



ST. JOHN'S UNIVERSITY

ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE OF
LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES

Doctor of Philosophy in English

ABOUT THE PH.D. IN ENGLISH

The innovative Ph.D. in English at St. John's University distinguishes itself through its integration of rigorous research and writing with pedagogical theory and practice. The curriculum retains the rigor of traditional doctoral structures while incorporating forward-thinking training relevant to a changing academic landscape. As a student in the program, you receive interdisciplinary and wide preparation in advanced literary, cultural, and writing studies, as well as pedagogy.

You work with our nationally and internationally renowned faculty members to explore both traditional and emerging fields of literature, cultural studies, critical theory, and composition and rhetoric, while gaining experience teaching undergraduate courses in writing and literature. The program also integrates the vibrant intellectual culture of New York City and the academy at large for a full and rich doctoral study experience.

The program is designed for both full-time graduate students and professional educators, administrators, and writers who wish to complete a doctoral degree part-time. Pursuing full-time study, you can complete the Ph.D. in about five to six years: two years of course work, followed by approximately three or four years completing the oral comprehensive exams and dissertation while teaching. As a part-time student, you'll proceed more gradually toward completing the requirements.

WHAT CAN I DO WITH A PH.D. IN ENGLISH?

The Ph.D. program at St. John's prepares you as a teacher-scholar of English ready for positions in teaching-intensive institutions such as community colleges, state regional universities, and liberal arts colleges. The broad training you receive across the subdisciplines of literary studies, creative writing, and writing studies also positions you for careers in media and communication, publishing, technical writing, writing center administration, and other emerging fields.



“If writing is thinking and discovery and selection and order and meaning, it is also awe and reverence and mystery and magic.”

TONI MORRISON

Doctor of Philosophy in English



MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

I welcome you to the thriving intellectual community we have created in the English department at St. John's University. Our greatest asset as a department is our hybrid intellectual culture. We encourage our students to explore and discover connections between diverse aspects of the academic and teaching life. At St. John's, you'll find critical theorists examining Writing Center practices and creative writers wrestling with Shakespeare. We believe that educating our students in multiple practices as writers, teachers, and researchers produces vibrant graduates who are well-prepared to enter the challenging and changing landscapes of higher education and creative culture. Please contact me with your interests and questions!

Amy M. King, Ph.D.

Professor and Graduate Director, English
kinga@stjohns.edu

RESEARCH AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

As a graduate student at St. John's, you have access to our 1.8 million volume University library, which features a wide array of digital holdings that are particularly valuable for current doctoral scholarship in English. You can also take advantage of our proximity to world-class collections at the New York Public Library and other regional research collections through our consortium agreements.

The Department of English at St. John's fosters an active intellectual life with regular lectures and readings by renowned scholars and writers. There are also frequent faculty and student colloquia and film series. The doctoral program blog (stjenglish.com) offers descriptions of recent events, as well as faculty and student profiles and achievements. You may participate in two publications sponsored by the department: *The St. John's Humanities Review*, which features essays, interviews, and book reviews by contributors from St. John's and beyond, and *Sequoia*, a student journal of the literary and visual arts. These publications can help you build your curriculum vitae for further study and employment opportunities. The department also encourages student conference presentations and publication in national journals to help you prepare for the job market before graduation.

You have the opportunity to work closely with faculty members who are active scholars in their fields. Whether your interest lies with classical and medieval literature, creative writing, Early Modern and eighteenth-century literature, performance studies, nineteenth- and twentieth-century British or American literature, African-American or post-colonial literature, critical theory, or writing studies, you'll find faculty mentors to help you develop your research.

If you are interested in writing instruction and pedagogic theory, our program offers special expertise in training students for the administration of writing centers and writing programs. We encourage you to pursue opportunities we offer through our state-of-the-art Writing Center and our First-Year Writing Program.

FELLOWSHIPS AND FINANCIAL AID

Doctoral fellowships are available on a competitive basis through the Department of English. These positions offer tuition remission and a stipend and require teaching or research assistance.

For more information about fellowships and other types of financial aid, visit stjohns.edu/admission-aid/tuition-and-financial-aid.

PROGRAM INFORMATION AND APPLICATIONS

Amy M. King, Ph.D.

Professor and Graduate Director
Department of English
718-990-5314
kinga@stjohns.edu

ADMISSION INFORMATION

Robert Medrano

Director
Office of Graduate Admission
718-990-2790
medranor@stjohns.edu
stjohns.edu/admission/graduate