ENGLISH RHETORIC AND COMPOSITION (PHD)

Doctor of Philosophy in English Rhetoric and Composition
Unit: Unit: College of Arts and Sciences (https://louisville.edu/artsandsciences/) (GA)
Department: English (https://louisville.edu/english/graduate/)
Program Webpage (https://louisville.edu/english/graduate/ph-d-in-rhetoric-composition/)
Academic Plan Code(s): ERC _ PHD

Program Information
Mission Statement
The Doctor of Philosophy in Rhetoric and Composition provides graduate training in the history and theory of rhetoric; theory and empirical research in composition; an area of literary study; and the relation of rhetoric and composition to allied fields (e.g., critical theory, cultural studies, linguistics).

Goals for the PhD are that students will:

1. Gain specialized and current disciplinary knowledge;
2. Write a dissertation in which they initiate and complete specialized research that addresses an original and significant question in rhetoric and composition; and
3. Acquire experience and expertise as writing teachers.

Admission Requirements
Application Due: January 5 (fall admission only)

All applicants should submit:

1. Online Graduate Application (http://louisville.edu/graduate/apply/).
2. A written statement of no more than 1,000 words detailing the applicant’s professional goals in the field of rhetoric and composition.
3. Complete official transcripts of all college-level work.
4. Three academic letters of recommendation.
5. Official scores on the Graduate Record Examination General Test (From within the last five years).
7. Application for Graduate Teaching Assistantship (https://louisville.edu/english/graduate/ph-d-in-rhetoric-composition/).
8. All applicants for whom English is a second language must also submit official TOEFL scores of 79 or higher on the internet-based test, 213 or higher on the computer-based test. English proficiency can also be met by submitting official IELTS scores of at least 6.5 overall band score from the academic module exam or official Duolingo overall score of 105. Students holding a bachelor’s or advanced degree from an accredited institution in the United States may be exempt from this requirement.

Degree Requirements
All doctoral students are expected to complete a minimum of 45 graduate credit hours; demonstrate proficiency in one language other than English; successfully complete the Modern and Contemporary Rhetoric and Composition exam and the Specified Literature Area exam; complete and defend a dissertation; and participate in a year-long supervised teaching-internship. (Graduate teaching assistants automatically fulfill the professional requirement once they have completed one successful year as a graduate teaching assistant.)

More information on requirements can be found in the English Department Graduate Program Guidelines (http://louisville.edu/english/graduate/graduate-program-guidelines-2/).

Graduate-level English courses beyond those listed may count towards requirements depending on the topics covered. Detailed course descriptions (http://louisville.edu/english/graduate/graduate-course-descriptions/), available on the English Department website, will provide this information and can be discussed during advising with the director of graduate studies.
or ENGL 681 Seminar in Special Studies
or ENGL 685 Seminar in Modern British Studies
or ENGL 686 Seminar in American Studies

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<td>ENGL 690</td>
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**Minimum Total Hours** 45

1 Students must take either ENGL 691 or ENGL 692 as part of the Literature requirement. The remaining Literature hours may be selected from any of the additional courses listed, in consultation with the student's advisor.