

Information for Applicants

[Online Application](#)

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The Vanderbilt Department of English admits and trains doctoral students across a broad span of literary and cultural studies. Members of our graduate faculty specialize in areas that range from the European Renaissance to contemporary world literatures, from antebellum American print culture to African American, Asian American, and Latina/o literatures and cultures, from film and digital studies through global Anglophone literatures to hemispheric American and Caribbean literatures and cultures. The work of our graduate students reflects this diverse array of resources: current students focus on early modern European literatures (sixteenth through eighteenth centuries), Victorian literature, global modernism, early American literature, literatures of the Americas, literatures of the African diaspora, and Latin American literatures of the 19th and 20th centuries. Methodological approaches are similarly diverse and often cross more traditional categories of period, genre, and nationality. We have students who frame their dissertations through the history of medicine, theories of gender and sexuality, hemispheric studies, intersections of law and literature, postcolonial studies, performance theory, and digital media.

Our doctoral program offers the following degrees:

- Ph.D. in English Literature
- M.A.*

* The Vanderbilt English Department does not typically offer a terminal [Master of Arts degree](#). Doctoral students normally earn the M.A. degree after their first 30 hours graduate study.

The application deadline for Fall 2019 admission is December 15, 2018.

The Graduate School application fee is \$95.00. For information on how to apply and on fee waivers, see <http://gradschool.vanderbilt.edu/admissions/application/index.php>

Critical components of the completed electronic application for the Ph.D. Program include:

- Statement of Purpose
- Writing Sample (maximum length - 25 pages) – no Creative Writing
- Three letters of recommendation (up to five letters permitted)
- Unofficial college transcript(s) uploaded to the application. Official transcripts are required if you are admitted.
- GRE general test scores (not older than five years)
- GRE codes: Vanderbilt University - 1871; the Department of English - 2501

Note: The GRE subject test is no longer required by the Department of English.

Please contact the English Department's Graduate Program Coordinator, [Anna Jones](#), if you have any questions about the application process.