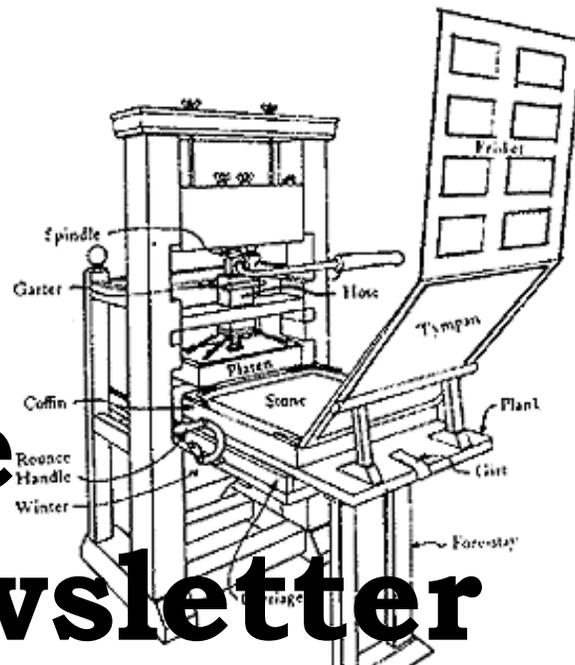


English Graduate Newsletter



San José State University

Volume XXXXV, Number 3

March 2013

Andrew Fleck, Graduate Coordinator ————— Alan Soldofsky, Director of Creative Writing

SPRING OFFICE HOURS

MA students should find Professor Fleck in his office at FO 111 this semester Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1:00 to 2:30, as well as on other days by appointment. Phone: 924-4457; email: Andrew.Fleck@sjsu.edu. MFA students should consult Professor Soldofsky in FO 106; hours: Tuesday and Wednesday 1:30 to 2:45 and by appointment; phone: 924-4432; email: alan.soldofsky@sjsu.edu.

PROGRAM APPROVAL DEADLINE: AUGUST AND DECEMBER GRADUATES

If you are planning to graduate in August or December of 2013, and you have not filed your approved program (i.e. been formally advanced to candidacy) you should see your advisor immediately. Remember, you need to file your program nearly *two* semesters before you plan to graduate. (The best policy is to file your program one full year before graduation. It is always possible to file revisions to the list of courses you plan to complete.) Find the "Petition for Advancement to Graduate Candidacy" form at the GAPE Current Students Forms website: http://www.sjsu.edu/gape/current_students/forms/.

MA COMPREHENSIVE EXAMS

Please note that the next round of MA Comprehensive exams to be given on the first and second Saturdays of the Fall 2013 semester. Fall 2013 instruction begins on August 21st. Thus the Fall MA Exam Part One (pre-1800) will be offered on Saturday, August 24th and the Fall MA Exam Part Two (the post-1800 section) will be offered on Saturday, August 31st. Time and place for both exams is **9:00 AM to 12:30** in **FO 104**. Bring to the exam a supply of **pens** (*not pencils*) and **unmarked** large bluebooks. Your bluebooks will be identified by number only. Please let Professor Fleck know the month before if you plan to take either or both parts of the exams. If you have not already done so, he will ask you to fill out the self-inventory of your reading in various fields and show it to her when you sign up (via email or in person). Please plan on taking Spring 2014 MA exams in the first weeks of the semester. The entire reading list and the form to fill out your own inventory of your reading can be found by clicking on "guidelines" at <http://www.sjsu.edu/english/graduate/ma/macomps.html>.

MFA COMPREHENSIVE EXAM

Sign up to take the Fall 2013 MFA Exam by emailing Prof. Soldofsky your SJSU I.D. number, Primary and Secondary Genre, and Thesis Director's name. If you plan to graduate in Fall 2013 or Spring 2014, you should consult your thesis director about taking the Fall Exam. Exam is scheduled Sept. 20 – 23.

MA & MFA FOREIGN LANGUAGE EXAMS

Both degree programs require a level of fluency in a second language roughly equivalent to two years of college study of a language. If within five years of filing your program (achieving Candidacy), you have completed the fourth semester (or sixth quarter) of an approved university-level foreign language course sequence with a grade of "B" or better, you have already satisfied this requirement. Just be sure to bring this to the attention of your advisor when you file for candidacy. Students who have taken coursework longer than five years previous to filing for candidacy or who have acquired their language skills and knowledge outside of an academic institution can satisfy the foreign language requirement in French, German, or Spanish, by taking an examination offered in the Foreign Language Department that has been specially devised for our graduate students. Please contact:

<u>Examiner</u>	<u>email</u>	<u>phone</u>
Professor Trudeau (French):	Danielle.Trudeau@sjsu.edu	924-4594
Professor Sabalius (German):	Romey.Sabalius@sjsu.edu	924-4616
Professor Eleanor Marsh (Spanish):	Eleanor.marsh@sjsu.edu	924-4614

(it is usually best to call Professor Marsh or meet her in person in office hours)

Evidence of a first-language literacy other than English also satisfies the requirement. For answers to questions about this requirement, or to satisfy this requirement in a language other than French, German, or Spanish, please contact Professors Fleck or Soldofsky for more information.

GRADUATE ASSISTANT AND TEACHING ASSOCIATE POSITIONS FOR 2013-2014

Applications for the T.A. and G.A. program were due on March 1.

DEADLINE FOR MA AND MFA THESIS PROPOSALS

Thesis proposals must come to the Graduate Committee in the semester preceding the semester in which you will enroll for English 299. If you plan to write your thesis in the **Fall 2013** term, you must get your proposal to the Graduate Committee by **April 2nd**. But there is no reason to wait until the deadline, and there is every reason to get an early start. Before you can present your proposal to the committee, you must 1) find a faculty member who will direct your work, 2) see your program coordinator to get a copy of the program's guidelines for developing proposals, and 3) develop your proposal in consultation with your thesis director/first reader, and 4) show your program coordinator a draft of your proposal and coversheet that has been approved by your director. (MFA students should also propose the names of second and third readers.) Only after you have done all this will you be ready to submit eight copies of your proposal to the committee. All this must be done *before* the deadline. Also note: the committee will be selective in deciding who will be permitted to write an MA thesis, with preference given to students with particularly strong academic records and to proposals that have been carefully prepared. Those planning to write theses in the **Spring 2014 term** will need to get proposals to the committee by **October 22, 2013**.

DEADLINE FOR COMPLETING THESES

English department policy requires that every thesis must be approved by the thesis director, revised according to the director's instructions, and placed in the hands of the second and third readers in plenty of time to meet the Graduate Studies deadline for submission of theses. Be sure to be in touch with all of the members of your committee so that you can meet the university's (**April 5th**). *Start early*. Please inform Dr. Fleck if you are planning to complete a thesis this spring.

CONDITIONALLY CLASSIFIED GRADUATE STUDENTS

Conditionally classified students must complete required undergraduate course work before enrolling in graduate seminars. A list of upper-division literature courses approved for conditionally classified students is available from Professor Fleck. When you are eligible for classified status, the change is not

automatic; see your advisor to file the necessary form (http://www.sjsu.edu/gape/docs/change_classification.pdf).

APPROVED COURSES FOR THE ENGLISH MA AND MFA

Except for undergraduate courses you have to take if you are a conditionally classified student, most graduate work will consist in 200-numbered English classes. Courses taken outside the department will not count except in unusual circumstances. Get prior approval from your advisor before you take such courses. A limited number of upper-division undergraduate English courses can count towards the degree but you must secure the cooperation of the instructor and notify your graduate advisor of your plans. Again, get approval in advance.

PHD APPLICATIONS

The department would very much like to know about students applying to PhD programs and their success. Please let us know where you are applying and how things are working out. We have recently learned that Danielle Crawford was admitted to a Ph.D. program, as was David Coad. Congratulations to them! For those of you graduating this May, stopping by the coordinator's office for an informal "exit" interview should be considered a necessary part of your preparations for graduation.

ENGLISH GRADUATE LISTSERV

The English Grad listserve is now defunct. Please be sure to sign up for the google group for our English Graduate Program. To sign up, send a blank email to: enggrad-group+subscribe@sjsu.edu. Key information is sent out on the listserv. Joining the listserv is essential for all MA and MFA students.

IMPORTANT DATES IN 2013

- March 29:** Deadline for December 2013 graduates to submit approved official programs ("Petition for Advancement to Graduate Candidacy"/"Departmental Request for Candidacy Form") to Graduate Studies. See your advisor in March.
- April 2:** Deadline to submit thesis proposals (for fall 299 credits) to Department Graduate Committee.
- April 5:** Deadline for May graduates to submit approved thesis to Graduate Studies.
- May 11:** MFA Graduation Reading, 2:30 PM, MLK Library, rms. 225/229.
- May 13:** Fall 2013 MFA Exam sign-up deadline.
- May 24:** Department Graduation ceremony and reception at 5:30
- June 7:** Deadline for August 2013 graduates to file or reactivate application for graduation at the Graduate Studies Office.
- June 14:** Last day for May 2013 graduates to submit MA and MFA thesis copies for electronic publication (or embargoing).
- July 1:** Last day for August 2013 graduates to submit approved theses to Graduate Studies.
- Aug. 24:** MA Comprehensive Exam Part I 9:00 AM in FO 104
- Aug. 31:** MA Comprehensive Exam Part II 9:00 AM in FO 104
- Sept. 13:** Deadline for December 2013 graduates to file with Grad Studies
- Sept. 20:** MFA Comprehensive Exam distributed (9 AM).
- Sept. 23:** MFA Comprehensive Exam due (5 PM).
- Oct. 1:** Approximate deadline for May 2014 graduates to submit candidacy forms to GAPE
- Oct. 24:** Deadline to submit thesis proposals for Spring 2014 299 credits to Grad Committee.

