Graduate Department of English
Master’s Requirements

As of fall 2013, requirements for the Master of Arts degree in English and American Literature include the following (N.B.: These regulations do not apply to students pursuing the MA with a concentration in Creative Writing):

1) Completion of 32 credits. Twenty-four of these 32 credits must be earned through course work within the department, and registration for courses that originate outside the department and are not cross-listed with English must be approved by the Director of Master Program.

2) A mandatory three-credit seminar, “Introduction to Advanced Literary Study for MA Students,” to be taken in the first term of matriculation.

3) One four-credit literature course focused in each of the following historical periods:
   - Medieval and Early Modern
   - Enlightenment and Romantic
   - Post-Romantic through Contemporary

4) Proficiency in a language other than English. This requirement may be satisfied by (a) achievement of a grade of B or better in the fourth term of a college language course completed not more than two years prior to matriculation for the MA degree in English and American Literature at New York University; or (b) success on a GSAS Foreign Language Proficiency examination at the appropriate level. Foreign Language Proficiency exams are given once each Spring, Summer, and Fall term; check with the English department’s Graduate Administrator for registration deadlines. International students whose native language is not English should consult the Director of MP for instructions on how to proceed.

5) Submission of a Special Project totaling about 9,000 words (i.e., 30 to 35 pages), written under the supervision of a department faculty member within the context of a required one-credit Guided Research course, registered for during an appropriate semester during the student’s period of matriculation. The Special Project might comprise revision of a paper written at an earlier point in the student’s MA career or prior to its commencement, or an entirely new undertaking, as deemed appropriate by the student’s faculty advisor and the Director of MP. See the department’s Instructions for the Special Project for details.

6) Completion of all MA program requirements within a five-year time-frame.