

Requirements & regulations – PhD in English

Requirements for admission

To be accepted for the PhD program the student must possess:

- a) An MA in English from Université de Montréal or its equivalent from another university with a cumulative average of at least 3.30. Outstanding MA candidates may be admitted to the PhD program after completion of MA course work.
- b) Aptitude for advanced literary studies, which the Department will evaluate in the light of letters of reference, transcripts, a letter of intent, a 10-20 page writing sample, and a research proposal which should be sent with the application.

Regulations for the PhD Degree

Time Limit

A full-time student must complete all requirements for the degree in 15 terms (5 years). A student who registers at half time for part of his studies is allowed 18 terms (6 years). Upon request, a student may be granted an extension of 1 year. Also, students are permitted to suspend their registration for a maximum of 3 terms; time spent in suspension is not part of the 15 or 18 terms time limit.

Registration

Two years of full-time registration, or 1 year of full-time registration and 2 years at half-time, during which students must complete 15 credits of course work, including a course in literary theory. The passing mark for each course is C; a minimum grade-point average of 2.7 must be maintained for course work as a whole. Failure in any course terminates the candidacy of a PhD student. If the Graduate Studies Committee considers that a student's performance is unsatisfactory for any reason, it may recommend to the dean that the student be dismissed from the programme. Upon the completion of all required course work and examinations, a student is registered *en rédaction de thèse*, for which the fees are substantially lower.

Thesis

A thesis director is appointed at the beginning of a student's enrollment. Before the end of the 3rd term, the student must submit a **2-page, single-space research proposal** (prepared according to [SSHRC](#) requirements), **accompanied by the Faculté des études supérieures et postdoctorales (FESP) form [Enregistrement du sujet de recherche](#), a 5-8 page preliminary bibliography** and the **reading lists for the comprehensive examinations**. A PhD thesis normally consists of about 200-250 pages. For correct formatting of the thesis, please consult the University's guidelines in the [Guide de présentation des mémoires et des thèses](#).

Upon completion, it is evaluated by a jury consisting of 3 professors from the Department, and 1 from outside the University. The final step is a public oral defence.

[Consult the Graduate Student's Guide for more information.](#)