English Department
Graduate Faculty

Barish Ali teaches courses in postcolonial literature, literary theory, and popular culture. He has published articles on the work of Alan Moore, Orhan Pamuk, Lawrence Durrell, and David Bowie, among others. He also serves as the director of Buffalo State’s Summer in Istanbul program.

David Ben-Merre teaches courses in 20th-century literature, literary theory, and poetry. He has published articles on Lord Byron, W. B. Yeats, James Joyce, and James Merrill, among others. His research interests include modernism, poetics, and intellectual history.

Lisa Berglund teaches courses in Shakespeare, Milton, 18th-century studies, the history of the printed book, and lexicography. She has published articles on Samuel Johnson, James Boswell, Hester Lynch Piozzi, and book history. She has also served as the Executive Secretary of the Dictionary Society of North America.

Tim Bryant teaches courses in American, American Indian, and ethnic American literature. He has published articles on American literature, graphic narrative, and speculative fiction. He is the faculty advisor for Studies in Graphic Narrative (SIGN) and is planning a Games Studies minor.

Kim Chinquee teaches courses in creative and professional writing. She has published many short stories, flash fictions, and poems, as well as two collections of her work. She also serves as co-director of the department’s Writing major.


Heidi Dietz-Faletti teaches courses in women’s literature and European film and literature. She has given many papers on her work and regularly travels abroad to visit the literature’s sources.

Mark Fulk teaches courses in 18th-century British literature and women’s literature. He has published a book on May Sarton and articles on John Dryden, the elegy, Charlotte Smith, and Jane Austen, among others. His research interests also include suffrage in Britain, Virginia Woolf, and philosophy and literature.

Lorna Perez teaches courses in Latino/a literature, US ethnic minority literature, women’s literature, and 20th-century American literature. She has published several articles on Latina and diasporic literature. She also serves as the faculty advisor for Sigma Tau Delta.

Peter Ramos teaches courses in 19th- and 20th-century American literature. He has published articles on William Faulkner, William Carlos Williams, Kate Chopin, Pablo Neruda, and Toni Morrison, among others. He is also a poet and has published three chapbooks and a book, as well as many individual poems.

Thomas Reigstad is a professor emeritus who teaches courses in 19th- and 20th-century literature. Most recently he published Scribblin’ ‘for a Livin’: Mark Twain’s Pivotal Period in Buffalo (2013).

Jennifer Ryan teaches courses in American poetry, the American novel, graphic narrative, and African-American literature. She has published articles on Annie Proulx, black superheroes, Bessie Smith, improvisation, Wanda Coleman, and Ezra Pound; her book, Post-Jazz Poetics: A Social History, appeared in 2010. She also serves as the English M.A. Coordinator.

Karen Sands-O’Connor teaches courses in 20th-century British literature, Black British and Caribbean literature, literary criticism, and children’s literature. She has published many articles and three books, including the co-edited Internationalism in Children’s Series (2014). She also serves as the Chair of the College Senate Curriculum Committee.

Aimable Twagilimana teaches courses in African American literature and theory, world literature, postcolonial literature and theory, ethnic studies, and linguistics. He has published many articles and books on African-American literature and genocide studies, with a particular focus on Rwanda, Burundi, and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Ralph Wahlstrom teaches a range of writing courses, including Writing for the Professions, Creative Writing – Fiction, and Composition and Rhetorical Theory. He has published several articles, a book of nonfiction, and a young-adult novel, Keoh. He also serves as co-director of the department’s Writing major.

Buffalo State
The State University of New York

Master of Arts in English
SUNY Buffalo State

Recent Courses

Transatlantic Slave Narratives
Studies in Drama: Farce
Jane Austen
Poetry & Revolution
James Joyce
Black British Literature and Theory
Shakespeare and Collaboration
Virginia Woolf and the Bloomsbury Circle

2014-2015 Offerings

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About the Program:
The master of arts in English program is designed to provide flexibility in meeting individual student interests while ensuring a broad understanding of the significant areas within the professional study of English. The program builds upon students' undergraduate work in English by offering the opportunity to study several different areas of concentration in depth. It also serves as an excellent preparatory program for doctoral-level study in English. Students in our MA program benefit from:

- Closely working with scholars in a face-to-face mentored relationship;
- Small class sizes and strong pedagogical training;
- NY State teacher certification completion;
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- Close proximity to the Albright-Knox Art Gallery and the Burchfield Penney Art Center, numerous other nationally recognized cultural centers, including museums, professional theaters, and the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra.

Program Requirements:

- 30 credits (typically 10 courses), a comprehensive exam after the first year, competence in one foreign language, as well as in written and oral English.

Required Courses (18 credits)

- Research in Language and Literature (ENG 601)
- 1 course in each of the following: British, American, and World Literature
- 1 course in genre study or linguistics (ENG 641, 642, 643, or 670)
- 1 course in social, critical, or literary theory (644 or 645 or 652)

Elective Courses (12 credits)

- 4 courses in English or other academic areas, selected under advisement.

Students are not required to complete a Master's Thesis or Master's Project, but they may do so with permission from the department.

Advisement: Each student is assigned an academic adviser. All students must apply for candidacy after the completion of 6 credit hours and before the completion of 12 credit hours.

Admission Requirements:

1. A bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university with a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 (4.0 scale) in English and 2.75 overall.
2. 36 credit hours in English, at least 27 of which must be in English literature, exclusive of basic college writing.
3. Students must demonstrate competency in written English by submitting a writing sample of their best academic work. Students for whom English is an alternate language are required to submit evidence of passing TOEFL scores, as required by the SUNY system for international students.

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For more information about the English MA degree, see the English Department website: http://english.buffalostate.edu/ or contact:

Dr. Jennifer Ryan, MA Coordinator
Bishop Hall 313
(716) 878-6820
ryanjd@buffalostate.edu

English Department
Ketchum 326
1300 Elmwood Avenue
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The Program (working title Icon) is a 2015 biographical drama film about Lance Armstrong directed by Stephen Frears, starring Ben Foster as Armstrong[3] and Chris O'Dowd as journalist David Walsh.[4]. The film is based on Walsh's book Seven Deadly Sins.[5] It premiered at the 2015 Toronto International Film Festival on 14 September 2015 and was theatrically released in France on 16 September and the United Kingdom on 14 October.