



**2017-2018 PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS**  
**Award: Graduate Certificate**  
**Program of Study: Rhetoric and Literary Studies**

**About This Major . . .**

The Colorado Mesa University Graduate Certificate in Rhetoric and Literary Studies is a dynamic program designed to meet the needs of education professionals who desire to teach lower-division college English courses in high school or higher education but who don't have the necessary graduate credits to do so. The certificate is awarded after successful completion of 18 credit hours in graduate coursework in English, and the program is designed to provide students with more advanced knowledge in composition and rhetoric, literary theory, linguistics, creative writing, and American and British literature.

All CMU program completers are expected to demonstrate proficiency in critical thinking, communication fluency, quantitative fluency, and specialized knowledge/applied learning. In addition to these campus-wide student learning outcomes, all recipients of a Rhetoric and Literary Studies Graduate Certificate will be able to:

1. Contribute to scholarly advancement in composition/rhetoric, linguistics, creative writing and literary studies by completing projects individually and collaboratively. (Specialized Knowledge/Applied Learning)
2. Generate oral and written communication based on sound theories of composition/rhetoric, linguistics, creative writing and literary studies. (Communication Fluency)
3. Formulate hypotheses related to research problems, issues, and concepts in the fields of composition/rhetoric, linguistics, creative writing and literary studies. (Critical Thinking)
4. Synthesize information from a base of scholarly resources related to composition/rhetoric, linguistics, creative writing and literary studies. (Information Literacy)
5. Evaluate moral, ethical, legal, or professional challenges in the disciplines of composition/rhetoric, linguistics, creative writing and literary studies. (Ethical Reasoning)

**Advising Process and DegreeWorks**

This document is intended for informational purposes to help determine what courses and associated requirements are needed to earn a certificate. Some courses are critical to complete in specific semesters while others may be moved around. Meeting with an academic advisor is essential in planning courses and discussing the suggested course sequencing. It is ultimately the student's responsibility to understand and fulfill the requirements for her/his intended certificate.

DegreeWorks is an online degree audit tool available in MAVzone. It is the official record used by the Registrar's Office to evaluate progress towards a certificate and determine eligibility for graduation. Students are responsible for reviewing their DegreeWorks audit on a regular basis and should discuss questions or concerns with their advisor or academic department head. Discrepancies in requirements should be reported to the Registrar's Office.

**Graduation Process**

Students must complete the following in the first two months of the semester prior to completing their certificate requirements (for one semester certificates complete in the first week of class):

- Review their DegreeWorks audit and create a plan that outlines how unmet requirements will be met in the final semester.
- Meet with their advisor and modify their plan as needed. The advisor must approve the final plan.
- Submit the "Intent to Graduate" form to the Registrar's Office to officially declare the intended graduation date and commencement ceremony plans.
- Register for all needed courses and complete all requirements for each degree sought.

Submission deadlines and commencement details can be found at <http://www.coloradomesa.edu/registrar/graduation.html>.

If your petition for graduation is denied, it will be your responsibility to apply for graduation in a subsequent semester. Your "Intent to Graduate" does not automatically move to a later graduation date.

## **INSTITUTIONAL GRADUATE DEGREE REQUIREMENTS**

The following institutional requirements apply to all CMU graduate-level degrees. Specific programs may have different requirements that must be met in addition to institutional requirements.

- Graduate certificates consist of a minimum of 5 credit hours. Master's degrees consist of a minimum of 30 credit hours. Doctoral degrees consist of a minimum of 60 credit hours
- All credits in a graduate program must be minimally at the 500-level.
- At least fifty percent of the credit hours must be taken at CMU.
- Students must achieve a 3.00 cumulative GPA or higher in all CMU coursework.
- Students may not apply coursework with a grade lower than a "B" toward graduation requirements.
- A course may only be used to fulfill one requirement for each degree/certificate.
- Capstone exit assessment/projects (e.g., Major Field Achievement Test) requirements are identified under Program-Specific Requirements.
- The Catalog Year determines which program sheet and certificate requirements a student must fulfill in order to graduate. Visit with your advisor or academic department to determine which catalog year and program requirements you should follow.
- See "Requirements for Graduate Degrees and Certificates" in the catalog for a complete list of graduation requirements.

## **PROGRAM-SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS**

- 18 semester hours are required for the Graduate Certificate in Rhetoric and Literary Studies.
- A Bachelor's degree from an accredited college is required, prior to beginning the program.
- A fully completed Application for Admission to Graduate Programs including official transcripts is required prior to beginning the program.
- Applicants must also submit to the English Department a Letter of Intent of no fewer than 1000 words that provides information about the students' background, interests, and inspirations, including how they relate to the Graduate Certificate in Rhetoric and Literary Studies.
- For additional information on applicable policies, please refer to the Graduate Policies and Procedures Manual.

**GRADUATE CERTIFICATE: RHETORIC AND LITERARY STUDIES REQUIREMENTS** (18 semester hours, must pass all courses with a grade of "B" or better.)

- ENGL 521 - Seminar in Literary Theory (3)
- ENGL 543 - Language Systems and Linguistic Diversity (3)
- ENGL 550 - Studies in Creative Writing (3)
- ENGL 554 - Topics in British and Commonwealth Literature (3)
- ENGL 561 - Topics in American Literature (3)
- ENGL 586 - Seminar in Rhetoric and Composition (3)

## **SUGGESTED COURSE SEQUENCING**

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### **Year One, Summer Semester**

- ENGL 586 - Seminar in Rhetoric and Composition (3)

### **Year One, Fall Semester**

- ENGL 521 - Seminar in Literary Theory (3)

### **Year One, Spring Semester**

- ENGL 554 - Topics in British and Commonwealth Literature (3)

### **Year Two, Summer Semester**

- ENGL 550 - Studies in Creative Writing (3)

### **Year Two, Fall Semester**

- ENGL 543 - Language Systems and Linguistic Diversity (3)

### **Year Two, Spring Semester**

- ENGL 561 - Topics in American Literature (3)
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