JOIN OUR COMMUNITY OF SCHOLARSHIP AND RESEARCH
Villanova has been granting its master’s degree in English for more than half a century. We wed this sense of history with a keen awareness of the contemporary, interdisciplinary spirit of literary study. The curriculum balances a traditional, historical understanding of literary periods with newer, theoretically-based considerations of writing and reading.

As a student in Villanova University’s graduate program in English, you will:
• Explore literary texts produced from the medieval period to the present
• Become familiar with the major intellectual currents shaping the discipline of literary study today
• Develop refined interpretive skills
• Consider the primary texts in their historical, theoretical and critical contexts

WHAT CAN YOU DO WITH A VILLANOVA MASTER’S DEGREE IN ENGLISH?
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You will find details regarding admission and degree requirements at gradenglish.villanova.edu.

Master’s Program in English
Your course work in the Master’s Program in English will cover a broad range of literary texts in various historical periods and genres, and your thesis or field examination will provide focus in a particular field. The thesis option provides an opportunity for sustained critical examination of a single author’s work, a specific literary movement, or a distinctive literary theme. The field examination option requires mastery of a list of works compiled in consultation with your advisor on a field of your own definition.

Post-Master’s Certificate
You may be interested in this program if you have already attained a master’s degree (in English or Education) and wish to continue your graduate study. You may take five courses in a curriculum that you design to meet your professional interests and needs.
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Recent course offerings include:

- Methods and Problems in Studying Shakespeare
- Ulysses
- American Poetry, 1950 – present
- Topics in Modern British Literature
- American Slave Narrative
- Mass Culture and the Modern American Novel
- Feminist Fiction and Feminist Theory
- The Harlem Renaissance
- Critical Theory
- Eighteenth-Century British Fiction
- Charting the Self in Postmodern American Poetry
- Romanticism and History
- Yeats and Irish Culture
- African-American Poetics and the Novel
- Seventeenth-Century Poetry and Prose
- Nineteenth-Century British Fiction
- Virginia Woolf, Novelist and Feminist
- American Gothic
- New England Transcendentalism
- Freaking Swift and Franklin
- Topics in Modern American Literature: Call and Response
- Postmodern Narrative
- Post-Colonial African Literature and Theory

FACULTY

The professors in the graduate English faculty balance an active scholarly life with a deep commitment to teaching. Several have won or been short-listed for the prestigious Lindback Teaching Award, an annual honor that designates a single professor among the over 500 at the university as the most outstanding teacher. Others have recently completed scholarly books that reflect the department’s active participation in shaping the discipline.

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