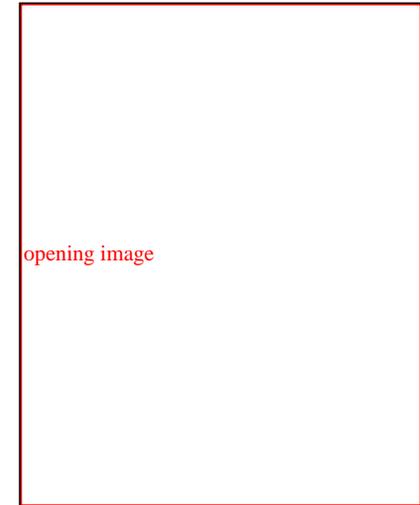


# English Graduate

## Newsletter



opening image

### Noelle Brada-Williams, Graduate Coordinator

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Noelle Brada-Williams, Graduate Coordinator

Alan Soldofsky, Director of Creative Writing

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#### FALL OFFICE HOURS

Professor Brada-Williams' office hours this semester are MW 9:00-10:15 AM and W 4:00-6:00 PM and by appointment. Phone: 924-4439; email: [awilli@email.sjsu.edu](mailto:awilli@email.sjsu.edu). Please feel free to call or to stop by her office (FO 110 for Fall semester) if you have any questions about the MA program. MFA students should consult Professor Soldofsky: Office: FO 106: MFA advising hours: TWT

H 3:15 - 4:45 PM. Phone: 924-4432, email: [soldofsk@email.sjsu.edu](mailto:soldofsk@email.sjsu.edu).

#### THE MA IN ENGLISH: A GUIDE FOR STUDENTS

New students should pick up the latest version of "The MA in English: A Guide for Students," a six-page brochure on blue paper which you'll find in the rack outside the English office. This will answer most questions about the program, and it includes the reading list for the comprehensive exam. The Guide is also available on the web at [www.sjsu.edu/depts/english/faq](http://www.sjsu.edu/depts/english/faq)

#### DEADLINE FOR DECEMBER GRADUATES

September 22 is the last date to file or to reactivate your application (at the Graduate Studies office, 9<sup>th</sup> street Student Services) for the award of the master's degree in December. You should have already filed your official program ([Advancement to Candidacy Form](#)). That deadline was March 31, 2006.

### DEADLINE FOR MAY GRADUATES

If you are planning to graduate in May 2007, you should file your official program before October 1, 2006. (The best policy is to file your program—and be officially Advanced to Candidacy—one year before graduation.) Applications for graduation must be filed by February 15, 2007.

### MA COMPREHENSIVE EXAM SCHEDULE

The 2006-2007 MA comprehensive exams will be given the first and second Saturdays in November and the second and third Saturdays in April. This fall, Part 1 will be given November 4, and Part 2 on November 11. In April, Part 1 will be given on April 7 and Part 2 on April 14. Time and place for all exams is 9:00 am to noon in FO 104. Bring a supply of pens and *unmarked* large bluebooks (your bluebooks will be identified by number only). You may bring a dictionary but no other materials. Please let Professor Brada-Williams know at least a week in advance which parts you plan to take ([awilli@email.sjsu.edu](mailto:awilli@email.sjsu.edu)).

### MA COMPREHENSIVE EXAM FORMAT

Questions on the first part of the exam cover the reading list to the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century and those on the second part cover later material (see [reading list online](#)). Questions on the history of English may appear in the first part; questions on rhetoric may appear in the second part; and questions on literary theory and questions requiring close analysis of verse or prose passages may appear in both parts. Each exam takes three hours. Students may take one or both parts of the exam in any term and in any order. The reading list for the exam is printed in "[The MA in English: A Guide for Students](#)" and as a single handout. You will find copies of both of these in the rack outside the English department office and on the department's web site. Copies of some previous exams are posted on the website [HERE](#).

### MA & MFA FOREIGN LANGUAGE EXAMS

Students wishing to satisfy the foreign language requirement in French, German, or Spanish, should take an examination offered in the Foreign Language Department. You must contact:

<u>Examiner</u>	<u>email</u>	<u>phone</u>
Professor Trudeau (French):	<a href="mailto:trudeau@sjsu.edu">trudeau@sjsu.edu</a>	924-4594
Professor Sabalius (German):	<a href="mailto:sabalius@email.sjsu.edu">sabalius@email.sjsu.edu</a>	924-4616
Professor		
Sempere-Martinez (Spanish):	<a href="mailto:jsempere@email.sjsu.edu">jsempere@email.sjsu.edu</a>	924-4592

You will be excused from the examination if, within five years of filing your program (achieving Candidacy), you have completed the fourth semester of an approved university-level foreign language course sequence with a grade of "B" or better. 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 Brada-Williams](#) or [Soldofsky](#).

### DEADLINE FOR MA & MFA THESIS PROPOSALS

Thesis proposals must come to the Graduate Committee at least five weeks before the end of the semester preceding the semester in which you will enroll for 299 credits. If you plan to write your thesis or project in the spring 2007 term, you must get your proposal to the [Graduate Committee](#) no later than **Wednesday, November 1**. Do not wait until the deadline. For guidelines for MFA theses, see Professor Soldofsky. If you are an MA student you must, before submitting your proposal to the committee, (1) see the MA Coordinator to get a copy of the department's guidelines for developing proposals, (2) find a faculty member who will direct your work, (3) develop your proposal in consultation with that faculty member, and (4) show the MA Coordinator a draft of your proposal that has been approved by your thesis director. Only after you have done all that will you be ready to submit eight copies of your proposal to the committee. Remember, too, that the committee will be selective in deciding who will be permitted to write a thesis, with preference given to students with particularly strong academic records and with proposals that have been carefully prepared. Again, the principle is: start early. **Print a copy**

of the Thesis Proposal form [here](#).

### **AWARD WINNING STUDENTS**

Congratulations to **Sarah Harkrader (MA)** and **Steve Wood (MFA)**, who earned the Mara Steffey Award as Outstanding English Graduate Students for 2005-2006, and to **Jacquelyn Hendricks**

**(MA)**, who won the Harvey Birenbaum award for Outstanding Scholarship in the Graduate Program. Congratulations as well to the graduate students who won awards in last spring's Phelan and other writing contests.

### **TEACHING ASSOCIATES**

Teaching Associates this year are: Rob Swart, Alanna Callaway, Meghan Kirkpatrick, Allyson Atwell, Peter O'Sullivan, James Trout, Julie Meloni, Alan Solis, Daniel Arnold, and Erica Goss. Graduate Associates this year are: Mary Williams, Michelle Perry, Manita Gautam, Ben Jonas and Candice Wynne. Congratulations to all!

### **APPROVED COURSES FOR THE ENGLISH MA**

The classes you take toward your 30-unit MA program *should*

be 200-numbered English courses. Upper-division English coursework (100 level) count if you have received permission of the instructor as well as the MA Coordinator. Classes taken outside the department will not count except in unusual circumstances. Get prior approval from your advisor before you take such courses.

### **CONDITIONALLY CLASSIFIED GRADUATE STUDENTS**

Conditionally classified students must complete their required undergraduate course work before enrolling in graduate seminars. When you are eligible for classified status, the change is not automatic; you need to see the MA Coordinator to file the necessary form.

### **KEEP INFORMED**

Important dates and other useful information will be posted on the **English Graduate Bulletin Board** in the first-floor hall of the Faculty Office Building. New information will be posted as we receive it. The number of conferences open only to graduate student presenters is growing, and these represent an excellent opportunity to get your work before a larger audience and to begin to participate actively in the scholarly community. We will post the announcements for these and other conferences on the Graduate Bulletin Board and on the department's list serve (see below). Check the submission dates and keep these in mind as you write your seminar papers. Program descriptions, course descriptions, the current Newsletter, and other documents are posted on the Department website: [www.sjsu.edu/depts/english/grad](http://www.sjsu.edu/depts/english/grad)

To receive information about English department activities via email, join the **English Society's** and **English Graduate Group's List Serves**. To join, simply send an email message to this address: [listproc@listproc.sjsu.edu](mailto:listproc@listproc.sjsu.edu). In the body of the text, type this: *SUBSCRIBE EngDept [your first name] [your last name]*. The same protocol works for the Graduate Group: *SUBSCRIBE EngGrad [your first name] [your last name]*. You will receive an automatic reply acknowledging your successful subscription and explaining how to unsubscribe any time you wish. In addition, students have formed a group, **English Graduate Organization**, which is available as a Yahoo Group listserv. To join, simply enter your email address below:

**Subscribe to SJSUEnglishGradOrg**

Powered by [groups.yahoo.com](http://groups.yahoo.com)

The SJSU **Graduate Studies Office website** publishes important deadlines, rules, and a list of steps for completing a Master's Degree: [www.sjsu.edu/gradstudies/Current/Completing\\_Masters](http://www.sjsu.edu/gradstudies/Current/Completing_Masters)

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## SOME IMPORTANT DATES

### 2006

Corrected 9/12/06

**Sept. 22:** Deadline for December graduates to file their applications (or reactivation forms) for graduation at the Graduate Studies Office, 9th Street Student Services Center.

**Sept. 30:** Deadline for December graduates to submit MFA thesis to second and third readers.

**Oct. 2:** Deadline for May graduates to file their [Advancement to Candidacy](#) forms (requires MA or MFA Advisor's signature).

**Oct. 7:** Deadline for May 2007 graduates to sign up to take the MFA Exam. (Also December 2006 graduates who have not passed the exam or have received the Advisor's permission to take it.)

**Oct. 27:** Deadline for December graduates to submit signed theses to the Graduate Studies Office.

**Oct. 30:** Deadline to submit thesis or project proposals (for spring 2007 299 units) to the English Department Graduate Committee.

**Nov. 3:** MFA Comprehensive Exam distributed (9:00 am).

**Nov 4: MA Comprehensive Exam Part 1** FO 104, 9-noon. (& GRE English Subject test scheduled by ETS)

**Nov 11: MA Comprehensive Exam, Part 2,** FO 104, 9-noon.

**Nov. 13:** MFA Comprehensive Exam due (5:00 pm).

**Dec. 2:** GRE Subject Test (and English 1A final for TA's)

### 2007

**Jan. 5:** Deadline for December 2007 graduates to Submit thesis copies for binding to Graduate Studies Office.

**Feb. 15:** Deadline for May 2007 graduates to submit application for award of Master's Degree to the Graduate Studies Office.

**April 5:** Deadline for May 2007 graduates to submit signed theses to the Graduate Studies Office.

**April 6:** MFA comprehensive exam distributed (9:00 AM).

**April 7:** MA comprehensive exam, Part 1, FO 104, 9-noon.

**April 9:** MFA comprehensive exam due (5:00 PM).

**April 14:** MA comprehensive exam, Part 2, FO 104, 9-noon.

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