



EMORY

L A N E Y
GRADUATE
S C H O O L

English



A key to Emory's graduate program is its size: The program is large enough to support a full range of interests in literary and cultural studies, but small enough that students enjoy ample access to faculty and to courses.

Humanities

English

Emory's doctoral program in English offers an environment that is both intellectually rigorous and collegial, a place where graduate students become researchers and teachers in their own right by learning from faculty who are reshaping their fields.

Intellectual Community

Our thriving intellectual community supports rigorous work in fields across English that embrace other areas and disciplines.

With approximately 30 faculty members, we are large enough to support a full range of interests in literary and cultural studies, and small enough that our students enjoy ample access to faculty. We accept 7 – 9 new doctoral students each year. In our program, students work closely with faculty members to craft programs of study that reflect their own individual interests. We encourage you to visit the faculty section of our website, <http://english.emory.edu/>, where you will find information about all of our faculty members, including research and teaching interests as well as publications.

We strongly support innovative work that crosses disciplinary boundaries. Our graduate students frequently enroll in courses in other programs such as Comparative Literature, Film Studies, History, the Institute of the Liberal Arts (which includes American Studies), Psychoanalytic Studies, Women's Studies, and Studies in Sexualities. Several of these programs offer organized sequences of courses that lead to a graduate certificate in the field.

We offer our students opportunities for intellectual and professional development that go far beyond traditional literary and cultural studies. Our pedagogy program includes both formal coursework and individual faculty mentoring to train students carefully as they begin their teaching careers. We offer unparalleled opportunities for digital scholarship and pedagogy. Students attend workshops on professional matters throughout their careers and receive extensive support during their search for

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academic employment. Moreover, all students are guaranteed significant funding to present research at conferences and finance summer research at archives.

Our size allows students to take an active role in the graduate student community, especially through the Graduate English Advisory Committee (GEAC).

- GEAC orients incoming students each year, welcoming and easing them into the department. It also organizes the new graduate students' mentoring program.
- GEAC runs the Department Colloquy, in which students present their research to one another and to faculty. In the student-run Works in Progress series, students respond to faculty research presentations, and faculty attend student talks. GEAC also oversees the Brown Bag Lunch Series, in which guest speakers discuss professional matters with graduate students. In the annual Graduate Student Colloquium, three students invited by GEAC present their work to prospective graduate students.
- GEAC members also develop peer-mentoring initiatives in coursework and teaching, sponsor conferences and lectures, and plan social events.

Emory hosts a wide range of speakers of trans-disciplinary import. The English graduate students have started their own Kemp Malone lecture series, which has featured luminaries such as Bruce Robbins, Eve Kosofsky Sedgwick and Stephen Greenblatt. Other recent speakers at Emory include Michael Hardt and Amy Kaplan (both keynote speakers at a conference organized by English graduate students), Henry Louis Gates, Jr., Elaine Scarry, and Declan Kiberd. The English Department also hosts the Richard Ellmann lecture series, which brings to Emory major figures in world literature for a series of lectures and other public events. Seamus Heaney, Wole Soyinka, Helen Vendler, David Lodge, Mario Vargas Llosa and Margaret Atwood are among past Ellmann lecturers.

In 2004, Salman Rushdie delivered the Ellmann lectures. Three years later, he returned to begin a five-year appointment as a distinguished visiting professor. During his time in residence at Emory, Rushdie offers month-long graduate courses in world literatures and delivers several public lectures. Equally important, Rushdie has deposited his archive in Emory's Manuscripts and Rare Books Library.

Strengths

Our doctoral program offers training in all traditional fields of literary study, as well as in as well as in rhetoric and composition, cultural studies, and other theoretical and interdisciplinary approaches that cross national and chronological boundaries. Our students benefit from faculty strengths in a variety of areas, including modern poetry and poetics, post-colonial literature and theory, African American literature, nineteenth- and twentieth-century American literature and cultural studies, early modern studies, and studies in literature, science, medicine, and the mind. Many of these fields are supported by extensive collections in the Woodruff Library's Manuscripts and Rare Books Library. Our preparation of future faculty is significantly enhanced by Emory's recent investment in digital scholarship and digital pedagogy, including the hire of Marc Bousquet. We are particularly proud to pilot Domain of One's Own, an innovative program linking changes in academic and professional communication to teaching.

Modern Poetry and Poetics

Emory University has become a world center for the study of poetry and poetics. The Woodruff Library recently acquired the Danowski Collection of Twentieth-Century Poetry, believed to be the world's largest

ever assembled by a private collector, with some 60,000 books and tens of thousands of periodicals, broadsides, and ephemera. Furthermore, Woodruff's manuscript collections feature an impressive archive of American, English, and Irish poets, including the papers of Seamus Heaney, Anthony Hecht, Ted Hughes, and Paul Muldoon. The University's commitment complements the work of our faculty in a variety of fields, including Walter Kalaidjian's expertise in transnational modern and contemporary literature, Geraldine Higgins's expertise in twentieth-century Irish literature, and Mark Sanders's critical and archival work on twentieth-century African American poetry and aesthetics. Our acclaimed scholar of post-colonial literatures, Deepika Bahri, has also published extensively on twentieth-century aesthetic theory. Additionally, three celebrated poets on our faculty—U.S. Poet Laureate Natasha Trethewey, Kevin Young, and Jericho Brown—work with graduate students who combine critical studies of poetry with their creative work as poets. Young also serves as curator of the Danowski Collection, in which capacity he helps to train our graduate students in archival research. The graduate program in English enjoys a productive relationship with the Creative Writing Program, and several of our students are affiliated with top-ranked MFA programs.

Post-Colonial Literature and Theory

With the arrival of Abdul JanMohamed, Nathan Suhr-Sytsma, and Erin Suzuki, Emory's Graduate Program in English has become a major research center for world Anglophone literature and post-colonial studies. Deepika Bahri investigates hybridity, aesthetics, and representations of affect in postcolonial literature and culture. In addition, she maintains the Post-Colonial Studies website: <http://www.english.emory.edu/Bahri/>. Abdul JanMohamed's wide-reaching studies combine critical analyses of African, African American, and Post-Colonial literatures. Nathan Suhr-Sytsma takes a trans-national approach to poetry, comparing the literatures and cultures of Ireland and Nigeria. Erin Suzuki explores Asian, Asian American, and Pacific Rim literature. Alvan Ikoku will soon be joining the English Department and augmenting the strength of postcolonial studies by analyzing colonialist discursive formulations of tropical diseases such as malaria. Finally, the active presence of Salman Rushdie makes Emory's Graduate Program in English an ideal place to study Post-Colonial literature and culture. Recently, the English Department has launched the "Postcolonial and Minority Discourses" initiative, which includes many scholars from various humanities and social science departments at Emory. This program will organize three of four colloquia per semester in these areas, featuring the work of graduate students, Emory faculty, and eminent scholars working in postcolonial and American ethnic studies.

African American Literature and Culture

Our faculty includes Lawrence Jackson, whose recent books *The Indignant Generation* and *My Father's Name* have won numerous awards. Jackson is known for his studies of Ralph Ellison and his original perspective on twentieth-century African American literature. Abdul JanMohamed, recently appointed as the Longstreet Chair in English and African American Studies, is author of *Death-Bound-Subject*, which examines the effect of the threat of death and the practice of lynching on the construction of slave subjectivities. He is currently working on the relations between motherhood, birthing and death in neo-slave narratives. Mark Sanders conducts path-breaking studies linking twentieth-century African American and Afro-Cuban literature. Our students regularly take courses in the department of African American Studies, which includes such distinguished scholars as Leslie Harris. The African American literary collections at Emory include the archives of James Weldon Johnson and Alice Walker, as well as significant collections related to Langston Hughes and the papers of Georgia-born novelist John Oliver Killens. The Camille Billops and James V. Hatch

collection of African American performing arts includes hundreds of playscripts by authors including Amiri Baraka, Zora Neale Hurston, and August Wilson.

American Literature and Cultural Studies

Our deep faculty strength in American literary and cultural studies spans the colonial period to the postmodern, with clusters of faculty working on Southern literature, Native American Studies, popular culture, technology, history of medicine, and disability studies. The interdisciplinary pathways charted by these scholars make for intriguing combinations that nurture inventive student research projects. Michael Elliott and Benjamin Reiss pursue cultural studies of the nineteenth century. Craig Womack and Michael Elliot have done innovative work on Native American studies. Barbara Ladd's research expands the traditional notion of Southern literature, making links to African American, Caribbean, and Latin American literature. Similarly, Valérie Loichot's study of literature of the Americas includes investigations of Faulkner, Caribbean literature and culture, creolization theory, transatlantic studies, feminism and exile, and Southern food. Craig Womack also situates Native cultures within a broader regional frame. John Johnston and Walter Kalaidjian explore contemporary literary formations, including the impacts of media theory, psychoanalysis, and trauma theory. Associated Americanist literature scholars in other departments across Emory regularly mentor our students: these include the pioneering disability studies scholar Rosemarie Garland-Thompson in Women's Studies, and the renowned scholar of nineteenth-century literature and sexuality, Michael Moon, in the Institute of the Liberal Arts.

Early Modern Studies

Our outstanding faculty members in Early Modern Literature offer guidance to students in a wide range of innovative projects. The recent hire of Jonathan Goldberg, whose work on queer theory has transformed the field, has contributed to a distinguished group including Patricia Cahill, Sheila Cavanagh, and Harry Rusche. Cahill's studies of sensations in early modern drama have opened a new perspective on performance. Cavanagh's World Shakespeare Project uses digital technology to share and discuss Shakespearean performances in England, Africa, and North America: <http://www.worldshakespeareproject.org/>. Rusche's website, Shakespeare Illustrated, makes Shakespearean plays and studies available to scholars worldwide: http://shakespeare.emory.edu/illustrated_index.cfm.

Literature, Science, Medicine, and the Mind

Several of our faculty members explore the ways that literature addresses questions pursued by scientists, medical researchers, and psychologists. Walter Kalaidjian investigates the dialogic relations between the languages of psychoanalysis and modern literature in clinical discourse and literary representations. John Johnston examines the ways that twentieth-century American fiction intersects with media theory and studies of artificial intelligence. Benjamin Reiss studies representations of mental illness and disability in nineteenth-century American literature and culture. He is currently conducting a cross-disciplinary study of sleep, which inspired a course he co-taught with an Emory neurologist. Laura Otis, who has a background in neuroscience, compares the ways that literary and scientific writers develop ideas. With Emory neurologist Krish Sathian, Otis taught "Images, Metaphors, and the Brain" and organized the symposium, "Metaphors and the Mind," in which Salman Rushdie and other Emory authors exchanged ideas with neuroscientists. Alvan Ikoku, a qualified physician as well as a literary scholar, will soon be contributing to this group with his trans-disciplinary studies of medicine, language, and culture.

Johnston, Otis, and Reiss are affiliated with Emory's Center for Mind, Brain, and Culture, where renowned scientists and humanities scholars engage in dialogue. Emory's graduate program in English enjoys close connections with the Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Department, whose faculty includes the leading feminist science studies scholars Deboleena Roy and Elizabeth Wilson. Our students work regularly with Rosemarie Garland-Thomson from Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies and Sander Gilman from the Institute of the Liberal Arts, both of whom have shaped the field of Disability Studies.

Curriculum

Coursework

Students normally take a full load of courses during their first and second years, and some additional courses during their third year. (Students who have completed a Master's degree elsewhere usually complete their coursework in less than two years.) All students enroll in a course on theories, methods, and histories of the discipline in their first year, and then complete modest distribution requirements. Students are encouraged to enroll in related courses offered in other departments.

Ph.D. Exam

During the third year, students prepare for a Ph.D. examination with both written and oral components. The exam covers three areas of study designated by the students and covers primary and secondary works selected by the student and his or her advisory committee. The examination is designed to demonstrate the student's mastery over the chosen fields of study and to prepare him or her for the dissertation that follows.

Dissertation

The capstone of the Ph.D. curriculum is the writing of the dissertation, which the student undertakes under the guidance of an advisor and at least two other committee members. Students also receive support for this process by participating in a dissertation colloquium, and they are eligible to apply for funds for archival research elsewhere. Many of our students have later published their revised dissertations.

Training in Teaching

All Emory doctoral students receive training in pedagogy through the following programs:

- English 790: Composition Theory, and English 791: Composition Pedagogy, offered in the spring of their first year and the fall of their second year, respectively
- A summer workshop, run by the Laney Graduate School, held in August before the second year of graduate study
- Service in their second year as teaching assistant in major lecture courses, in which they run their own discussion sections
- Required workshops on the teaching of writing, taken during their third year while students teach undergraduate writing courses of their own design
- Individual faculty teaching mentorships, starting in the third year and continuing through the student's teaching career at Emory
- A Pro-Seminar in the Teaching of Literature, usually taken in the fourth year of graduate study
- Teaching a literature or writing course of their own design in their fifth year of study

As they progress through this training sequence, students are assigned as teaching assistants or teaching associates and then teach their own courses in the third and fifth years of the program.

Administrative Faculty

WALTER KALAJDIAN

Professor and Chair of the English Department

Walter Kalaidjian specializes in American poetry and poetics of the long twentieth-century. In particular, his research and teaching focus on the historical avant-gardes, cultural studies, trauma, psychoanalysis, and critical theory. In addition to editing *The Cambridge Companion to American Modernism* (2005), he is the author of *The Edge of Modernism: American Poetry and the Traumatic Past* (John Hopkins University Press, 2005), *American Culture Between the Wars: Revisionary Modernism and Postmodern Critique* (Columbia University Press, 1994), *Languages of Liberation: The Social Text in Contemporary American Poetry* (Columbia University Press, 1989), and *Understanding Theodore Roethke* (University of South Carolina Press, 1987). A recipient of grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the American Council of Learned Societies, and Andrew Mellon Foundation, Professor Kalaidjian in his forthcoming research explores the psychoanalysis of extraordinary experience in the public sphere.

LAURA OTIS

Professor and Director of Graduate Studies of English

Laura Otis specializes in the relationship between literature and science and is interested in identity, memory, narrative, communication, and differences in individual thought styles. She is the author of *Müller's Lab, Networking, Membranes, and Organic Memory*, and the editor of *Literature and Science in the Nineteenth Century: An Anthology*. Otis works with English, French, Spanish, and German literature and has translated Santiago Ramón y Cajal's science fiction stories (*Cuentos de vacaciones*) into English. In 2000, she was awarded a MacArthur fellowship for creativity. She has also received Fulbright, Humboldt, National Endowment for the Humanities, and American Council of Learned Societies grants in support of her interdisciplinary research.

Students

The program typically has about 50 students in residence. Their interests range broadly across English and related fields. Some recent or current dissertation projects include:

- "Homeland Insecurity: Terminal Masculinity and the Specter of 9/11"
- "'To Be Black at Home and Abroad': Movement, Freedom, and Belonging in African American and African Canadian Literature"

- "Hurt into Poetry: The Politics of Sentiment in Northern Irish Poetry, 1966 – 1988"
- "Affecting Passions on the Stage: Audience, Emotions, and Early Modern Drama"

See a complete list of recent dissertations at www.english.emory.edu/graduate/recentgrads/recentgrads.htm

All graduate students admitted to the English doctoral program are funded for five years, either through departmental fellowships or one of the Graduate School Fellowships (Diversity Fellowships, Woodruff Fellowships, and Arts and Sciences Fellowships). All fellowships carry tuition remission and a partial health care subsidy. Students who remain longer than five years are eligible for a number of Emory fellowships, and the Graduate School offers a Grant Writing Program that supports students' efforts to apply for external funding.

Placement

We are committed to helping our students secure the best positions available in their fields. In the past seven years, 43% of our students have obtained tenure-track jobs at four-year universities; 49% have found postdocs, lectureships, visiting professorships, or positions in the research libraries or writing centers of major universities; and 8% have found employment in business or the arts. Each year, two faculty members serve as job placement officers. These faculty members guide students seeking academic positions through the search process by holding workshops, reviewing materials, and staging mock interviews.

Our efforts—and the quality of our program—are reflected in our students' success in academic and professional employment. Recent graduates are now teaching at Harvard University, Texas A & M, Penn State University, Georgia Tech, the University of Minnesota, Drexel University, Bryn Mawr College, the University of New Hampshire and San Francisco State University. Additionally, our graduates have found exceptional opportunities in libraries and archives, college and university administration, publishing, and digital technology.

Contact Information

For more information, please visit our website (www.english.emory.edu), where you can find detailed information about the graduate program, the requirements for the doctoral degree, and the application process. You may also contact the Graduate Program Coordinator, Melanie Tipnis (mtipnis@emory.edu) for answers to specific questions.

Laney Graduate School Degree Programs

Anthropology
 Art History
 Behavioral Sciences and Health Education
 Bioethics
 Biological and Biomedical Sciences
 Biochemistry, Cell and Developmental Biology
 Cancer Biology
 Genetics and Molecular Biology
 Immunology and Molecular Pathogenesis
 Microbiology and Molecular Genetics
 Molecular and Systems Pharmacology
 Neuroscience
 Nutrition and Health Sciences
 Population Biology, Ecology, and Evolution
 Biomedical Engineering
 Biostatistics
 Business
 Chemistry
 Clinical Psychology
 Cognition and Development (Psychology)
 Comparative Literature
 Computer Science and Informatics
 Development Practice
 Economics
 Educational Studies
 English
 Environmental Health Sciences
 Epidemiology
 Film Studies
 French
 History
 Graduate Institute of the Liberal Arts
 Health Services Research and Health Policy
 Islamic Civilizations Studies
 Mathematics
 MD/PhD
 Music
 Neuroscience and Animal Behavior (Psychology)
 Nursing
 Philosophy
 Physics
 Political Science
 Religion
 Sociology
 Spanish
 Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies



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Requests for Additional Information:

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