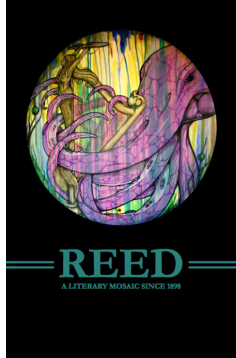


## Opportunities

- Be trained through our Graduate Assistant and Teaching Associate program and teach your own class at the University in our Rhetoric and Composition program. Applications due April 1st.
- Work at the Writing Center tutoring young writers to wield the power of the English language for self expression and academic success.
- Assist at the Steinbeck Center, the greatest repository of works on the writings and life of John Steinbeck in the world.
- Meet famous writers and develop your organizing skills by working for the Center for Literary Arts.
- Help to edit the oldest literary journal west of the Mississippi, our own *Reed Magazine*.
- Assist in the publication of a peer-reviewed online scholarly journal, *Asian American Literature: Discourses & Pedagogies*.



## Our Alumni

PhDs:

Our alumni from the MA program have gone on to doctoral programs at UCLA, Stanford, UC Santa Cruz, UC Davis, University of Washington, UC Santa Barbara, the University of Buffalo, the University of Mississippi, and the University of Chicago, among others.

Teaching:

Our alumni have gone on to distinguished careers as both public and private secondary school teachers, and as both community college and university instructors.

Other Careers:

Our alumni have used their writing skills in a variety of publishing and public relations positions, including lucrative careers in professional writing for the tech industry.



SJSU | DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH AND  
COMPARATIVE LITERATURE

English MA Program  
San José State University  
One Washington Square  
San Jose, CA 95192-0090

# The MA in English at San José State University

Where the literary  
*past*

*meets the literary  
future.*

The MA is a 30-unit program that provides students with a broad knowledge of literary history, hones writing and analytical skills, and offers training in both professional literary research and the teaching of writing.

SJSU SAN JOSÉ STATE  
UNIVERSITY

*“When I finished my BA, my education felt incomplete. But when I got my MA at SJSU, my whole world changed.”*

- Georgia Saratsiotis, college instructor

• San José State University is situated in the heart of Silicon Valley at the southern end of the vibrant cultural mecca of the San Francisco Bay Area.

• The MA program is committed to providing broad coverage of our literary heritage and ensures this through a variety of coursework and the comprehensive examinations which complete the degree.

• The SJSU English Department hosts both the MA, focused on literary analysis, and the MFA, focused on literary production; intertwined coursework allows students from each program to meet and learn from each other.

• The Center for Literary Arts brings contemporary authors to campus on a regular basis so that students get to meet publishing writers and stay up on current literary trends. Over the years these visits have included some of the most recognizable names in literature, such as Salmon Rushdie, E.L. Doctorow, Junot Diaz, Dorothy Allison, J.M. Coetzee, Tony Kurshner, David Henry Hwang, Adrienne Rich, Arthur Miller, and Toni Morrison.

• The Lurie Chair brings an actively publishing author to campus to teach for the Spring semester, including Ursula LeGuin, Simon Winchester, Ishmael Reed, Sandra Gilbert, Daniel Alarcon, and Andrew Lam, among many other writers from a range of genres.

• The SJSU English Department also has a Certificate Program in Career and Technical Writing as well as a Single Subject Credential Program which some students attend in addition to their MA.

*“The MA program taught me valuable analytical skills and gave me the knowledge I needed to feel like a young scholar, which in turn gave me the confidence to apply for and get into a PhD program.”*

- David Coad, PhD candidate at UC Davis

## *The MA Program*

To earn the degree, students complete 10 classes (30 units), satisfy a foreign language requirement, and take the two-part comprehensive exams that cover students' knowledge of literary analysis and literary history from the classical to the contemporary period.

Graduate classes offered in the last few years have run the gamut from Beowulf taught in the original Old English to classes in Digital Humanities and Contemporary Composition Pedagogy, from Mythology to Critical Theory, Detective Fiction to Modernism, California Literature to Postcolonial World Literature.

Graduate-level courses are offered one day a week in the evenings so that they fit in well with the schedules of working adults (meeting at 4 and 7 p.m., Monday-Thursday).

MA students have the option of writing a thesis which counts for 6 units or 20% of one's coursework. Thus, with only one required class, MA students have the option of 20% of their education being completely unique to their own educational interests, and another 70% made up of elective courses of their own choosing. Therefore each MA degree can be customized to fit an individual student's interests.

In addition, MA students may also sign up for the Creative Writing Workshops in Poetry, Fiction, and Nonfiction offered to students in the MFA program.

Classes in literature from the medieval to the contemporary period are taught in small classes of no more than sixteen students by faculty who can provide students with personal attention.

*“The MA program at SJSU both welcomed me and challenged me. I found a community of friends and colleagues that I am a part of to this day, and it taught me a pivotal lesson for academia, pedagogy, and life - something I didn't realize I had a shallow understanding of until I started the program: the importance of good writing.”*

- Sara Cook, university lecturer

## *Applying*

We invite you to apply by submitting an application to the online CSU mentor site by **April 1 for Fall Admission**. The online application will require you to submit a statement of purpose and to have your transcripts sent to SJSU's Graduate Admissions office (GAPE). In addition to the requirements of the online application, you will also need to send a writing sample (5-20 pages) directly to the MA adviser:



Noelle Brada-Williams  
Graduate Coordinator  
One Washington Square Hall  
San José State University  
San Jose, CA 95112-0090

For additional questions, email the MA Adviser at:  
Noelle.Brada-Williams@sjsu.edu

MA in English:  
<http://www.sjsu.edu/english/graduate/ma/>

For information on applying and Spring admissions deadlines:  
[http://www.sjsu.edu/gape/prospective\\_students/domestic/](http://www.sjsu.edu/gape/prospective_students/domestic/)

*“The MA program gave me the opportunity to deepen the understandings I had gained during my undergraduate work, and my TAs hip gave me an appreciation for language that has helped me in every aspect of my job in the tech world.”* – Crystle Bruno, communications manager for a Silicon Valley tech firm