

English, MA - Capstone Option

Basic Requirements:

- 33 hours of coursework (11 courses). At least one-third of the hours you take toward your degree should be at the 600 level.
- You must complete all work toward your degree within 10 years of the first course you take. Courses taken between 6 and 10 years prior to your degree program completion date must be re-validated by departmental exams negotiated with the specific faculty member who has responsibility for that course; any graduate course more than 10 years old may not be used.
- Up to 9 hours of graduate work in English may be transferred from other institutions with the approval of the Director of Graduate Studies. At least 9 hours in English courses numbered 500 or above must be completed here at UAH (exclusive of thesis hours).
- To be a full-time student, you will need to take a course load of 9 hours per semester. While you are permitted to take up to 13 semester hours per term, you should consult with the Director of English Graduate Studies (ehgrad@uah.edu) about doing so.
- You must maintain a 3.0 GPA in all courses taken at the graduate level. If in any semester your cumulative GPA falls below that 3.0 level, you will be placed on probation.

Capstone Requirements:

The Capstone project should be completed in the final semester you anticipate being enrolled in the MA program. The Capstone project typically consists of the expansion of a paper or major project originally completed for one of your MA courses. The project is typically framed toward a professional goal (academic conference presentation or academic journal publication, work application portfolio, creative writing publication, etc.). Graduate students will choose a Capstone director and develop goals for the project and a completion plan. Students should follow department deadlines for the Capstone project:

1. Selection of supervisor: December 1 (for Spring graduation); May 1 (for Fall graduation)
2. Submission of Non-Thesis Capstone Proposal: January 20 (for Spring graduation); August 20 (for Fall graduation). The proposal will be subject to revision at this point, but should be finalized as an acceptable plan NO LATER THAN two weeks after initial submission (to allow time for the work to be completed).
3. Submission of completed Non-Thesis Capstone Project: March 15 (for Spring graduation); October 20 (for Fall graduation)

The Capstone project is culminated with an interview about the project's process by the chair of the Capstone and a second, appointed department faculty member. See the Graduate School information page for final Capstone (non-thesis) project deadlines (<https://www.uah.edu/graduate/resources/dates-deadlines/>). For more information contact the Director of English Graduate Studies (ehgrad@uah.edu). **Please be advised** that since most faculty members are on nine-month contracts and thus not employed by the university during the summer, it is usually not possible to schedule thesis defenses between mid-May and mid-August.