The Department of English
Graduate Studies in Rhetoric and Composition

The Department of English at Washington State University offers graduate programs leading to the degrees of Master of Arts (M.A.) and Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.). Providing opportunities for diverse coursework and extensive pedagogical training, these programs (with concentrations in Rhetoric and Composition or Literary Studies) emphasize interpretive and critical thinking, breadth of disciplinary preparation, grounding in current theory and methodology, and respect for the value of multiple perspectives.

Faculty Specializations
Rhetorical Theory, Writing Assessment, Composition Theory, Digital Rhetoric, Rhetorics of Race, Multimodal Pedagogy, Political Economy, Technical Communication

Core Rhetoric and Composition Faculty
Kristin Arola, William Condon, Vanessa Cozza, Robert Eddy, Mike Edwards, Patricia Ericsson, Wendy Dasler Johnson, Wendy Olson, Julie Staggers, and Victor Villanueva. The department also includes faculty in literary studies, English education, applied linguistics, and creative writing with interests ranging from young-adult literature to digital humanities to creative non-fiction.

Funding Opportunities
We offer ample graduate student funding at both the M.A. and Ph.D. level, for two and five years respectively. Our funding includes tuition waivers, health insurance, and a monthly salary. Unlike other programs, new students spend a full semester (rather than 1-2 weeks) training in writing pedagogy, followed by a spring semester
English 101 teaching appointment. As students progress in their studies and specializations, other teaching opportunities — some of which include Technical and Professional Writing, English as a Second Language and Digital Technology and Culture — are possible. Research Assistantships are also available with the Writing Programs and the Center for Digital Scholarship and Curation.

**Recent Dissertations**

- Developing An Economic Vocabulary in Composition Studies Through Four Key Terms: Labor, Cost, Writing Construct, and Efficiency
- Writing Out (From) Prisons: Critical Literacy, Prison Abolition, and Queer(ED) Public Pedagogy
- Reinvigorating Invention Pedagogy: Using Rhetorical Methods to Resist Current-Traditional Pedagogy
- A Lingering Coloniality: Considering the Epistemic and Structural (Im)Possibilities of University-Sponsored Prison Writing Program
- Critical Race Consciousness and the Technical Writing Classroom
- Becoming Visible in Invisible Space: How the Cyborg Trickster is (Re)inventing American Indian (NDN) Identity
- Adaptive Rhetoric: Evolution, Culture, and the Art of Persuasion
- Multimodal Composition and Electracy: Pedagogical Relays

**Post-Graduation**

Our PhD placement is near 100%, with recent graduates going on to positions at James Madison University, Dixie State University, University of Montevallo, Fairfield University, University of Delaware, Utah Valley University, and Eastern Oregon University.

M.A. graduates have gone on to positions in editing and publishing, secondary and higher education instruction, as well as Ph.D. work in rhetoric, composition, digital media, science communication, and applied linguistics.

**Learn more at:**
english.wsu.edu