

THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI

DEPARTMENT OF
English

M.A. AND PH.D. DEGREE IN ENGLISH





The University of Mississippi's English department is located on an idyllic campus, adjacent to the historic town of Oxford amidst the rolling hills of north Mississippi. Situated conveniently next to the library and near the center of campus, the English department offers four degree programs: B.A., M.A., M.F.A., and the Ph.D.

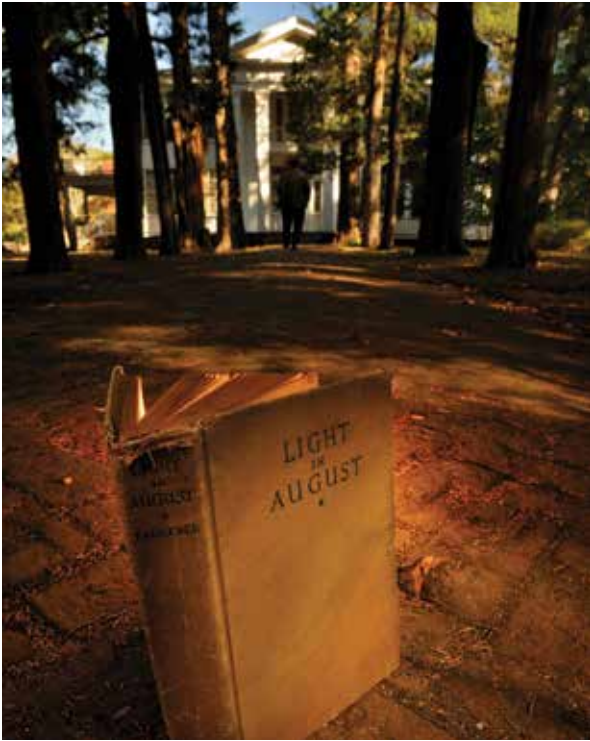
Why pursue a M.A. or a Ph.D. in English at the University of Mississippi?

Excellent course work and research supervision:

The M.A. and Ph.D. programs in English offer coursework and research supervision in all areas of British, American, and Anglophone literature, film, cultural studies, and literary theory. We aim to produce outstanding scholars, critics, and teachers of literature and culture. Our program is small, focused, and dynamic. Each class is limited to a few exceptional applicants who receive much individual attention and training.

Our program features a curriculum covering a wide array of academic interests from Medieval and Early Modern Studies to contemporary film theory and Studies in the Global South. We also offer opportunities for interdisciplinary work, including programs in Gender Studies, African American, and Southern Studies.





Personal mentoring: Our faculty is committed to taking care of our students. Ph.D. students enter into a comprehensive system of mentoring from the first year through the search for academic employment. Every semester, the department offers pre-professional training seminars initiated by advanced graduate students and guided by the graduate faculty.

Competitive financial support: Students admitted to the Ph.D. program receive a full five-year funding package. At any given time, we have about 60 students who are fully funded by teaching fellowships. In addition, summer research fellowships, dissertation fellowships, and dissertation enhancement grants are open to advanced students on a competitive basis. These dissertation fellowships release students from teaching assignments so that they may concentrate on finishing their dissertations.

Every Ph.D. student will have the opportunity to teach a variety of writing and literature courses and build an impressive teaching portfolio by the time the student enters the job market. The department also supports professional activities with conference-travel funding.

Lots of resources are available on campus and in a Southern town famous for and dedicated to the literary arts. The university library houses a large collection of monographs and print journals, and a number of

OUR RECENT M.A. GRADUATES ARE IN PH.D. PROGRAMS AT THE

- University of Alabama
- University of Florida
- University of Iowa
- University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
- University of Washington



electronic databases useful to English graduate students, including Early English Books Online, 18-Century Collections Online, JSTOR, and Project Muse.

The Center for the Study of Southern Culture is situated in the restored Barnard Observatory on campus. It offers one of the few programs in the nation focusing exclusively on Southern culture.

OUR RECENT DOCTORATES ARE EMPLOYED AS

- Associate Professor of English at Mercyhurst College in Pennsylvania
- Associate Professor of English at Florida Atlantic University
- Assistant Professor of English at the University of Tampa, FL
- Assistant Professor of English at Baylor University

The Faulkner and Yoknapatawpha Conference attracts scholars from all over the globe for a week of Faulkner scholarship and appreciation every summer. Now in its fourth decade, the Faulkner Conference is the major academic event for this world-famous Oxford writer.

McCool Fellowship in Faulkner Studies: Thanks to Leighton and Campbell McCool, the Department of English offers a McCool Dissertation Fellowship for a Ph.D. student writing a dissertation on Faulkner. The prestigious year-long fellowship offers a stipend plus tuition remission.

The Global South is a scholarly journal housed in the English Department and edited by Dr. Adetayo Alabi. Dedicated to the transnational study of the Global South, the journal offers internship opportunities to students interested in editing and working in the journal world.

The Yalobusha Review is a literary journal produced as a joint project by the English and art departments and features fiction, poetry, creative non-fiction, interviews, artwork and photography.



STUDENT TESTIMONIALS



“I came to study the life and work of William Faulkner because of the Faulkner collection in our library and because our English department has the Howry Chair, offers classes on Faulkner, and funds the McCool Fellowship for Faulkner Studies, but at UM I’ve also had excellent professors and mentors who have helped expand my horizons to have a greater knowledge of all American literature and how to discuss and teach it at the college level. UM has been the best decision I’ve made in my academic life.”

—Pip Gordon, Doctoral candidate
Frances Bell McCool Faulkner Dissertation Fellow



“The graduate program in English at UM provided me with the conceptual framework to approach texts and the systems they critique. The faculty set the highest of expectations for their graduate students, challenging them to become better readers, thinkers, and writers while preparing them for the rigors and rewards of a career in academia. From seminars to colloquia to defenses, to picnics at Rowan Oak and socializing on the town square, the graduate experience at UM enriches and liberates while inviting a lifelong commitment to friendship, teaching, scholarship, and service. It set the course for the rest of my life.”

—Scott T. Chancellor, Assistant Professor of English
West Point Academy



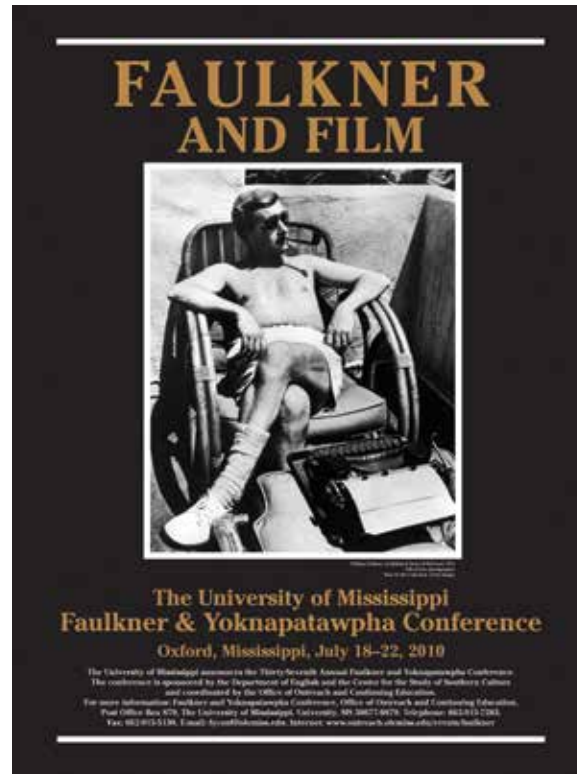
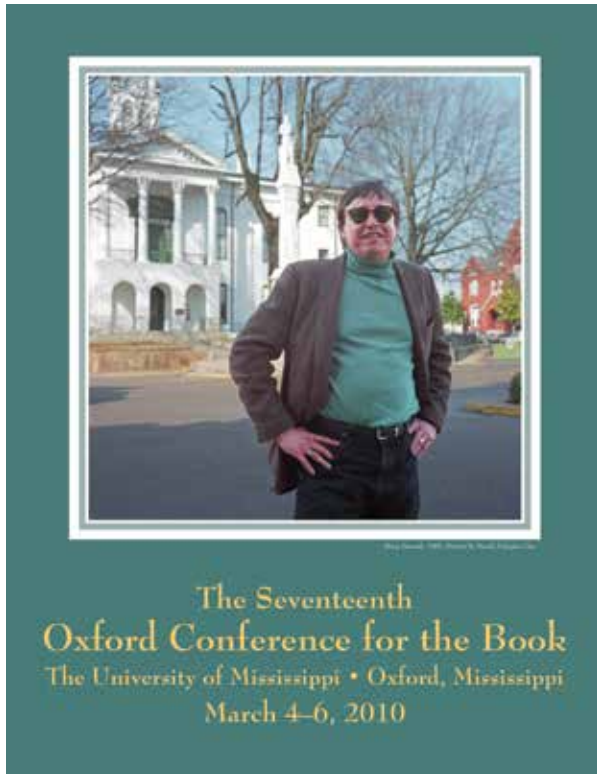
“What I take away most from the English department at UM is the extraordinary sense of community between the faculty and the graduate students. The overall attitude towards graduate students is that of new colleagues rather than mere students, which fosters a rich and supportive learning environment. Between the departmental faculty, the university resources, and the incredible town of Oxford itself, I couldn’t imagine a better Ph.D. program for me.”

—Dan Walden, Assistant Professor
Baylor University



“The University of Mississippi is a transformative place and the English department is no exception. The department prides itself on its capacity to develop creative, driven students into creative, driven professionals. In my three years at UM, I have grown immensely from the support, encouragement, and criticism I have received from the faculty and graduate community, as I have become a better writer and thinker, able to convert my skills and interests into viable academic work. Also, the program has been a wonderful social experience as it encourages interaction between academic and creative writers, which, in turn, allows for a more productive dialogue between the criticism of literature and its creation.”

—Charles Mock, M.A. '12
Doctoral candidate at the University of Illinois



NOTABLE EVENTS

The annual **James Edwin Savage Lecture in the Renaissance**. Past speakers include Jean Howard, Louis Montrose, Mary Beth Rose, Robert Watson, David Scott Kastan, Patricia Fumerton, and Lawrence Stone.

The **MFA Reading Series** is a student-organized activity featuring writers from within the M.F.A. program here. In addition, there is the **Visiting Grisham Writers Series** (recent speakers include Pulitzer Prize winners Robert Hass, Michael Chabon, and Jeffrey Eugenides), and there are over 100 readings a year by nationally acclaimed authors at Square Books.

Southern Writers, Southern Writing is a three-day academic conference hosted by the English graduate students every July. It draws graduate students from all over the country to our campus.

The **Oxford Conference for the Book** is an annual event that pulls in authors, editors, literary agents and publishers for three days every spring. Designed for both readers and writers, it can put you in touch with an author you admire.

The **Edith T. Baine Lecture Series** featuring scholars and writers of emerging national importance is an annual event.

OUR FACULTY



Adetayo Alabi

Associate Professor

Ph.D., University of Saskatchewan

Teaching Interests: Postcolonial Studies (especially African, African-American, and Caribbean), Literary Theory (especially Postcolonial and

Feminist), Autobiographical Genre in Comparative Black Studies.



Patrick Alexander

Assistant Professor

Ph.D., Duke University

Teaching Interests: African-American Literature, 19th-Century American Literature, and Critical Prison Studies.



Magalí Armillas-Tiseyra

Assistant Professor

Ph.D., New York University

Teaching Interests: Anglophone and Francophone African Literature, Latin American Literature, Postcolonial

Theory, Genre and Narrative Theory, Marxism and Marxist Cultural Criticism, Theories of Aesthetics and Politics, Theories of Orality, Literacy, and Media, Gender Studies, World Literature and Translation Studies.



Deborah Barker

Associate Professor

Ph.D., Princeton University

Teaching Interests: Gender Theory and Criticism, 19th- and 20th-Century American Literature, Film.



Robert Cummings

Associate Professor

Director of the Center for Writing and Rhetoric

Ph.D. English, University of Georgia

Teaching Interests: Composition.

Electronic Literacy, Network Rhetorics, and Humanities Computing, Pedagogy.



Leigh Anne Duck

Associate Professor

Ph.D., University of Chicago

Teaching Interests: Southern Literature and Culture, Film, Literary Geography, Modernism.



Chiyuma Elliott

Assistant Professor

Ph.D. University of Texas

Teaching Interests: African-American Literature, The Harlem Renaissance/ New Negro Movement, 20th-Century American Literature, Poetry and Poetics, Modernism, American Intellectual History.



Cristin Ellis

Assistant Professor

Ph.D., Johns Hopkins University

Teaching Interests: 19th-Century American Literature, American Romanticism, Literature, Ecology.



Beth Ann Fennelly

Associate Professor

Director of M.F.A. Program

M.F.A., University of Arkansas

Teaching Interests: Poetry and the Writing of Poetry, Non-fiction.



Ann Fisher-Wirth

Professor

Ph.D., Claremont Graduate School

Teaching Interests: 20th-Century American Literature, 20th-Century Poetry, Creative Writing (Poetry, also Creative Non-fiction), Ecocriticism, Literature and Environment.

OUR FACULTY



Tom Franklin

Associate Professor
M.F.A., University of Arkansas
Teaching Interests: Fiction Writing.



Adam Gussow

Associate Professor
Ph.D., Princeton University
Teaching Interests: African-American Literature, Southern Literature, Blues & Jazz Literary and Cultural Studies, American Road Narratives.



Jaime Harker

Associate Professor
Assistant Department Chair
Ph.D., Temple University
Teaching Interests: 20th-Century American Literature, with an Emphasis on Book History, Gender, and Sexuality. Additional Research Interests in Gay and Lesbian Studies, American Studies, the Pacific Rim.



Derrick A. Harriell

Assistant Professor
Ph.D., University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee
Teaching Interests: Creative Writing (Poetry), African-American Literature.



Mary Hayes

Associate Professor
Ph.D., University of Iowa
Teaching Interests: Old and Middle English Literature, the History of the Senses/Sound Theory and Magic and the Occult, History of the English Language.



Gregory Heyworth

Associate Professor
Ph.D. Princeton University
Teaching Interests: Medieval Romance and the History of Culture, Renaissance Drama, Classical Influence, English Rhetoric and Politics of the 14–16th-Centuries.



Steven Justice

Professor
Ph.D. Princeton University
Teaching Interests: Middle English, Religious Studies, Medieval Latin.



Ivo Kamps

Professor
Department Chair
Ph.D., Princeton University
Teaching Interests: Early Modern Literature, Shakespeare, Literary Theory, Film.



Ben W. McClelland

Professor
Ph.D., Indiana University (Ottolie Schillig Chair in English Composition)
Teaching Interests: Applied Writing, American Modernist Fiction, Contemporary Non-fiction Literature, Writing.



Kathryn McKee

Associate Professor
Ph.D., University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Teaching Interests: United States Literature, U.S. Southern Literature, Global South Studies, Film Studies, Writing by Women, Humor Studies.

OUR FACULTY



Chris Offutt

Associate Professor
M.F.A., University of Iowa
Teaching Interests: Fiction, Non-fiction, Screenwriting.



David Smith

Writer in Residence
Ph.D., Ohio University
Teaching Interests: Poetry, American Literature.



Karen Raber

Professor
Ph.D., University of California, San Diego
Teaching Interests: Early Modern British Literature and Culture, Early Modern Women Writers

Feminist Theory, Cultural Studies, Horses and Horsemanship in Early Modern England/Europe, Animal Studies, Ecocriticism.



Daniel Stout

Assistant Professor
Ph.D., Johns Hopkins University
Teaching Interests: Romantic Literature, Victorian Literature, the Novel.



Peter Reed

Associate Professor
Director of Graduate Studies
Ph.D., Florida State University
Teaching Interests: Early American Literature, Early American and

Transatlantic Theatre, Performance Studies, Critical Race Studies, Cultural Studies.



Annette Trefzer

Associate Professor
Ph.D., Tulane University
Teaching Interests: American Literature, Literary Theory, Global South Studies and Southern Literature, Minority

Literatures: Native American Literature and African-American Literature.



Gregory A. Schirmer

Professor Emeritus
Ph.D., Stanford University
Teaching Interests: Irish Literature, Translation, Modernism.



Jay Watson

Howry Professor of
Faulkner Studies
Ph.D., Harvard University
Teaching Interests: American Literature, Southern Literature and Culture, Faulkner.



Jason Solinger

Assistant Professor
Director of Undergraduate Studies
Ph.D., Brown University
Teaching Interests: Literature of the 18th-Century and Restoration.



Ethel Young-Minor

Associate Professor of English
and African American Studies
Senior Fellow of the Lucky Day
Residential College
Ph.D., Bowling Green State University

Teaching Interests: African-American Literature, Drama, Harlem Renaissance, American Literature.



**For additional information visit
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