

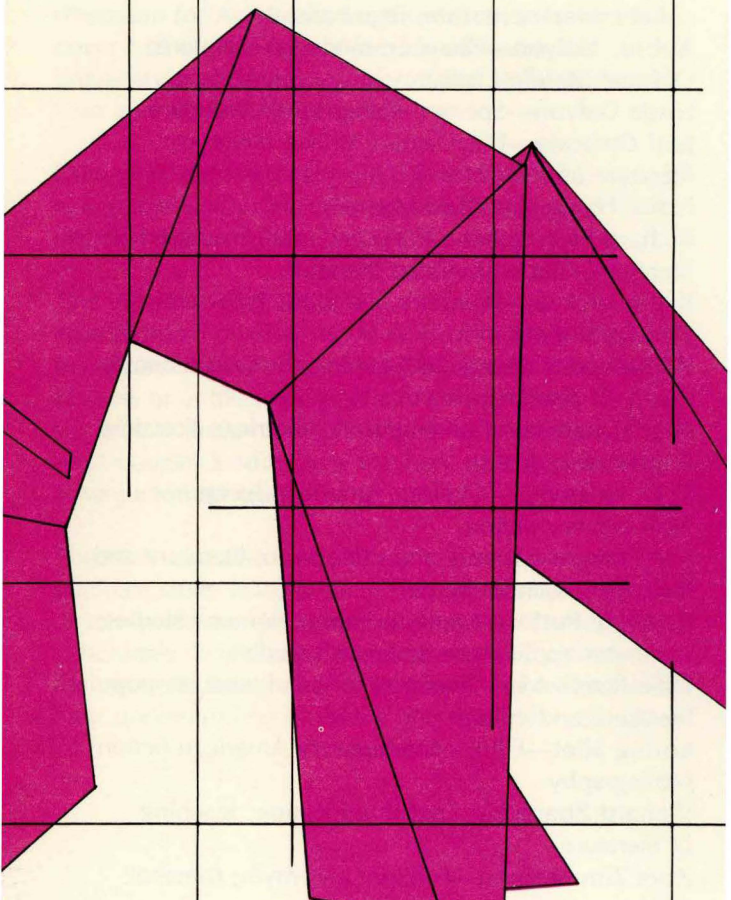
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# Literature

graduate program

Department of English  
Iowa State University  
Ames, Iowa



STATE LIBRARY OF IOWA  
Historical Building  
DES MOINES, IOWA 50319

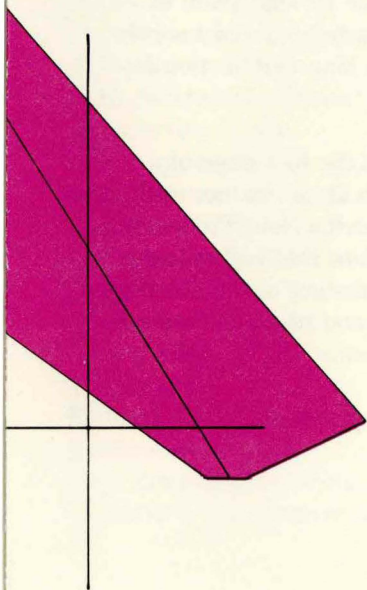
# Introduction

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Candidates for the master's degree in English at Iowa State University may choose to specialize in literary studies. The Literature Program provides training in literary history, analysis, criticism, theory, teaching, and research. Each student plans a specific program-of-study in consultation with a faculty advisor.

Ames, the university's home, is a city of 45,000 people located in central Iowa, about 30 miles north of Des Moines. Among the special features of the campus are the Parks Library, with holdings of over 1,600,000 volumes; C. Y. Stephens Auditorium and Fisher Theater, both offering appearances by internationally known performers in music, dance, and drama; and James H. Hilton Coliseum and Cyclone Stadium.

The Department of English is housed in Ross Hall, a classroom and office building constructed in 1973. The building holds computer facilities for ongoing projects.



# Literature Program

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The graduate program in literature at Iowa State offers an array of courses in British and American literature, embracing diverse topics and methodologies. The program is intended to give students a broadly based grounding in literary studies while also permitting them to pursue their particular interests. Along with courses in specific genres and periods, the offerings for 1987-89 will include courses in:

- Single authors, including Chaucer, Spenser, Shakespeare, and D. H. Lawrence
- History of English prose style
- 20th-century women poets
- American transcendentalists
- Minimalism
- Science and literary imagination

Students following a program with an emphasis in literature may choose electives from courses in literature or from courses in creative writing, rhetoric and composition (including business and technical writing), and linguistics. Courses from other departments may be taken, but about two-thirds of the work must be done through the Department of English.

Graduate credits received at other institutions are transferrable when the grades are B or better, but the student's program must include at least 22 semester hours at Iowa State.

Master's candidates ordinarily take at least two courses per semester. Typically, they complete their work for the degree within two years.

## Basic Curriculum

Through the Literature Program, students enlarge their knowledge of British and American literature and criticism. They also initiate their development as independent scholars, acquire training and experience in teaching, or prepare themselves for doctoral study in English or a professional field such as theology or law. Although the program is designed to avoid an overemphasis in a specific period, genre, or area, it offers sufficient flexibility to allow a focus on a student's particular concerns and interests.

The program of study calls for 30 credits distributed as follows:

- Criticism, methodology, or teaching of literature (3 credits)
- Literature (15 credits, divided between British and American literature)
- Linguistics (3 credits)
- Electives (6 credits)
- Thesis or creative component (3 credits)

Master's candidates also must satisfy a foreign language requirement through one of several options.

## Minors

Students may declare a minor, subject to the requirements of the minor-granting department or program. Minors are available through the university's academic departments and through cross-disciplinary programs such as religious studies, and technology and social change. Ordinarily, students would meet the requirements for a minor by using electives and taking an additional 3 to 4 credits of course work.

## Financial Aid

Several sources of financial aid are available to students in the Literature Program. Qualified students may receive teaching or research assistantships.

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Teaching assistants are responsible for teaching 3 sections of Freshman English per academic year or for tutoring students through the department's Writing Center. Students who serve as first-year teaching assistants receive guidance both from a faculty consultant and also through enrollment in a pro-seminar. Research assistants spend 10 to 20 hours per week assisting individual faculty members or working in Department of English programs. Assistants pay fees at the rate for residents. In most cases, a university scholarship covers one-half of the fees. For quarter-time RAs, the scholarship pays 25 percent of the fees.

Entering graduate students may be eligible for PACE (Premium for Academic Excellence) Awards, which cover half of the resident fees. In addition, the university participates in federal- and state-sponsored loan and work-study programs.

Each year, the Pearl Hogrefe Fellowships fully support two students who include creative writing in an M.A. degree program.

### **The M.A. in Literature**

As a terminal degree, the M.A. is normally sought by people interested in teaching literature in secondary schools or at the undergraduate college level, especially in junior colleges. Master's candidates can elect courses leading to a teaching certification for Iowa junior colleges.

The M.A. can also be used as the first stage of graduate study leading to a Ph.D. at another institution or to a professional degree, such as law. Predoctoral candidates should plan programs that will enlarge their general knowledge of literature and will advance their understanding of theory and research methods.

# Faculty

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- Gretchen Bafaille—American Indian literature; ethnic literature
- Robert Bataille—18th-century British literature; British satire
- Donald Benson—Milton; 17th-century British literature; literature and science
- Neal Bowers—Modern and contemporary poetry
- Susan Carlson—Shakespeare; British and American drama; women in drama
- Scott Consigny—Modern and contemporary fiction; literary criticism and theory
- Phillips Davies—Romantic poetry; Victorian fiction
- Rosemary Davies—D. H. Lawrence; modern drama
- Mary Helen Dunlop—American literature and culture; literary realism; regionalism
- Aubrey Galyon—Chaucer; medieval literature; Old and Middle English
- Linda Galyon—Spenser; Renaissance literature
- Karl Gwiasda—19th-century British literature; literature and science
- Frank Haggard—Shakespeare
- Richard Herrnstadt—Transcendentalism; American literature; Black American literature
- Kathy Hickok—Women's literature; 19th-century British literature
- William McCarthy—18th-century British literature; theory of interpretation
- Neil Nakadate—Contemporary American literature; 20th-century fiction
- T. D. Nostwich—Dreiser; American literature; 20th-century fiction
- Lee Poague—Theory and criticism of literature and film; Renaissance drama
- Rosanne Potter—Modern drama; women's studies; computer applications to English studies
- Dale Ross—Mark Twain; American literature; popular literature and culture
- Loring Silet—Film; contemporary American fiction; bibliography
- Richard Zbaracki—English education; teaching of literature
- Zora Zimmerman—Folklore and myth; romantic movement; comparative literature

# Information

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Please send me information about graduate study in the Literature Program at Iowa State University. Also send me information about financial aid.

Please print clearly.

Proposed date of enrollment \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

I (received) (expect to receive) my \_\_\_\_\_

degree from the \_\_\_\_\_ department at

\_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ .  
(university) (month/year)

Send to:

Graduate Studies

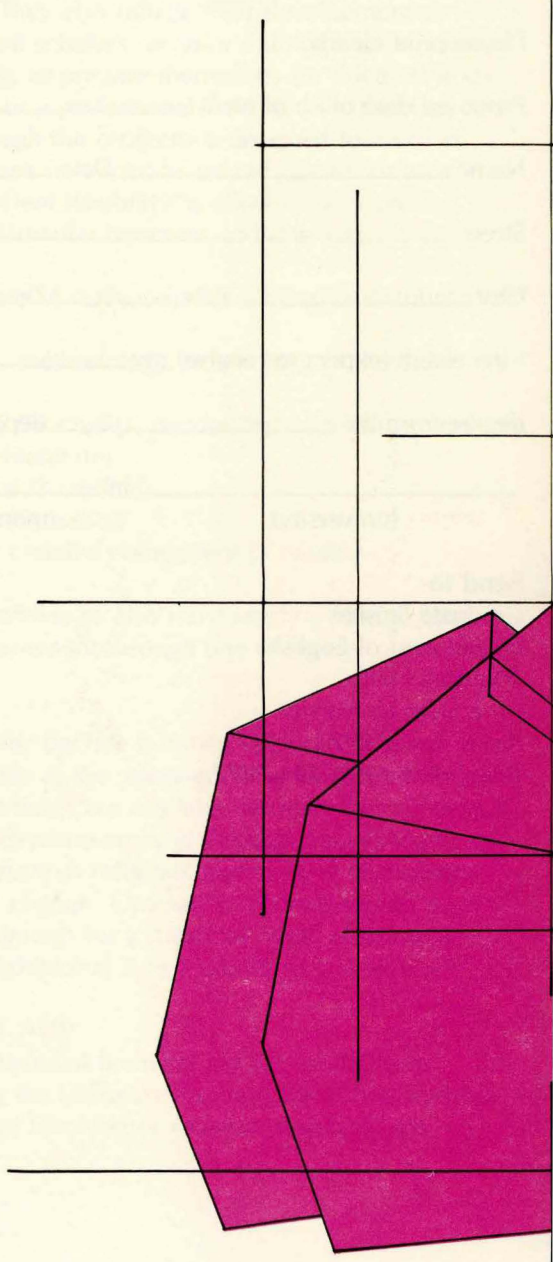
Department of English

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Iowa State University

Ames, Iowa 50011

Telephone: (515) 294-2477



Artist's rendering of *Prairie Teton*, a campus sculpture by Fred Reynolds.