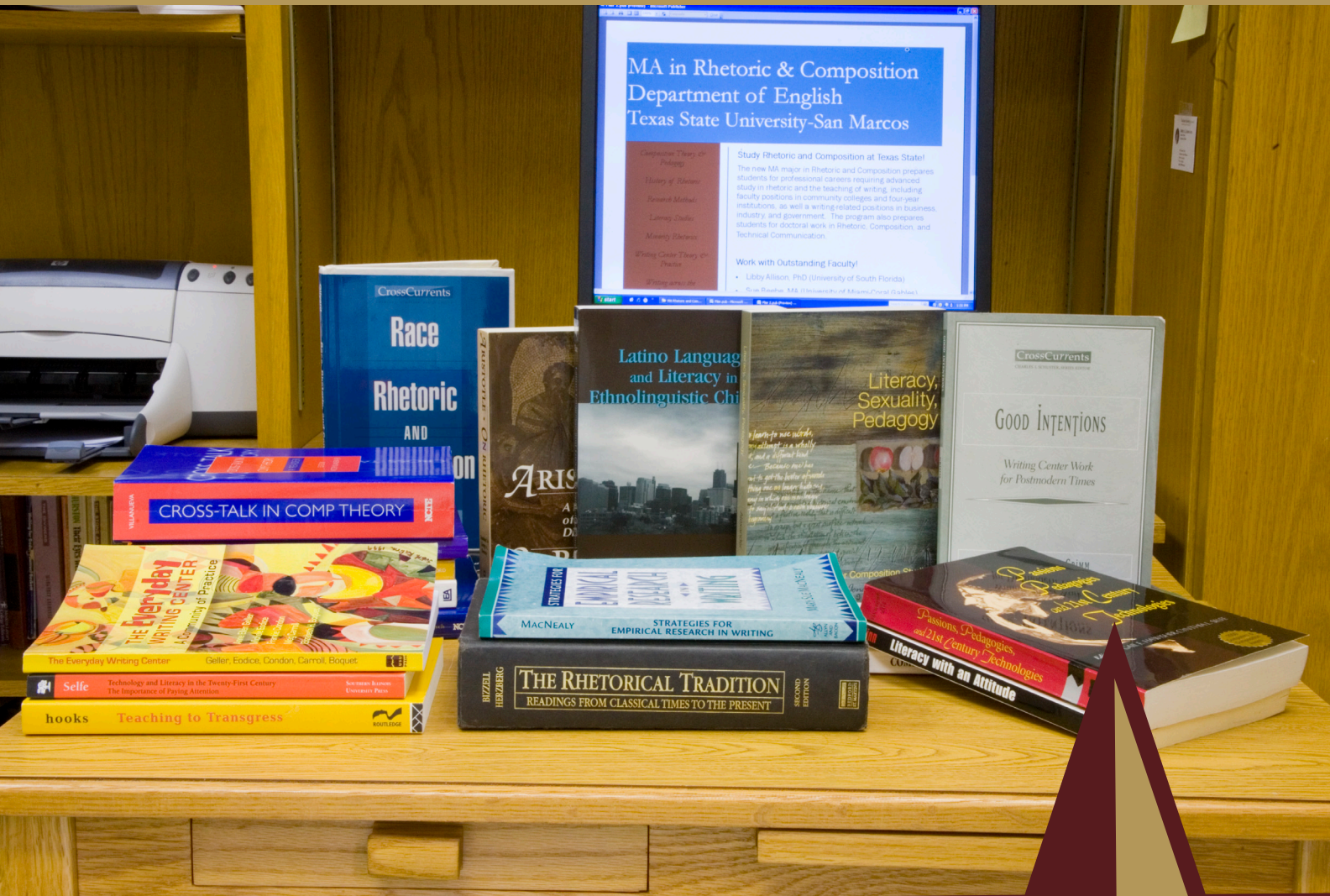


Rhetoric & Composition



As a Master of Arts (MA) student in Texas State University's Rhetoric and Composition program, you will join a vibrant and supportive community of faculty and students dedicated to the study of written discourse and the teaching of writing within and across social, cultural, institutional, and technological contexts.

You will be invited to develop a course of study that combines foundational knowledge in the history and theory of rhetoric, composition theory and pedagogy, and research methods with focused study in areas that best suit your own needs and future goals. These areas range from minority rhetorics and writing center studies to teaching with technology and basic writing theory and practice.

Your degree in rhetoric and composition will prepare you to teach writing in high school, community college, and university settings; develop and administer writing programs and writing centers in these settings; train teachers of writing; enter doctoral programs in rhetoric and composition, and write for business and industry.

TEXAS  STATE
UNIVERSITY[®]
SAN MARCOS

The rising STAR of Texas

A member of The Texas State University System

Course Work

The MA in Rhetoric and Composition requires 33 semester hours and includes both thesis (six hours) and portfolio (three hours) options. Core courses are designed to provide a solid and shared foundation in theory, pedagogy, and research methods. Elective courses allow you to craft a degree program that meets your needs.

All students take 12 hours of core courses in rhetoric and composition:

- Composition Theory
- Composition Pedagogy
- History and Theory of Rhetoric
- Research Methods

All students choose nine to 18 hours of electives in rhetoric and composition. Thesis students complete nine elective hours in rhetoric and composition plus six hours in a cognate, or 15 elective hours in rhetoric and composition without a cognate. Portfolio students complete 12 elective hours in rhetoric and composition plus six hours in a cognate, or 18 elective hours in rhetoric and composition without a cognate.

Thesis students complete a thesis proposal, thesis, and oral comprehensive exam.

Portfolio students develop a final portfolio, take a written comprehensive exam, and complete an oral defense of the exam and portfolio.

Faculty

Rhetoric and Composition faculty are dedicated to students and their success. They mentor students, invite them to collaborate on conference panels, research, and publications, encourage their professional development through workshops and networking, and provide a supportive environment for learning.

Faculty are also leaders in their field, holding high-profile positions in national organizations, serving on editorial boards of major journals in the field, presenting papers regularly at regional and national conferences, and publishing actively in rhetoric and composition. Many have received national, university, and departmental awards for exceptional teaching, research, and service.

Admission Policy

To be considered for admission, you must have a GPA of at least 3.0 in 12 hours or more of undergraduate English courses. In addition, you must demonstrate graduate-level writing ability by submitting the following materials to the Rhetoric and Composition program:

- At least two nonfiction documents totaling a minimum of 15 typed, double-spaced pages. At least one of these documents should be an academic research paper written for an undergraduate or graduate course.

- A cover letter in which you explain the writing samples and discuss your reasons for applying to the MA program in Rhetoric and Composition. More information can be found at <http://marc.english.txstate.edu>. Click on *Admission Requirements*.

You must also submit the following to the Graduate College at Texas State:

- an official Texas State Graduate College application form
- one official transcript from each college or university attended, including community colleges

Visit www.gradcollege.txstate.edu for access to an online application and more details. Application deadlines for the MA in Rhetoric and Composition are flexible. However, we encourage you to submit materials by the deadlines specified by the Graduate College: June 15 for the fall semester and October 15 for the spring semester.

Financial Assistance

The Department of English awards two types of assistantships to full-time students. Current graduate students or applicants are eligible to apply for an instructional assistantship (IA). Students who have already completed 18 graduate hours may be considered for an appointment as a teaching assistant (TA).

The deadline for IA/TA applications is January 15 for appointments that begin the following fall. Applications and additional information about IA/TA positions can be found at www.english.txstate.edu/admissions/apps.

Rhetoric and Composition graduate students are also encouraged to apply for consulting positions in the English Department Writing Center. Consultants earn an hourly wage and gain experience working one-to-one with writers from across the disciplines.

For a list of English Department scholarships, visit www.english.txstate.edu/resources/dept-scholarships.html. For more information about scholarships, financial aid and application deadlines, visit the Graduate College Web site at www.gradcollege.txstate.edu and click on *Financing Your Graduate Education*.

Contact

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