MASTER OF ARTS ENGLISH LITERATURE SPECIALIZATION IN FEMINIST AND GENDER STUDIES

(This program is offered in English only.)

The Department of English offers the degrees of Master of Arts (with coursework, major research paper, or thesis) and Doctor of Philosophy in English. Both programs equip students to pursue advanced studies in British, Canadian, or American literature informed by a broad knowledge of literary history and by recent developments in literary criticism and cultural theory. The department is well known for its annual Canadian Literature Symposium, and its faculty is distinguished and well-published. The Ontario Council on Graduate Studies (OCGS) has consistently awarded the department the council’s highest rating.

The department also offers a CO-OP option at the master’s level that students can apply to add to either the coursework or the major research paper program.

The department participates in the collaborative programs in Feminist and Gender Studies and in Medieval and Renaissance Studies at the Master’s level, and in the collaborative program in Canadian Studies at the PhD level. For more information on these programs, see “Program Requirements”.

The Collaborative program in Feminist and Gender Studies at the master’s level is designed for students from selected disciplines in arts, education, health sciences, law, social sciences, and counselling and spirituality (Saint Paul University), who have an interest in Feminist and Gender Studies. These students have the opportunity to combine advanced studies in their primary program with analyses from a Feminist and Gender Studies perspective. The degree awarded is a master’s degree in the primary program with a ‘specialization in Feminist and Gender Studies’.

The programs are governed by the academic regulations (http://www.grad.ottawa.ca/Default.aspx?tabid=1807/) in effect for graduate studies. Please note, however, that any course fulfilling a graduate degree requirement in English must be completed with a mark of B+ or higher. A student whose record shows any two grades lower than a mark of B will automatically be withdrawn from the program. Most graduate courses in the Department of English at the University of Ottawa carry three units. Requirements are stated in number of units.

Admission Requirements

For the most accurate and up to date information on application deadlines, language tests and other admission requirements, please visit the specific requirements (https://www.ottawa.ca/graduate-studies/programs-admission/apply/specific-requirements/) webpage.

- The MA program is intended to refine the critical and scholarly skills of high-achieving graduates from undergraduate honours programs. An honours BA in English literature with a minimum high second class standing of B+ is normally required. A 500-word statement of interest in the program is required with the application. Students applying for the MA with thesis option should submit a sample of their academic writing, such as an essay written for an undergraduate English course.
- Students who have completed a BA or equivalent degree with a minimum of six full courses in English with an average of 75 per cent (B+) may be admitted to a qualifying year which normally comprises 30 units selected to ensure coverage of the major fields of English literature. These courses must be successfully completed in each case with a mark of B+ or higher. By special permission one or two graduate courses may be substituted for the equivalent number of undergraduate courses. After the requirements of the qualifying year have been satisfactorily fulfilled, students may apply for admission to the regular MA program. Such admission will depend on the quality of their overall record.

Collaborative Programs

The Department of English is a participating unit in the collaborative programs in Feminist and Gender Studies (master’s level only) and in Medieval and Renaissance Studies (master’s level only). Students should indicate in their initial application for admission to the master’s program in English that they wish to be accepted into one of the collaborative programs.

To be accepted in the Collaborative program in Feminist and Gender Studies at the master’s level, applicants must first be accepted to the master’s program in a participating program. Successful applicants will normally hold an honours degree or the equivalent and have a minimum average of 70 per cent (B). They must also have a background in Feminist and Gender Studies, that is, a minimum of two undergraduate level courses or one graduate level course on women, gender, feminism or sexualities. Students who do not have an adequate background may be eligible to our Special Policy for Admissions.

Applications for admission to the Collaborative program in Feminist and Gender Studies at the master’s level are submitted at the same time as the application for admission to the Master’s program of the relevant discipline. Only one application for admission is required for the collaborative Master’s program. In exceptional cases, students could commence their specialization in Feminist and Gender Studies in their second term of their primary program.

The letter of intention submitted with the application should include a clear account of the “Feminist and Gender Studies” dimension in the proposed topic of research.

Program Requirements

The Department offers two options for the MA:

A two year thesis program and a one-year major research paper, to which a CO-OP option can be added.

The completion times above are for the full-time students. Part-time students may take up to four years to complete the MA program, but are not eligible for scholarship support.

The MA Program no longer requires students to demonstrate competence in a language other than English.

Requirements for this program have been modified. Please consult the 2019-2020 calendars (http://catalogue.ottawa.ca/en/archives/) for the previous requirements.

Master's with Thesis Option

Compulsory Courses:
- ENG 6302 Research Methodology 1.5 Units
- ENG 6303 Professional Development 1.5 Units
- FEM 5103 Feminist Methodologies 3 Units
- FEM 5300 Feminist Theories 3 Units

Optional Courses:
- 9 course units in women's studies (FEM) at the 6000 or 7000 level 9 Units

Thesis Proposal:
- ENG 7997 M. Thesis Proposal

Thesis:
- THM 7999 Master's Thesis

Note(s)
- Students must complete all compulsory courses before their first enrollment for the thesis.
- The thesis must be on a topic related to women, gender, feminism or sexualities. The proposed topic must be approved by the Feminist and Gender Studies Graduate Committee as well as by the student's primary program. The thesis must demonstrate knowledge of feminist scholarship in the field or fields appropriate to the topic, and of feminist methodologies where applicable.
- The thesis supervisor must possess Feminist and Gender Studies expertise. In the case of a major research paper, the supervisor should, ideally, possess Feminist and Gender Studies expertise. If not, one of the readers must possess such expertise. Joint supervision by a professor from the participating unit and a professor chosen by the Feminist and Gender Studies Graduate Committee may be appropriate in some cases.
- Thesis : The thesis proposal must be approved by the Feminist and Gender Studies Graduate Committee as well as by the primary program. Usually the thesis or major research paper proposal is submitted to Feminist and Gender Studies by the end of the third term of the first year of studies. For the primary programs that do not require a proposal, students must still submit a proposal to the Feminist and Gender Studies Graduate Committee.
- Examiner or Reader: One of the examiners must be a person approved by the Feminist and Gender Studies Graduate Committee.

Master's with Research Paper

Compulsory Courses:
- ENG 6302 Research Methodology 1.5 Units
- ENG 6303 Professional Development 1.5 Units
- FEM 5103 Feminist Methodologies 3.0 Units
- FEM 5300 Feminist Theories 3 Units

Optional Courses:
- 9 elective course units in English (ENG) at the graduate level

Research Paper:
- ENG 6999 Major Research Paper

Note(s)
1 The Majors Research Paper should be about 12,000 words. The major research paper must demonstrate knowledge of feminist scholarship in the field or fields appropriate to the topic, and of feminist methodologies where applicable.

CO-OP Option (for Research Paper)

CO-OP students must enroll full-time and complete two work terms:

Compulsory Work Terms
- ACP 6001 Co-op Work Term 6 Units
- ACP 6002 Co-op Work Term 6 Units

Each work term is graded P/F (Pass or Fail), based on the employer’s report and on a written report completed by the student. (The report must be 30 pages, including appendices.) The report is evaluated by the professor in charge of the graduate CO-OP option in English.

The units awarded for CO-OP work terms may not be used to obtain equivalences for other courses. In other words, the CO-OP units are additional to the minimum requirements of the degree.

To remain in the CO-OP option, students must:
- Be enrolled full-time.
- Maintain a 7.0 cumulative grade point average.
- Obtain a satisfactory grade (P) for each CO-OP work term.

Duration of Program

Students are expected to complete all requirements within two years. The thesis must be submitted within four years of the date of initial enrollment in the program.

Minimum Standards

The passing grade in all courses is B. Students who fail two courses (equivalent to 6 units) must withdraw from the program.

Research

Research Fields & Facilities

Located in the heart of Canada's capital, a few steps away from Parliament Hill, the University of Ottawa is among Canada's top 10 research universities.

uOttawa focuses research strengths and efforts in four Strategic Areas of Development in Research (SADRs):
- Canada and the World
- Health
- e-Society
- Molecular and Environmental Sciences

With cutting-edge research, our graduate students, researchers and educators strongly influence national and international priorities.

Research at the Faculty of Arts

The Faculty of Arts is proud of the state of the art research conducted by its professors. In the spirit of showcasing its research to the university community as well as to the general public, the Faculty has created three
Facilities, Research Centres and Institutes at the Faculty of Arts


For more information, refer to the list of faculty members and their research fields on Uniweb.

IMPORTANT: Candidates and students looking for professors to supervise their thesis or research project can also consult the website of the faculty or department (https://www.uottawa.ca/graduate-studies/students/academic-unit-contact-information/) of their program of choice. Uniweb does not list all professors authorized to supervise research projects at the University of Ottawa.

Courses

ENG 6111 Directed Readings I (3 units)
Course Component: Research

ENG 6112 Directed Readings II (3 units)
Course Component: Research

ENG 6300 Old English I (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

ENG 6301 Old English II (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

ENG 6302 Research Methodology (1.5 unit)
Preparation of students for the professional study of English and for the application of graduate level research skills to non-academic careers. Review and analysis of electronic and print research tools and methods. Internet database searches, both in the discipline of English as well as in related fields (such as history, philosophy, and sociology), and evaluation of Internet sites. Short assignments developing skills in academic and non-academic research. Preparation of grant applications and of the thesis proposal (for students in the MA with thesis program). Graded S (Satisfactory) / NS (Not satisfactory). Offered in the fall session.

Course Component: Seminar

ENG 6303 Professional Development (1.5 unit)
Preparation of students for careers involving graduate level research and communication skills, including teaching, university research, and non-academic careers. Introduction to academic and non-academic professional activities: writing and publishing scholarly articles, and research reports, disseminating research results through academic and non-academic presentations, networking, participation in conferences and professional associations, and career planning for both academic and non-academic career paths for holders of graduate degrees. Sessions to be devoted to the practice of teaching, covering such topics as syllabus construction, teaching 'styles,' classroom management, teaching dossiers, student evaluation, and the application of teaching skills to non-academic goals such as presentations and team-building. Graded S (Satisfactory) / NS (Not satisfactory). Offered in the winter session.

Course Component: Seminar

ENG 6304 Doctoral Research Methods (3 units)
Overview of theoretical, methodological, and critical approaches to literary studies to enable students to situate their own research within the discipline.

Course Component: Seminar

ENG 6310 Middle English Literature I (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

ENG 6313 Directed Reading (3 units)
Course Component: Research

ENG 6320 Middle English Literature (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

ENG 6321 Middle English Literature III (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

ENG 6322 Middle English Literature IV (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

ENG 6330 Renaissance Literature I (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

ENG 6341 Shakespeare I (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

ENG 6342 Shakespeare II (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

ENG 6343 Shakespeare III (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

ENG 6344 Shakespeare IV (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

ENG 6350 Renaissance Literature II (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

ENG 6351 Renaissance Literature III (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

ENG 6352 Renaissance Literature IV (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

ENG 6355 Restoration Literature (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

ENG 6356 Restoration Literature II (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

ENG 6357 Restoration Literature III (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

ENG 6360 Eighteenth Century Literature I (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

ENG 6361 Eighteenth Century Literature II (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

ENG 6362 Eighteenth-Century Literature III (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

ENG 6363 Eighteenth-Century Literature IV (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

ENG 6370 Romantic Literature I (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

ENG 6371 Romantic Literature II (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

ENG 6372 Romantic Literature III (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

ENG 6373 Romantic Literature IV (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar
ENG 6380 Victorian Literature I (3 units)
Course Component: Lecture

ENG 6381 Victorian Literature II (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

ENG 6382 Victorian Literature III (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

ENG 6383 Victorian Literature IV (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

ENG 6999 Major Research Paper
The research paper is prepared under the direction of the research paper supervisor and is approved by the graduate committee. The research paper must be successfully completed by the end of the third session of full-time registration in the master's program. In the event of failure, the student must register for an additional session. A second failure leads to a grade of NS (Not satisfactory) on the transcript and to withdrawal from the program.

Volet / Course Component: Recherche / Research
Prerequisites: 15 units at the 5000, 6000, 7000 or 8000 level

ENG 7300 Modern Literature I (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

ENG 7301 Modern Literature II (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

ENG 7302 Modern Literature III (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

ENG 7303 Literature and History of the Disciplines (3 units)
Various topics related to the history of the study of literature and how it has intersected with other fields. Specific topics will be announced each year.

Course Component: Seminar

ENG 7310 American Literature I (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

ENG 7311 American Literature II (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

ENG 7312 American Literature III (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

ENG 7313 American Literature IV (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

ENG 7320 Canadian Literature I (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

ENG 7321 Canadian Literature II (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

ENG 7322 Canadian Literature III (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

ENG 7323 Canadian Literature IV (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

ENG 7330 Twentieth-Century and Contemporary Literature I (3 units)
Various topics related to twentieth-century and contemporary literature up to the present day. Specific topics will be announced each year.

Course Component: Seminar

ENG 7331 Twentieth-Century and Contemporary Literature II (3 units)
Various topics related to twentieth-century and contemporary literature up to the present moment. Specific topics will be announced each year.

Course Component: Seminar

ENG 7332 Cultural Studies I (3 units)
Various topics in cultural studies. Specific topics will be announced each year.

Course Component: Seminar

ENG 7370 History of the English Language (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

ENG 7375 Cultural Studies II (3 units)
Various topics in cultural studies. Specific topics will be announced each year.

Course Component: Seminar

ENG 7376 Book History I (3 units)
Various topics in book history. Specific topics will be announced each year.

Course Component: Seminar

ENG 7377 Book History II (3 units)
Various topics in book history. Specific topics will be announced each year.

Course Component: Seminar

ENG 7378 Digital Humanities II (3 units)
Various topics in digital humanities. Specific topics will be announced each year.

Course Component: Seminar

ENG 7379 Digital Humanities III (3 units)
Various topics in digital humanities. Specific topics will be announced each year.

Course Component: Seminar

ENG 7380 History of Criticism (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

ENG 7381 Theory of Criticism (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

ENG 7382 Digital Humanities I (3 units)
Various topics in digital humanities. Specific topics will be announced each year.

Course Component: Seminar

ENG 7383 Digital Humanities II (3 units)
Various topics in digital humanities. Specific topics will be announced each year.

Course Component: Seminar

ENG 7384 Theory of Criticism II (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

ENG 7385 Theory of Criticism III (3 units)
Course Component: Seminar

ENG 7390 Second Language Requirement
In keeping with the bilingual character of the University, the PhD program has a French language requirement. Students may satisfy this requirement by passing FLS 1000, the test administered by the Official Languages and Bilingualism Institute, or the departmental language test. The departmental tests are one-hour examinations which require the candidate to translate, with the aid of a dictionary, a passage of literary criticism or another appropriate selection of similar difficulty approximately one page in length. Language testing of languages other than French is normally administered by the Department. Students may also satisfy the language requirement by passing six units of second-year university-level language course(s). These courses are additional to the 18 units required for the degree. In all cases, the minimum passing grade is 66% and leads to an S (Satisfactory) on the transcript for ENG 7900.

NOTE: Students who achieve 65% or higher at the MA level will not be required to retake the test if they continue on to the PhD.

Volet / Course Component: Recherche / Research

This course analyses the diverse body of feminist scholarship theorizing conceptions of gender, power and representation. Examining the construction and representation of gender/sex differences, the course explores the power relations inherent in these representations, while also examining how gender roles and expectations are linked to representations of class, race, sexuality, age, nationality and ability.

Course Component: Seminar

FEM 6102 Women, Rights and Citizenship in a Globalized World (3 units)
This course examines women’s rights and citizenship; gender and development; and gender, migration and health in the context of globalization. Topics include the following: mainstreaming gender and health development; initiatives bringing feminist Southern voices across the world; health consequences of the massive incorporation of Third World women into a transnational labour force; women’s agency and resistance; social capital and pluralism in health services and health care.

Course Component: Seminar

FEM 6103 Directed Readings (3 units)
Course Component: Research

FEM 6104 Intersectional Perspectives on Environmental Change (3 units)
Intersectional perspectives (feminist, Indigenous, queer and others) of the politics of environmental change focusing on relationships between gender, race, class and the environment in classical and contemporary literature. Possible topics include climate activism, Indigenous peoples’ sovereignty and autonomy; environmental and reproductive justice movements; the social determinants of health; human, animal and land rights; food security and food sovereignty.

Course Component: Lecture

FEM 6105 Anti-Colonial and Anti-Racist Feminisms (3 units)
In-depth exploration of anti-colonial and anti-racist feminist theories and activism. Possible topics include: Black feminism theories; intersectionality; critiques of whiteness; mobility and migration; anti-Black racism; Islamophobia; Indigenous epistemologies; critical settler studies; decolonial, postcolonial and anticolonial feminisms; reproductive justice; environmental racism.

Course Component: Lecture

FEM 6106 Feminist Disability Studies (3 units)
Exploration of key debates in burgeoning field of feminist disability studies. Themes include: emergence of feminist contributions to field of critical disability studies; changing contours of disability activism rooted in recognition of interlocking systems of oppression; intersectional analyses of disability, including cultural and artistic representations; notions of embodiment and ‘cripped’ subjectivities; disability politics in its broader political and social environment.

Course Component: Lecture

FEM 6107 Critical Muslim Studies (3 units)
Exploration of feminist and anti-racist approaches to the global “war on terror” and its specific impacts on diverse Muslim people and communities. Possible topics include: critiques of hegemonic discourses of terror; gendered impacts on Muslim women; cultural production about and by Muslims post 9-11; surveillance, policing and socio-legal studies; racial justice in settler colonial contexts; transnational circulation of anti-Muslim racism; Orientalism and anti-Black racism; experiences of LGTBQ+ Muslims.

Course Component: Lecture

FEM 6500 Thèmes spéciaux en études féministes (3 crédits)
Volet : Cours magistral
FEM 6501 Rapports sociaux de sexe, pouvoir et représentations (3 crédits)
Ce cours analyse les diverses théories féministes qui visent à formaliser les concepts de genre, de pouvoir et de représentation. Les représentations des différences entre les genres/sexe y sont abordées sous l'angle de leur construction sociale, ainsi que des rapports de pouvoir qui leur sont intrinsèquement liés. Le cours examinera également la façon dont les rôles et les attentes quant au genre sont aussi façonnés par des représentations concernant la classe, « la race » et l'éthnicité, la sexualité, l'âge, la nationalité et la présence/absence de handicap.
Volet : Séminaire

FEM 6502 Femmes, droits et citoyenneté dans un monde globalisé (3 crédits)
Ce cours englobe les domaines d'études connexes touchant aux droits des femmes et à la citoyenneté : genre et développement international; genre, migrations et santé dans un contexte mondialisé. Des sujets variés y sont abordés, qu'il s'agisse de l'intégration des rapports sociaux de sexe dans le développement de la santé, des initiatives novatrices permettant de faire entendre les voix féministes du sud ou encore des conséquences sur la santé de l'enrôlement massif des femmes du Tiers monde dans un marché du travail multinational et mondialisé. On s'intéressera aussi à l'agentivité et aux résistances de ces femmes, à leur capital social et au pluralisme en matière de services et de soins de santé.
Volet : Séminaire

FEM 6503 Lectures dirigées (3 crédits)
Volet : Recherche

FEM 6504 Perspectives intersectorielles sur les changements environnementaux (3 crédits)
Perspectives intersectorielles (féministes, autochtones, queer, anti-racistes et autres) sur les enjeux politiques des changements environnementaux explorant les relations entre genre, race, classe sociale, et environnement dans la littérature classique et contemporaine. Parmi les thématiques possibles : le militantisme climatique, la souveraineté et l'autonomie des peuples autochtones; les mouvements pour la justice environnementale et reproductive; les determinant socio-environnementaux de la santé; les droits humains, des animaux et territoriaux; la sécurité et la souveraineté alimentaires.
Volet : Cours magistral

FEM 6505 Féminismes anticOLONIAUX et antiracistes (3 crédits)
Exploration approfondie des théories et militantismes féministes anticoloniaux et antiracistes. Parmi les thématiques possibles : théories féministes noires; intersectionnalité; critiques de la blanchitée; mobilité et migration; racisme anticolonial; islamophobie; épistémologies autochtones; études critiques des colonies de peuplement; féminisme décolonial, postcolonial et anticolonial; justice reproductive; racisme environnemental.
Volet : Cours magistral

FEM 6506 Études féministes du handicap (3 crédits)
Exploration des débats centraux dans le champ des études féministes du handicap. Parmi les thématiques abordées : l'émergence des contributions féministes dans le champ des études féministes du handicap; les transformations du militantisme suite à la reconnaissance de l'imbrication des systèmes d'oppression; analyses intersectorielles du handicap, incluant dans les représentations culturelles et artistiques; notions de corporéité et de subjectivités 'crip'; la politique du handicap dans ses relations avec son contexte politique et social plus large.
Volet : Cours magistral

FEM 6507 Études critiques musulmanes (3 crédits)
Exploration d'approches féministes et antiracistes de la « guerre globale contre le terrorisme » et de ses impacts sur les diverses populations et communautés musulmanes. Parmi les thématiques possibles : critiques des discours hégémoniques sur la terreur; impacts en termes de genre sur les femmes musulmanes; productions culturelles relatives aux musulman.e.s après le 11 septembre; surveillance, maintien de l'ordre et études sociojuridiques; justice raciale dans le contexte des colonies de peuplement; circulation transnationale du racisme antisémite; orientalisme et racisme antiraciste; expériences des musulman.e.s LGBTQ+.
Volet : Cours magistral

FEM 6900 Thèmes spéciaux en études féministes / Special Topics in Feminist Studies (3 crédits / 3 units)
Volet / Course Component: Cours magistral / Lecture

FEM 6997 Projet de thèse de maîtrise / Master's Thesis Proposal
Master's Thesis Proposal
Volet / Course Component: Recherche / Research
Préalables : FEM 5503, FEM 5700 et 6 crédits de la banque de cours au choix. / Prerequisites: FEM 5103, FEM 5300 and 6 credit from the list of electives.

FEM 6999 Mémoire / Research Paper (6 crédits / 6 units)
Préalables : FEM 5503, FEM 5700 et 12 crédits de la banque de cours au choix. / Prerequisites: FEM 5103, FEM 5300 and 12 units from the list of electives.

FEM 8101 Seminar in Women's Studies (3 units)
This seminar deals with professional development (the preparation of grant applications, conference papers and articles), and reviews the central issues and debates of the discipline.
Course Component: Seminar
Prerequisites: FEM 5103 and FEM 5300. Reserved for students registered in the PhD program in Women's Studies.

FEM 8501 Séminaire en études des femmes (3 crédits)
Ce séminaire porte sur le développement professionnel (préparation de demandes de subvention, conférences, articles) et sur les enjeux principaux de la discipline.
Volet : Séminaire

FEM 9997 Projet de thèse de doctorat / Doctoral Thesis Proposal
Volet / Course Component: Recherche / Research
Préalable: FEM 9998 / Prerequisite: FEM 9998

FEM 9998 Examen de synthèse / Comprehensive Examination
Volet / Course Component: Recherche / Research