



Domestic Applicants

I. Description of Degree

Our department offers innovative and dynamic Master of Arts programs in Literature & Cultural Studies; Rhetoric, Composition & Literacy Studies; and Interdisciplinary Studies. These Masters programs are designed to provide students with comprehensive training in all areas of cultural & literary study and rhetoric & composition. Students in these programs pursue careers in teaching, professional writing, and editing, while others go on to pursue Ph.D. degrees at universities across the country. Our department includes graduate faculty from around the world who are actively engaged in research and publication.

II. Program Requirements

1. Online Application: The application to UTPA's graduate programs can be completed online at www.utpa.edu/gradapply
2. Application Fee: The University application fee of \$50 can be paid online by credit card or electronic check (in the online application), or in the form of money order or check and sent to the Office of Payments and Collections. In the case of money order or check, the applicant is responsible for submitting a copy of the receipt to the Graduate Studies office for documentation. All application fees are non-refundable.
3. Official Transcripts*: **Official college transcripts are to be sent to the Graduate Studies office directly from all the institutions attended.** If the applicant attended UTPA at any time, those official transcripts will be handled by the Graduate Studies office; however, the applicant is responsible for requesting official transcripts to be sent directly from all other institution(s).

*Transcripts must be sealed and sent directly from the institution to be considered official. Transcripts will be considered unofficial if they are hand delivered by the applicant or third party regardless if sealed by the institution. Failure to submit a complete/correct application and official transcripts from all institutions attended will result in one of the following: rejection of application, withdrawal of admission





offer or disciplinary action including expulsion if the student is enrolled. All submitted documents become the property of UTPA and will not be returned. Admission documents will remain on file for one year if the applicant does not attend the University. Documents will be retained for seven years for students enrolled in a master's level program and for ten years for students enrolled in a doctoral program. Please review the [Student File Retention Schedule](#) for more details.

4. Personal Statement (letter) detailing reasons for pursuing the graduate degree and professional goals (submitted online).
5. Have completed 33 semester hours of undergraduate coursework in English, 24 advanced, with a minimum GPA of 3.0, or have completed at least 21 semester hours of undergraduate coursework in English, 12 advanced, with a GPA of 3.25.

Conditional admission may be granted only after a review of application materials by the department chair and graduate advisor.

III. Deadlines

	Fall	Spring	Summer I (includes mini- semester)	Summer II
<i>Deadlines for Priority Registration</i>	March 1	Oct. 1	Oct. 1	Oct. 1
<i>Application Deadlines*</i>	Aug. 1	Dec. 1	May 1	June 1

* Applicants must submit all application documents and meet all other requirements by the published deadline date for the semester to which they are applying in order to be considered for admission. Note: Priority deadlines have been established that allow ample time for the application review to be completed before the first day of registration.

IV. Offers of Admission to the Graduate School

Official admission offers will be made only by the Office of Graduate Studies and are valid only for the semester requested on the application. Through the [Online Application Web site](#), you will be able to view the status of your application. Students who are accepted but do not attend the semester requested on the application must submit an application for readmission to enroll for a later semester. An additional application fee will be charged if the student reapplies more than one year from the semester originally requested. [Re-Apply](#)





V. Program Contact Information

Program Website: <http://www.panam.edu/dept/english/graduate.html>

Program Director: Gary Schneider

Email: garysch@panam.edu

Phone: (956) 318-5271

VI. Application Checklist:

1. Online application
2. Application fee
3. Original transcripts
4. Statement of Purpose
5. Undergraduate coursework

