

# Department of English

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| Chairperson:          | Hout, Syrine C.   |
| Professors:           | Choueiri, Lina G.; Hout, Syrine C.; Myers, Robert E.; Shaaban, Kassim A.  |
| Associate Professors: | Gonsalves, Joshua D.; Harb, Sirène H.; Mejcher-Atassi, Sonja; Khalaf, Roseanne S.; Mehmood Ali, Tariq; Zenger, Amy A. |
| Assistant Professors: | Avant, Doyle R.; Currell, David A.; Issa, Rana H.; Landes, David; Maude, Kathryn R; Waterman, Adam J.                 |

The Department of English offers one writing course, ENGL 300, to all graduate students in the university who did not meet the RUSE.

**ENGL 300**      **Writing in the Disciplines**      **3.0; 0 cr.**  
 ENGL 300 Writing in the Disciplines 3.0; 0 cr. A course that prepares students for graduate-level academic writing, and covers such topics as academic writing in different disciplines, the writing process, argumentation and working with sources. Prerequisite: 500-529 on the AUB EEE (new EEE: 32-39) or 573-582 on the TOEFL (PBT) or 88-96 on the TOEFL (IBT). Each term.

The Department of English offers two graduate degree programs: the MA in English Literature and the MA in English Language.

## Mission Statement

The Department of English at AUB offers two graduate degree programs, which include an MA in English Literature and an MA in English Language. These graduate programs aim to ground students in literature and language studies. They provide students with opportunities to pursue advanced study in multiple linguistic, literary and cultural traditions through engagement with texts in English, in translation, between languages and across media. The programs provide a solid academic basis for those who wish to continue toward a PhD in literature or language studies, as well as for those who wish to pursue a career in writing, publishing, editing, teaching and related areas. Through an ongoing process of critical self-reflection, students will attain experience and abilities in linguistic and textual analysis, critical thought, writing and aesthetic appreciation that will contribute to their personal, academic and professional growth.

The requirements for an MA degree in English consist of 21 credit hours in courses numbered 300 or above, successful completion of a comprehensive examination, and a thesis along with any additional prerequisite courses determined by the department to make up for deficiencies in undergraduate preparation. General requirements for graduate study are found in the Admissions section of this catalogue and on the departmental website.

## MA in English Literature

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Students working for an MA degree in English Literature must complete ENGL 301A. Other literature courses are listed using one of the course numbers below (ENGL 302-315), with an additional letter suffix and course title reflecting the specific themes and readings of that course. Up to two courses with the same number but different letter suffixes and titles reflecting different themes and readings may be taken for credit.

In addition to ENGL 301A, students must take a minimum of one course in each of the following three categories: Literary History (courses in the range ENGL 302-305), Comparative Literature (courses in the range ENGL 306-309) and Literary and Cultural Studies (courses in the range ENGL 310-13). The remaining three courses may comprise any courses in English Literature with the additional provision that up to two may be taken in other programs or departments, subject to approval by the Department of English.

All students must complete the general requirements for graduate study detailed in the General University Academic Information section of this catalogue. Further details about the format of the comprehensive examination and the requirements of the thesis can be found on the departmental website.

## Literature Course Descriptions

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**ENGL 301A Introduction to Bibliography and Research Methods 3.0; 3 cr.**  
An introduction to bibliography and research methodologies in the study of literature, as well as elements of advanced literary theory. *Annually.*

### Literary History

**ENGL 302 Literatures of the Middle Ages 3.0; 3 cr.**  
**(A, B, C, D, E...)**  
A course that covers major works of medieval literature, with attention to both form and cultural context. Some attention may be given to texts' original languages. Themes and readings may vary from term to term. *Occasionally. May be repeated for credit for a maximum of 6 credits.*

**ENGL 303 Early Modern Literatures 3.0; 3 cr.**  
**(A, B, C, D, E...)**  
A course that covers major works of Renaissance literature, including theatre, with attention to both form and cultural context. Themes and readings may vary from term to term. *Occasionally. May be repeated for credit for a maximum of 6 credits.*

**ENGL 304 British Literatures 3.0; 3 cr.**  
**(A, B, C, D, E...)**  
A course that covers major works of British literature, including theatre, from the 18th century to the contemporary period. Themes and readings may vary from term to term. *Occasionally. May be repeated for credit for a maximum of 6 credits.*

**ENGL 305 American Literatures 3.0; 3 cr.**  
**(A, B, C, D, E...)**

A course that covers major works of American literature, including theatre and film, with some emphasis given to relations among the wide array of American literary traditions. Themes and readings may vary from term to term. *Occasionally. May be repeated for credit for a maximum of 6 credits.*

## Comparative Literature

**ENGL 306 Transnational Literatures 3.0; 3 cr.**  
**(A, B, C, D, E...)**

A course exploring relationships among texts, including theatre, film, and other narrative and visual forms, emerging from a range of different locales, with an emphasis on historical contexts of migration, diaspora and crisis. Themes and readings may vary from term to term. *Occasionally. May be repeated for credit for a maximum of 6 credits.*

**ENGL 307 Colonial and Postcolonial Literatures 3.0; 3 cr.**  
**(A, B, C, D, E...)**

A course exploring relationships among texts that circulate between the colonized and formerly colonized world, and sites of imperial and neo-imperial power. Themes and readings may vary from term to term. *Occasionally. May be repeated for credit for a maximum of 6 credits.*

**ENGL 308 Literatures of the Global South 3.0; 3 cr.**  
**(A, B, C, D, E...)**

A course exploring relationships among texts that circulate through networks that link different sites of the colonized and formerly colonized world. Themes and readings may vary from term to term. *Occasionally. May be repeated for credit for a maximum of 6 credits.*

**ENGL 309 World Literatures 3.0; 3 cr.**  
**(A, B, C, D, E...)**

A course exploring relationships among significant texts from different origins, time periods and genres, as well as their resonance in global contexts via translation, adaptation and rewriting. Themes and readings may vary from term to term. *Occasionally. May be repeated for credit for a maximum of 6 credits.*

## Literary and Cultural Studies

**ENGL 310 Literature, Technology and Media 3.0; 3 cr.**  
**(A, B, C, D, E...)**

A course exploring relationships between established (e.g. theatre, print, film and visual media) and emergent media, and the changing conventions of genre, period and form. Themes and readings may vary from term to term, and might include interrogations of the histories of cinematic, theatrical and literary culture. *Occasionally. May be repeated for credit for a maximum of 6 credits.*

**ENGL 311 Literature and Material Culture 3.0; 3 cr.**  
**(A, B, C, D, E...)**  
 A course exploring relationships between literary culture and the physical manifestations of culture in made objects. Themes and readings may vary from term to term, and might include examinations of capitalism and consumer culture as manifest in the representation of the domestic interior; or relations between the visual arts and literary, theatrical or cinematic representation. *Occasionally. May be repeated for credit for a maximum of 6 credits.*

**ENGL 312 Literature, Gender and Sexuality 3.0; 3 cr.**  
**(A, B, C, D, E...)**  
 A course exploring literary cultures from the perspectives of gender and sexuality as interpretive frameworks and representational strategies. Themes and readings may vary from term to term, and might include considerations of third world feminisms, gender and performance theory, queer and post-queer theory. *Occasionally. May be repeated for credit for a maximum of 6 credits.*

**ENGL 313 Literature and Translation 3.0; 3 cr.**  
**(A, B, C, D, E...)**  
 A course exploring translation as a technology of literary production and meaning-making. Works in translation will be considered through the lens of theories of translation and their practical applications. Themes and readings may vary from term to term. *Occasionally. May be repeated for credit for a maximum of 6 credits.*

## Additional Course Options

**ENGL 314 Special Topics in Literature 3.0; 3 cr.**  
**(A, B, C, D, E...)**  
 A course offered to students on an individual basis. The topic can include any aspect of literary study. Themes and readings may vary from term to term. *Occasionally. May be repeated for credit for a maximum of 6 credits.*

**ENGL 315 Graduate Tutorial in Literature 3.0; 3 cr.**  
**(A, B, C, D, E...)**  
 A course offered to students on an individual basis. The topic can include any aspect of literary study. Themes and readings may vary from term to term. *Occasionally.*

**ENGL 395A/B Comprehensive Exam 0 cr.**  
*Prerequisite: Consent of advisor.*

**ENGL 399 MA Thesis 9 cr.**

## MA in English Language

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Students working for an MA degree in English Language must take ENGL 301B, ENGL 327, ENGL 341 or ENGL 342; and ENGL 345. Two additional elective English Language graduate courses from among those offered in the department must be taken. Students must take a further graduate course, which may be from outside the English language course offerings, subject to approval by the Department of English. Students working for the degree of MA in the Teaching of English as a Foreign Language (TEFL) should refer to the Department of Education catalogue section.

All students must complete the general requirements for graduate study detailed in the General University Academic Information section of this catalogue. Further details about the format of the comprehensive examination and the requirements of the thesis can be found on the departmental website.

### Language Course Descriptions

**ENGL 301B Introduction to Bibliography and Research Methods 3.0; 3 cr.**  
An introduction to bibliography and research methodologies in the study of language. *Annually.*

**ENGL 326 Advanced Translation Theory and Practice 3.0; 3 cr.**  
A close examination of major translation theories, both traditional and linguistic, and an application of these theories to the practice of translation, both literary and technical, in Arabic and English. *Annually.*

**ENGL 327 Sociolinguistics 3.0; 3 cr.**  
A course intended to provide in-depth analysis of issues related to the study of the interaction between language and society. This course covers such topics as geographical and social dialects, multilingualism, language and gender, ethnography of speaking, discourse analysis, language planning and language attitudes. *Annually.*

**ENGL 329 Grammatical Studies in Old and Middle English Literature 3.0; 3 cr.**  
A close reading and grammatical examination of selected texts in the original. Exact content to be determined by the instructor. *Occasionally.*

**ENGL 341 Phonology 3.0; 3 cr.**  
A survey of theories of phonological description including phonemics, distinctive features and generative phonology; an application of these theories to actual linguistic data from various languages with concentration by each student on one specific problem. *Annually.*

**ENGL 342 Theoretical Linguistics 3.0; 3 cr.**  
A study of readings in advanced grammar that have contributed to the formulation of theories of language description; e.g. transformational grammar, stratificational grammar, generative semantics, pragmatics, government and binding. *Annually.*

**ENGL 344 Graduate Tutorial in Linguistics 3.0; 3 cr.**  
**(A, B, C, D, E...)**

A tutorial offered to students on an individual basis. The topics can include any aspect of the study of linguistics that both instructor and student agree upon. *Occasionally.*

**ENGL 345 Language Acquisition 3.0; 3 cr.**

A survey of studies in first and second language acquisition. Emphasis is placed on stages of acquisition and the strategies used by children in acquiring their native language. Comparisons between first and second language acquisition are drawn with implications for language teaching. *Annually.*

**ENGL 346 Issues in Applied Linguistics 3.0; 3 cr.**

**(A, B, C, D, E...)**

A course whose topic varies from term to term. The course deals with major topics and issues in language study such as multilingualism and multiculturalism, assessment and evaluation, language and education, and intercultural communication. *Annually.*

**ENGL 395A/B Comprehensive Exam 0 cr.**

*Prerequisite: Consent of advisor.*

**ENGL 399 MA Thesis 9 cr.**