while taking graduate course work, or;
- b. students must receive written permission from the physics, astronomy and meteorological graduate committee.

If the cumulative undergraduate GPA is below 2.5, the applicant may submit Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores (the general plus one advanced in mathematics or physics) in support of his or her application. In that case, both the undergraduate record and GRE scores will be taken into consideration for admission into the program.

Degree Requirements

Requirements for the degree of M.A. in Earth and Planetary Sciences include:

- a. Cumulative GPA or 3.0 or better, and;
- b. a minimum of 24 semester hours of course work, and;
- c. Capstone experience:
 - i. Six semester hours of independent thesis research. The thesis must be approved by the graduate committee and the graduate program coordinator and the director of university admissions. Thesis students must also pass a thesis defense, or;
 - ii. Six semester hours of education (ED 500 and another ED 500-level course#) for students who meet the admissions requirements of the education department. All non-thesis students must pass a comprehensive examination.

#Acceptable 500-level ED courses include:

- ED 530 Curriculum of the Secondary School
- ED 532 Computer Literacy in Education
- ED 556 Curriculum Development using the Internet

Master of Arts in Earth and Planetary Sciences

I. Earth and Planetary Science Core Requirements **12 SH**

PHY 510 Thermodynamics	3 SH
PHY 520 Scientific Methods	3 SH
PHY 550 Special Topics in Earth and Planetary Sciences	2-3 SH
PHY 590 Seminar in Earth and Planetary Sciences	3 SH

Note: PHY 550 is offered only during summer sessions; students may elect two or three credits with an additional assignment. If two credits are taken, then a four-credit PHY 598 or 599 course may be used to fulfill degree requirements.

II. Earth and Planetary Sciences Courses **12 SH**

EPS 510* Physical Oceanography	3 SH
EPS 521* Meteorology & Weather Systems	3 SH
EPS 530* Planetary Physics	3 SH
EPS 540* Physical Geology	3 SH

*Three of these four courses must be taken. Students may substitute one course with PHY 598 or PHY 599 after receiving written permission by the graduate committee.

III. Thesis or Education Course Requirements **6 SH**

EPS 592 Independent Thesis Research in Earth and Planetary Sciences	6 SH
Thesis Defense	
Or	
ED 500 Contemporary Educational Issues	3 SH
ED 5__# _____	3 SH
Final Comprehensive Examination	

#Acceptable 500-level ED courses include ED 530, ED 532 and ED 556

Suggested Course Sequence for the Meteorology/Climatology Concentration

I. Physics Core Courses **12 SH**

PHY 510 Thermodynamics	3 SH
PHY 520 Scientific Methods	3 SH
PHY 550 Special Topics in Earth & Planetary Sciences	3 SH
PHY 590 Seminary in Earth and Planetary Sciences	3 SH

Suggested Topics

Air Pollution & Boundary Layer Meteorology

or

Climate, Atmospheric Radiation & the Earth's Energy Balance

or

Earth Dynamics: Air-Sea-Land Interaction

PHY 590 Seminary in Earth and Planetary Sciences 3 SH

II. Earth and Planetary Sciences Courses 12 SH

EPS 510 Physical Oceanography 3 SH

EPS 521 Meteorology & Weather Systems 3 SH

EPS 530 Planetary Physics 3 SH

PHY 599 Student Independent Study: Meteorology 3 SH

III. Thesis or Education Course Requirements 6 SH

EPS 592 Independent Thesis Research: Meteorology 6 SH

Master of Arts in English

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English Overview

The Master of Arts (M.A.) in English at WestConn has three options: Literature Option, Writing Option, and Teaching English as a Second Language (TESOL) Option. The program is housed in the English Department, which coordinates the Literature Option, whereas the Department of Writing, Linguistics and Creative Process coordinates the Writing and TESOL Options.

Program Mission, Goals and Objectives

The M.A. in English offers courses of study that students can apply toward advanced degrees or toward careers as writers or as teachers on the primary and secondary levels. All students graduating with the M.A. in English are expected to have developed an advanced knowledge of authors, literary genres and literary periods, also an advanced ability to analyze texts, contexts and important literary issues, using current critical approaches. Research, critical thinking and writing skills are integral components of all course work.

Admission Requirements

Applicants for the M. A. in English program must hold a baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution of higher education. In general, students who have completed a substantial number of credits in English at the undergraduate level will receive preference for admission to the program. However, the M. A. in English program welcomes applicants from diverse educational backgrounds. Applicants with other undergraduate concentrations or majors will be considered. In all cases, a record of strong undergraduate academic achievement will merit preference over any other criterion for admission.

Prospective students for the Literature Option must include the following in their application:

1. A 500-word statement of purpose explaining why they want to pursue graduate studies in English
2. A writing sample, i.e., a substantial research essay on a literary topic (approximately 10 pages, typed, double-spaced, printed on 8 1/2" by 11" white bond paper).

Prospective students for the Writing and TESOL Options must include the following in their application: A substantial writing sample, an essay, 1,250 words minimum, typed, double-spaced, printed on 8 1/2" by 11" white bond paper. The department welcome business reports, conference papers and articles on non-academic subjects, as well as formal research papers previously submitted for undergraduate or graduate credit. Examples of creative writing and/or lesson plans do not satisfy the writing requirement. All submissions will be retained by the Department of Writing, Linguistics and Creative Process.

All applicants must have an entrance interview with the appropriate graduate coordinator. After the entrance interview, the graduate coordinator recommends whether or not to accept the applicant, or whether to accept the applicant conditionally (i.e., students may be asked to make up academic deficiencies), and forwards this recommendation to the Graduate Office.

Degree Requirements

Students in the Literature and TESOL Option have two paths to fulfill degree requirements: Thesis or Comprehensive Examination, whereas a thesis is required of all Writing Option students (see below).

Literature Option students electing to take the comprehensive examination to complete their graduate studies in English will be tested on a reading list prepared by the English department. The three-hour comprehensive is a closed-book exam administered in November and April of each year. Students should indicate in writing to the graduate coordinator of the English Department their intention to take the comprehensive at least one full month in advance of either the November or April examination. The graduate coordinator will announce the specific time and place for each examination. "Comprehensive Examination Guidelines" is available from the graduate coordinator.

Literature Option students electing to write a thesis must register for ENG 592, Independent Thesis Research in English. A student electing to write a thesis must do so under the guidance of an English Department faculty member who agrees to direct the student's work. The English department's graduate committee must approve all thesis proposals and final drafts. Students choosing the thesis path should therefore consult with the graduate coordinator as well as the thesis director and closely follow the department's "Thesis Guidelines."

TESOL Option students electing to take the comprehensive examination to complete their graduate studies in English will be tested on reading lists prepared by the English and writing departments. The three-hour comprehensive (two hours on Literature, one hour on TESOL) is a closed-book exam administered in November and April of each year. Students should indicate in writing to the graduate coordinators of both the English and the writing departments their intention to take the comprehensive examination at least one full month in advance of either the November or April examination. The graduate coordinators will announce the specific time and place for each examination. "Comprehensive Examination Guidelines" is available from the English graduate coordinator.

TESOL Option students electing to write a thesis must register for ENG 592, Independent Thesis Research in English. A student electing to write a thesis must do so under the guidance of an English or writing department faculty member who agrees to direct the student's work. TESOL students choosing the thesis path should therefore consult with the writing department's graduate coordinator and closely follow the writing department's "Thesis Guidelines."

Writing Option Students must register for ENG 592, Independent Thesis Research in English and write a thesis under the guidance of a writing department faculty member who agrees to direct the student's work. The Writing Option student must obtain a copy of the Writing Department Thesis Guidelines and follow the procedures described therein.

Master of Arts in English - Literature Option (30 SH)

Completion of the following

ENG 502 Critical Theory (3 SH)

ENG 506 History of the Language and Linguistics (3 SH)

- One course in English literature (ENG 509, 513, 532, 534, or 541) (3 SH)
- One Course in American Literature (ENG 552, 567, or 568) (3 SH)
- One Course in Topic/Genre Studies (ENG 544, 570, 572, or 574) (3 SH)

Path A: Thesis

- One more literature course in the MA program (3 SH)
- ENG 592: Independent Thesis Research in English (6 SH)

Path B: Comprehensive Exam

- Three more literature courses in the MA program (9 SH)
- Completion of the Comprehensive Exam

Electives

- Any other two courses in the MA program (6 SH)

Master of Arts in English - Writing Option (30 SH)

Completion of four English writing courses (12 SH)

Completion of the following

- One course in English literature (ENG 509, 513, 532, 534, or 541) (3 SH)
- One Course in American Literature (ENG 552, 567, or 568) (3 SH)
- One Course in Topic/Genre Studies (ENG 544, 570, 572, or 574) (3 SH)
- One more course in the MA program (3 SH)

Completion of Thesis

- ENG 592: Independent Thesis Research in English (6 SH)

Master of Arts in English - TESOL Option (30 SH)

Completion of TESOL Requirements

- ENG 506 History of the Language & Linguistics (3 SH)
- ENG 515 TESOL Testing (3 SH)
- ENG 516 TESOL Methodology (3 SH)
- ENG 517 English Grammars (3 SH)

Completion of the Following

- One course in English literature (ENG 509, 513, 532, 534, or 541) (3 SH)
- One Course in American Literature (ENG 552, 567, or 568) (3 SH)
- One Course in Topic/Genre Studies (ENG 544, 570, 572, or 574) (3 SH)

Path A: Thesis

- One more course in the MA program (3 SH)
- ENG 592: Independent Thesis Research in English (6 SH)

Path B: Comprehensive Exam

- Three more courses in the MA program (9 SH)
- Completion of the Comprehensive Exam

Master of Arts in History

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Program Mission, Goals, and Objectives

The Master of Arts (M.A.) in History degree program is designed for students who wish to develop their skills in analyzing and interpreting historical events and interrelational developments in diverse areas of the world. Students may be secondary school teachers, college graduates preparing for a career in college teaching, or professionals from outside the academic world who value the intellectual challenge afforded by the serious study of history.

Admission Requirements

August 1 is the fall deadline to apply to the M.A. in History program. Application for the spring semester is January 1. Late applications may be considered at the discretion of the Department of History and Non-Western Cultures.

Requirements include:

- An earned bachelor's degree from an accredited institution of higher education with a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 2.7. The GPA in history courses should be at least 3.0. An applicant with an undergraduate degree and GPA below 3.0 may submit Graduate Record Examination (GRE) general test scores and an explanation of relevant circumstances to support their application.
- The following materials must be submitted to the Division of Graduate Studies:
 - A completed graduate admission application form and fee.
 - Official transcripts for all undergraduate and graduate courses and degrees.
 - A statement of purpose, two to four pages, typed and double-spaced. The statement should describe the applicant's relevant past experience, academic and career goals and interest in the M.A. in History program.
 - Two (2) letters of recommendation from individuals who can effectively assess the applicant's general academic potential.
 - Acceptance by the Department of History and Non-Western Cultures.

Degree Requirements

A minimum of thirty (30) semester hour credits is required for the M.A. in History. The standard course requirements are:

1. History 490 (Undergraduate Senior Seminar) three (3) semester hours
2. Twelve (12) semester hours, or four courses in the student's major theme (see below)
3. Six (6) semester hours, or two courses in the student's minor theme (see below)
4. Nine (9) semester hours, or three elective courses in any theme.

Acceptable Variations:

1. If the student can demonstrate completion of a substantial undergraduate history research paper (minimum 20 pages of text, excluding endnotes), the history 490 requirement will be waived. Another elective class must be taken in its place.
2. Students choosing to do a master's thesis must complete the six (6) semester-hour thesis course (HIS 592) instead of two elective courses.

With the graduate coordinator's approval, students may take a maximum of six (6) semester hours in 500 level courses in allied fields (such as English or education) or in 400 level history courses.

Master of Arts in History

The student will concentrate on one theme, completing a minimum of twelve (12) semester hours. All candidates for the M.A. in History degree are required to take a written comprehensive examination in the major theme. To be eligible to take the comprehensive examination, all course work must be completed prior to or within the semester in which the comprehensive is taken. The average must be "B" or better. Students should contact the graduate coordinator to schedule the comprehensive examination.

Students must complete a minimum of six (6) semester hours in a theme other than their major theme. Courses offered include, but are not limited to, the following:

Theme I: Revolution

HIS 510 Fascism: Revolution of Counter Revolution	3 SH
HIS 511 The Communist Revolution and the Soviet Union	3 SH
HIS 515 The French Revolution	3 SH

HIS 516 The American Revolution	3 SH
HIS 541 Conflict in the Modern Middle East	3 SH

Theme II: International Relations

HIS 520 Origins of World War I, or	3 SH
HIS 521 Origins of World War II	3 SH
HIS 528 World War II	3 SH
HIS 534 Islam in International Affairs	3 SH
HIS 541 Conflict in the Modern Middle East	3 SH

Theme III: American History

HIS 505 New York City: Its History and Culture	3 SH
HIS 506 Readings in American History to 1877	3 SH
HIS 507 Readings in American History Since 1877	3 SH
HIS 516 The American Revolution	3 SH
HIS 535 African-American History & Culture	3 SH
HIS 537 America in the Sixties	3 SH
HIS 539 America in the 1950s	3 SH
HIS 556 Colonial North America	3 SH
HIS 557 The Early American Republic	3 SH
HIS 558 History of the American South	3 SH

Theme IV: European History

HIS 501 Development of Western Thought	3 SH
HIS 508 Readings in European History to 1500	3 SH
HIS 509 Readings in European History since 1500	3 SH
HIS 510 Fascism: Revolution or Counterrevolution	3 SH
HIS 515 The French Revolution	3 SH
HIS 520 Origins of World War I	3 SH
HIS 521 Origins of World War II	3 SH

Theme V: Non-Western History

HIS 534 Islam in International Affairs	3 SH
HIS 540 Islamic Intellectual History	3 SH
HIS 541 Conflict in the Modern Middle East	3 SH
HIS 570 Chinese Thought and Religion	3 SH
HIS 571 China in the Twentieth Century	3 SH

Consult the graduate program coordinator for appropriate course selections.

Master of Arts in Mathematics

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Mathematics Overview

The Master of Arts (M.A.) in Mathematics degree program provides students with an avenue for further in-depth study in theoretical or applied mathematics. Students may use this program as a first step towards a Ph.D. in Mathematics, as a means of increasing their knowledge of mathematics to support their teaching, or as a tool to enhance their skills and knowledge for careers in such diverse fields as actuarial science, statistics, cryptography, engineering and computer science.

Program Mission, Goals and Objectives

The mission of the M.A. in Mathematics program is to extend the knowledge of beginning mathematicians with depth and breadth in mathematics content, research and applications. The goals of the program are to increase:

- depth and breadth in mathematics content;
- independence as a learner of mathematics;
- mathematical problem-solving ability; and
- communication skills in a mathematical context.

Admission Requirements

A student who wishes to earn the degree must have received the bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university with a major in mathematics or a related field, and have demonstrated competence in undergraduate mathematics.

Degree Requirements

Requirements for the degree of M.A. in Mathematics include:

1. A minimum of 30 semester hours of coursework as described below, and
2. A culminating experience, which may be a thesis or a comprehensive examination.

Master of Arts in Mathematics

The M.A. in Mathematics requires a minimum of 9 SH credits from Group I and an additional 21 credits from Groups I and II. Courses are offered in a 3-year rotation.

Group I Courses

MAT 505 Logic 3 SH

MAT 507 Applied Statistics I 3 SH

MAT 526 Numerical Analysis I 3 SH

MAT 529 Historical Development of Mathematics 3 SH

MAT 704 Matrix Theory and Methods 3 SH

Group II Courses

Mat 508 Applied Statistics II 3 SH

MAT 512-513 Modern Algebra I, II 6 SH

MAT 514-515 Real Analysis I, II 6 SH

MAT 522 Topics in Advanced Geometry 3 SH

MAT 527 Numerical Analysis II 3 SH

MAT 528 Number Theory 3 SH

MAT 540 Topics in Mathematics	3 SH
MAT 708 Applied Mathematics	3 SH

Thesis Option:

MAT 592 Independent Thesis Research in Mathematics	0-6 SH
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400 Level Courses

With the approval of the graduate coordinator, students may use a maximum of six (6) semester hours of 400 level courses in mathematics in their program.

Comprehensive Examination

The comprehensive examination is a three-hour examination on the courses in the program completed by the student as follows:

1. One hour on each of two one-year, six-credit MAT courses;
2. A third hour on any other one-year, six-credit MAT course, or two half-hours, each on one-semester courses in the student's program.

All coursework must be completed prior to the semester in which students take the comprehensive examination. The total grade point average must be 3.0 or better. Credit is not awarded for the comprehensive examination.

The written examination is given twice a year: the first Saturday in December and the first Saturday in May. It is the responsibility of students choosing to take the examination to notify their adviser by November 1st for the December examination and by April 1st for the May examination. Successful fulfillment of the examination requirement necessitates a passing mark on each section of the examination. In the event the student fails to pass one section of the examination, the student may:

1. repeat that particular section of the examination on the next examination date; or,
2. choose another option with the approval of the department graduate committee.

Thesis

The thesis is completed through MAT 592, Independent Thesis Research in Mathematics (0 to 6 semester hours, as agreed to by the student, the adviser and the mathematics department chair). The thesis is a scholarly work researched and solely written by the student under the guidance of a thesis adviser and committee. The thesis proposal must be approved by the committee and graduate school before registering for MAT 592. The thesis credits must be approved by the mathematics department.

The Master of Arts in Mathematics degree program, including the thesis and the comprehensive examination approach, must be planned and agreed upon by the student and the graduate adviser.

Master of Fine Arts in Professional Writing

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Professional Writing Overview

The Master of Fine Arts (M.F.A.) in Professional Writing is a terminal degree program founded on the belief that writers who can work in multiple genres are best equipped for professional careers and that writing across genres has both practical and systemic benefits for the writer. The low-residency structure of the program offers a convenient course of study for traditional students coming directly out of undergraduate programs as well as for non-traditional students who have decided to return to school after a short or long hiatus due to family, career, or other commitments.

Program Mission, Goals, and Objectives

This program trains career writers by:

1. Exemplifying, through its faculty, that career writers are usually writers who have mastered multiple genres.
2. Offering students the opportunity to master one creative and one practical genre.
3. Teaching the process of learning to write in a new genre.
4. Teaching the mechanisms of production in various genres.
5. Providing students with time and a structure within which to write.
6. Showing how learning to write in a new genre can enrich one's ability in another.
7. Providing students with hands-on educational experience in internships and practica.

Graduates of the program will have produced publishable work in a creative genre and in a practical genre.

Graduates will be prepared to enter professional careers as writers, writing teachers and editors.

Admission Requirements

A student who wishes to obtain an M.F.A. in Professional Writing must hold a baccalaureate degree from an institution of higher education. The program welcomes students from diverse educational backgrounds; no degree in English or in any humanities field is required.

In addition to the application, each prospective student must include two writing samples: a twenty- to fifty-page portfolio of previous writing and a brief essay. The portfolio may consist of writing in any genre, but the department prefers a combination of creative and practical writing samples, if possible.

Degree Requirements

The student will select one creative genre (such as fiction, poetry, creative non-fiction, or drama) and one practical genre (such as public relations/marketing, technical writing, or magazine feature writing). The student will designate one of those genres as the primary genre and the other as a secondary genre. Additionally, the student will work in a multigenre workshop each semester, which will involve reading, critiquing, and possibly writing in disciplines other than the two specializations. All course work other than the online multigenre workshop follows the mentorship model, where each course consists of one-on-one consultation between one mentor and one student.

The student may opt for a 2-, 3-, or 4-year plan for completion of the degree. In the 3- and 4-year options, the student will declare at the outset of the program the residencies and corresponding semesters in which s/he plans to enroll. The student will attend a one-week residency at the beginning of each semester in which s/he is enrolled. August residencies are held in Danbury; January residencies may be held in remote locations such as Puerto Rico.

Master of Fine Art in Professional Writing

First Semester

WRT 543 Online Multi-Genre Workshop I 4 SH

WRT 536 Reading for Writers I (Primary Genre) 4 SH

WRT 539 Genre History, Criticism, and Theory 4 SH

WRT 542 Writing in the Primary Genre I 4 SH

Second Semester

WRT 579 Online Multi-Genre Workshop II 4 SH

WRT 537 Reading for Writers II (Second Genre) 4 SH

WRT 576 Writing in the Primary Genre II 4 SH

WRT 578 Writing in the Second Genre 4 SH

Third Semester

WRT 582 Online Multi-Genre Workshop III 4 SH

WRT 569 Internship or Teaching Practicum 4 SH

WRT 571 The Individual Aesthetic and Process 4 SH

WRT 577 Writing in the Primary Genre III 4 SH

Fourth Semester

WRT 583 Online Multi-Genre Workshop IV 4 SH

WRT 584 Thesis/PDE 8 SH

Additionally, the student will be required to complete an enrichment project that complements the course of study. Such a project might involve starting a new publication, volunteering at a non-profit literary center, working as a contract writer, or learning a foreign language.