







## DEPARTMENT *of* ENGLISH

ARIZONA STATE  
UNIVERSITY

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*Narrative is radical, creating us at the very moment it is being created.*

*Toni Morrison, Nobel Lecture (1993)*

## THE DEPARTMENT

The Department of English at Arizona State University (ASU) is dynamic and is committed to excellent teaching, highly accomplished research, and substantive community and professional service. Offering degree programs in literature, comparative literature, English education, linguistics, and rhetoric and composition, we are a robust, broadminded group, rooted in tradition but always reaching toward greater invention, collaboration, and achievement.

Like the Sonoran desert in which ASU is situated, there is more vitality here than many expect. Faculty, students, alumni, and friends of the department participate in a rich offering of activities for diverse populations: colloquia, community-building events, conferences, lectures, outreach programs, performances, publications, reading groups, readings, symposia, and workshops.

In keeping with the spirit of innovation essential to narratives of the West, English at ASU, part of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, prides itself on seeding and nurturing the new. Indeed, new thought, new expression, and new ways of experiencing language and culture constitute the heart of our vision and work. Because most of us have come from other places, we understand the importance of extending a warm welcome to all.



*I visited career services and was guided through a list of jobs and opportunities available to English majors; this list was staggering. Everyone always assumes that an English degree is synonymous with teaching, and that couldn't be further from the truth. Careers in media, publishing, and communications were just a few options that lit up the list.*

*Jensen Peoples, Undergraduate English major*

## THE UNIVERSITY

Arizona State University is a comprehensive public institution with more than 60,000 undergraduate, graduate, and professional students on four campuses. With Research I status, ASU champions intellectual and cultural diversity and welcomes students from all 50 states and more than 100 nations around the globe.

Named one of “America’s Best Colleges” by *U.S. News & World Report*, ASU is developing as a model for a New American University. Our faculty are teacher-scholar-citizens who receive prestigious academic and professional awards, including membership in national academies. ASU ranks among the top major public universities in its enrollment of national merit scholars.

The Department of English is located on ASU’s largest campus in Tempe, a vibrant urban environment in the heart of the metropolitan Phoenix area. This ideal setting offers students a wealth of cultural and sporting events as well as a range of academic and career opportunities.

1885

TEMPE NORMAL SCHOOL (ASU) ESTABLISHED AS A  
TEACHERS COLLEGE ON 20 ACRES OF COW PASTURE  
DONATED BY GEORGE AND MARTHA WILSON

1886

ENGLISH AND RELATED CURRICULA TAUGHT AT TEMPE NORMAL  
SCHOOL INCLUDE READING, WRITING, GRAMMAR, CAESAR,  
CICERO, RHETORIC, VIRGIL, AND ENGLISH LITERATURE

1900

PHILOMATHIAN SOCIETY,  
A MANDATORY LITERARY  
SOCIETY, ESTABLISHED

1939

FIRST SOCIAL GROUP FORMED FOR  
AFRICAN AMERICANS ON ASU CAMPUS—  
THE DUNBAR SOCIAL AND LITERARY CLUB



## BRANCHES OF ENGLISH AT ASU

The Department of English champions rigorous and significant research. Faculty and students contribute to an academic and scholarly vision that embraces the Southwest, engages in intellectual fusion, harnesses research to specific social and cultural purposes, and develops research and pedagogy that are socially embedded and globally engaged. Our strategic design highlights our strengths and growth areas:

- Borderlands: Literatures, Languages, and Discourses
- Cultural and Cross-Cultural Encounters: Literatures, Languages, and Discourses
- Technologies: Literatures, Languages, and Discourses

This vision is realized and sustained through cross-collaborative partnerships, strategic hiring, and resource acquisitions which enhance our individual and collective national and international presence.

## PROGRAMS

### ENGLISH EDUCATION

The English Education program is among the top in the nation. We supervise student teachers entering the profession and we offer courses for teachers, graduate students, and adults seeking teaching certification.

### LINGUISTICS

The Linguistics programs are broad-based and global. Conjoining theory and application, faculty have strengths in phonology, syntax, sociolinguistics, historical linguistics, second language acquisition, and second language education.

### LITERATURE

From introductory surveys for non-majors to graduate seminars, we provide a comprehensive range of programs. Students develop and hone skills in oral presentation, writing, and critical thinking, while exploring social, historical, and cultural contexts.

### RHETORIC AND COMPOSITION

An array of courses encompasses the history, theory, and practice of rhetoric as well as the practice and pedagogy of writing. Flexible programs at both the MA and PhD levels encourage interdisciplinary scholarship that prepares students for varied professional objectives.

### WRITING PROGRAMS

The primary mission of this large unit is to help students acquire writing skills they will need in their academic work, in their future careers, and in their lives generally. Writing Programs offers courses from several sequences of first-year composition to advanced 300- and 400-level courses and serves more than 18,000 students annually.

[www.asu.edu/english/programs](http://www.asu.edu/english/programs)

## DEGREES OFFERED

BA in English

BAE in secondary education (English)

MA in English

MTESOL (Master of Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages)

PhD in English

1950 ENGLISH DEPARTMENT FACULTY MEMBER ERNEST HOPKINS PENS LYRICS TO ASU "ALMA MATER"

1956

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES ESTABLISHED, HOME OF THE ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

1957

FIRST GRADUATE PROGRAM (MA) IN ENGLISH CREATED

1958

JOHN NEWMAN BEECHER, GREAT NEPHEW OF HARRIET BEECHER STOWE, HIRED AS PART-TIME LECTURER IN ENGLISH DEPARTMENT AFTER BEING FIRED FROM ANOTHER COLLEGE FOR REFUSING TO SIGN A MCCARTHY-INSPIRED LOYALTY OATH

POET ROBERT FROST VISITS ENGLISH DEPARTMENT AND IS GIFTED A PORTRAIT OF HIMSELF BY HARRY WOOD, ASU DEPARTMENT OF ART



## COMMUNITY ENRICHMENT

### NARRATIVES THAT HIT HOME



Sponsored by the Department of English, the Young Adult Writing Project (YAWP) is a three-week creative writing seminar for eighth-through twelfth-graders. Students meet daily on campus to write in journals, participate in writing workshops, collaborate with young artist groups in other summer programs, and to meet guest speakers. The experience culminates in a public performance of students' best work at Changing Hands Bookstore in Tempe. The program encourages young people to write about their lives in their journals—a private place where one can explore passions or peculiarities, face fears, or expand dreams. YAWP is premised on *Writing and Being* (Innisfree Press 2004), by professor G. Lynn Nelson (pictured above).

*The Department of English is dedicated to enriching lives throughout our communities.*

*Tell me a story—a small story, a true story (or as true as you can tell it)—a story from your heart, a story from your life. Tell me of a time when you lost something—your keys, your heart, your mind, your mother or father, your way in the world—or tell me about a small joy you had today. Tell me a story—and your telling it will change you—and your telling it will change me—and such stories will move us both closer to the light.*

G. Lynn Nelson

These writers are empowered by their words and find confidence telling stories that want to be told. According to Project co-director P. Lynn Gutman, a department alumna, “students who mine their own experiences inevitably find themselves transformed.”

[www.asu.edu/english/yawp](http://www.asu.edu/english/yawp)

## OUTREACH PROGRAMS

Adult and Family Literacy Project  
 Alumni Lecture Series  
 Antislavery Literature Project  
 Arizona Universities Faculty Exchange Lecture Series  
 Come Home to English: ASU Homecoming Celebration  
 Community Writers Workshop

Emeritus Faculty Lecture Series  
 English Service Learning Internships  
 Multicultural Adolescent Literacy Internship  
*Poesía del Sol* ~ Poetry of the Sun  
 Prison Library and Education Project  
 Shakespeare Birthday Bash

Sichuan University Faculty and Student Exchange Program (Chengdu, China)  
 Simon Ortiz and Labriola Center Lecture on Indigenous Land, Culture, and Community  
 Words over Water  
 Writing Certificate Internships  
 Young Adult Writing Project (YAWP)



1961

PHD IN ENGLISH AUTHORIZED;  
 13 STUDENTS ADMITTED TO PROGRAM

1964

NATIONAL DEFENSE EDUCATION ACT GIVES FUNDS TO ENGLISH DEPARTMENT FOR PHD PROGRAM  
 LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE BUILDING COMPLETED (CURRENT HOME OF ENGLISH DEPARTMENT)

SHAKESPEARE'S QUADRICENTENNIAL BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION ORGANIZED BY ENGLISH DEPARTMENT (CELEBRATION REPEATED FOR HIS 443RD BIRTHDAY IN 2007)

## COLLABORATION

### ANTISLAVERY LITERATURE PROJECT: GRASSROOTS COOPERATION



Professor Joe Lockard directs the Antislavery Literature Project, a digital archive of abolitionist writings. Begun in 2003, the Antislavery Literature Project

involves affiliate scholars from institutions in the United States and abroad.

While most of its work involves creating annotated digital editions of historic antislavery literature, the Project also produces online teaching guides and digital videos of scholars performing English and French readings of antislavery texts to inspire and to enhance teaching and research in this area.

*The Department of English nurtures collaboration within the university and across institutions.*

The Project has launched new local explorations of antislavery culture. For example, under the direction of professor Kay Norton, ASU School of Music, faculty, staff, and students from Music, English, and Nursing sang as “The Antislavery Ensemble,” presenting selections from Jairus Lincoln’s abolitionist hymnal, *Anti-Slavery Melodies: For the Friends of Freedom* (1843). The Antislavery Literature Project also co-sponsored a multidisciplinary symposium entitled “Slavery & Antislavery: A New Research and Teaching Workshop.”

An exemplar of cooperative effort and multidisciplinary collaboration, the Antislavery Literature Project crosses boundaries of genre and geography in its important cultural work.

antislavery.eserver.org

## GLOBAL REACH

### CONVERSATIONS THAT CROSS BORDERS

Our graduate programs draw students from more than 30 countries, among them Taiwan, South Korea, Turkey, Vietnam, Canada, Kuwait, and Japan. In addition, our faculty maintain active intellectual and pedagogical ties abroad.

Thelma Shinn Richard has team-taught online with faculty from the University of Stellenbosch in South Africa. Elly van Gelderen has taught historical linguistics in Norway. Robert Bjork has delivered major keynote addresses for conferences in

London and at the University of Nottingham. Neal A. Lester and Maureen Daly Goggin shared their scholarly expertise on race and gender with students at Moscow State Linguistic University in Russia and at Sichuan University in China.

*The Department of English interfaces with communities and institutions worldwide.*

The Department has twice hosted the North American Society for the Study of Romanticism, directed by Mark Lussier, bringing together scholars from four continents and 13 countries. Simon Ortiz has presented his work in creative nonfiction at conferences in Switzerland and Germany. Elizabeth Rosa Horan’s work in the discovery and transfer to Chile of a previously sealed archive of letters, poems, and art belonging to Nobel Laureate Gabriela Mistral received extensive press coverage in South America, Europe, and Australia.

This Department is making an impact on the world, and the world is making its mark on this Department in the best possible ways.

[www.asu.edu/english/features/globalconnections](http://www.asu.edu/english/features/globalconnections)

1967

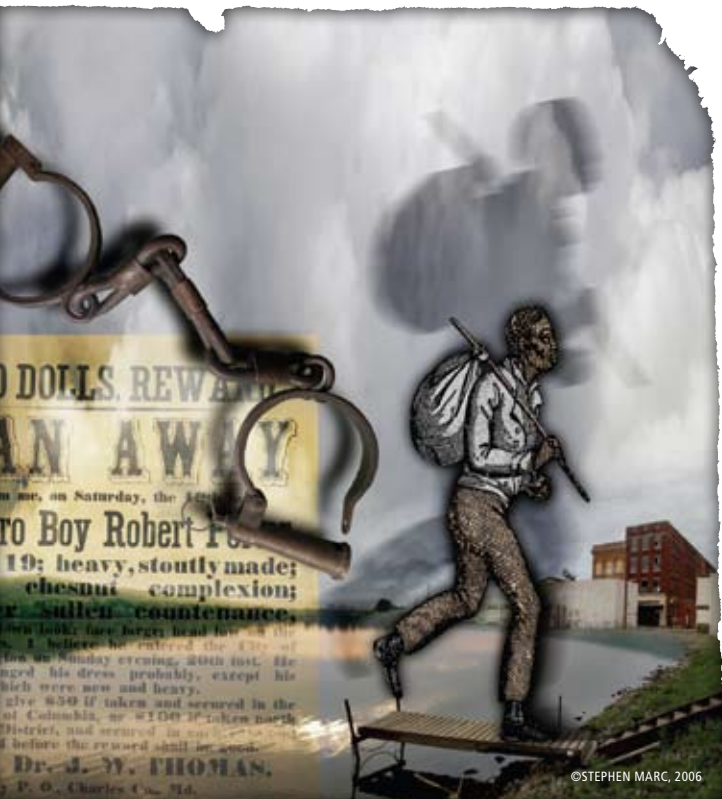
MA IN TEACHING ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE ESTABLISHED

1968

FIRST ENGLISH DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER PRODUCED

1969

FIVE-STORY ADDITION TO LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE BUILDING APPROVED



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English is a broad field beneficial to almost any career. As a literature major, I have been exposed to other cultures, different forms of verse, and different languages-allowing for a better understanding of other people and cultures, and verbal as well as written traditions. Majoring in English has also allowed me to improve my writing skills, essential in the professional world.

Meg Thomas,  
Undergraduate  
English major



## SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

### UNDERGRADUATE

ASU Eddie Dyer Memorial Writing Scholarship

Dean's Circle Scholarship

Department of English Faculty Scholarship

Friends of the Department of English Scholarship

Glendon and Kathryn Swarthout Awards in Writing

John Doeblar Memorial Award in Renaissance Studies

Jules J. Anatole Creative Writing Scholarship

Nick Ivins Memorial Literature Scholarship

Printer's Devil Essay Contest

Scott Soutullo First-Generation African  
American Literature Scholarship

Sun Angel Foundation Undergraduate  
Research Award in the Humanities

### GRADUATE

Carl C. Carlie Linguistics Fellowship

George and Collice Portnoff Endowed  
Fellowship in Comparative Literature

Glendon and Kathryn Swarthout Awards in Writing

John Doeblar Memorial Award in Renaissance Studies

Katharine C. Turner Endowed Fellowship

Marvin M. Fisher Book Award

Wilfred A. Ferrell Memorial Fellowship Award

[www.asu.edu/english/scholarships](http://www.asu.edu/english/scholarships)



## SELECTED DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH RECOGNITIONS

### FACULTY

American Academy of Arts and Sciences Membership

American Association of Higher Education Outstanding  
Latina Cultural Award in Literary Arts and Publications

Association of Teachers of Advanced Composition  
Gary A. Olson Award

American Council of Learned Societies Fellowship

American Philosophical Society Research Grant

Fulbright Award

Huntington Library Research Fellowships

Institute for Advanced Study Residency

International Reading Association Arbutnot Award

John Simon Guggenheim Memorial  
Foundation Fellowship

*Journal of Second Language Writing*  
Best Article Award

Medieval Academy of America Haskins Medal

National Council of Teachers of English  
David H. Russell Award

National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship

National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship

National Humanities Center Fellowship

National Science Foundation  
Science and Society Scholar Award

Newberry Library Fellowship

Renaissance Society of America Paul Oskar  
Kristeller Lifetime Achievement Award

### STUDENTS

Andrew W. Mellon Fellowship in  
Humanistic Studies

Fulbright Award

International Conference on Romanticism  
Best Student Paper Award

K. Patricia Cross Future Leaders Award

National Council of Teachers of English  
Affiliate Newsletter Award

Philanthropic and Educational  
Organization Scholar Award

Social Sciences and Humanities Research  
Council of Canada Doctoral Fellowship

*USA Today* Academic Achievement Award

[www.asu.edu/english/awards](http://www.asu.edu/english/awards)

*English is a combination  
of history, psychology,  
sociology, philosophy,  
and art. That's hard  
to beat.*

*J. Brandon Huseman  
Undergraduate English major*

## SCHOLARSHIP IMPACTING ENVIRONMENTS



Both Arizona and Hawaii are known for their majestic scenery and diverse cultures. They are also regions where natural and cultural landscapes are continually threatened, often from economic forces such as agriculture or tourism. Professor Beth Tobin, scholar of 18th-century literature who has taught at Arizona State University since 2001, has experienced both places, and the question of our relationship to nature drives some of her research.

Her book *Colonizing Nature: The Tropics in British Arts and Letters, 1760 – 1820* (University of Pennsylvania Press 2005), received the prestigious Suzanne M. Glasscock Humanities Book Prize for Interdisciplinary Scholarship. In *Colonizing Nature*, Tobin argues

that 18th-century art and literature helped form contemporary ideas about nature. In the tropics, these ideas nurture British imperialism and show up in paradoxical ways. On the one hand, Europeans hoped to preserve a Romantic version of the paradise celebrated in poetry and painting; on the other hand, they wanted to render the islands more productive and civilized by applying modern management principles. As Arizona and other places face the challenges of population growth and the exhaustibility of resources, such issues are never more relevant.

[www.asu.edu/english/who/tobin](http://www.asu.edu/english/who/tobin)

*Department of English faculty boast an impressive record of significant, timely, and highly acknowledged scholarly publications.*

1975

ASU BECOMES A 430-ACRE CAMPUS

1985

CREATIVE WRITING PROGRAM ESTABLISHED IN ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

1991

CARNEGIE FOUNDATION GRANTS ASU "RESEARCH I" STATUS

## INNOVATION THREADING NARRATIVES



Pioneering research is a hallmark of the Department of English at ASU. Maureen Daly Goggin, a professor of rhetoric, for example, studies needlework as storytelling. In 1830, Elizabeth Parker, daughter of a day laborer and a teacher of Ashburnham, East Sussex, England, cross-stitched a record of her brief life of 17 years. In these lines, Parker tells of sexual violation and physical abuse at the hands of her employer, Lt. G. After suturing 46 lines, 1,722 words, and 6,699 characters, she stops midline and midway down the cloth with the powerful plea: "What will become of my soul [?]"

Goggin's research unravels the mysteries of Parker's life and is the basis of a BBC radio play *Sampler T6*, authored by Louise Ramsden and aired on BBC4. Another rhetoric and needlework piece is a suffrage signature handkerchief stitched by Janie Terreno in 1912 to mark the hunger strike held April 13–19 of that year by suffragettes imprisoned and force-fed in London's Holloway Prison.

The suffragettes were arrested following a protest on March 1, 1912. For her part in the protest, Terreno stitches, she was arrested and sentenced to four months in prison. The signatures of the 20 women who shared a cell block with Terreno are embroidered on the handkerchief.

By turning her attention to the seemingly domestic and mundane—needlework—Goggin reveals and demonstrates the extraordinary in the ordinary, the most uncommon in the most common of material objects and practices. This perspective is also explored in an essay collection, *Women and Things: Material Culture, 1750-1950*, that Goggin co-edits with department colleague Beth Tobin.

[www.asu.edu/english/who/goggin](http://www.asu.edu/english/who/goggin)

*Department of English faculty engage in original, creative, and culturally relevant research.*





## COMMITMENT

### VISUALIZING LANGUAGES

*Department of English faculty are committed to using diverse strategies to facilitate student success.*

A faculty exemplar in the Department of English, professor Elly van Gelderen directs the Linguistics/MTESOL Program and teaches her students to build tree structures—charts of language usage and construction. These trees enable her students to visualize how words work together and to compare syntax of different languages by examining their differences and similarities.

Van Gelderen is a highly regarded scholar whose encouraging manner helps her students accomplish their goals. She speaks four languages and is competent in another six. Among the many classes she teaches is “History of the English Language,” also the title of her sixth book (John Benjamins 2006).

Author of more than 95 articles, chapters, and reviews, van Gelderen has lectured at and participated in conferences throughout the world. With a PhD from McGill University, she has taught at universities in Canada, the Netherlands, Norway, and the United States.

At ASU, van Gelderen has set up community internships for MTESOL students and has mentored myriad MA/MTESOL/PhD candidates. As a community citizen, she assists in gathering and distributing books for the Department of English Prison Library and Education Project and works with the ASU American English and Culture Program (AECPP). Van Gelderen is also an avid hiker and an accomplished painter.

[www.asu.edu/english/who/vangeldereren](http://www.asu.edu/english/who/vangeldereren)



ASU English professors do not simply lecture. They lose themselves in their work, inspire their students' appreciation of literature, and they emphasize the significance of the study of English in all fields. They truly teach.

Charity McAdams  
English department alumna

The moment I knew that I wanted to study English came during my English 210 Creative Writing class when I realized that I actually loved doing the homework.

Melissa Mapes  
Undergraduate English major

1998 PHD IN RHETORIC, COMPOSITION, AND LINGUISTICS ESTABLISHED IN ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

2006 ASU BECOMES SECOND LARGEST U.S. UNIVERSITY WITH 51,234 STUDENTS

2002 VISION OF ASU AS A "NEW AMERICAN UNIVERSITY" UNVEILED

2007 ASU ENGLISH FACULTY MEMBERS TEACH AT SICHUAN UNIVERSITY IN CHENGDU, CHINA, AS INAUGURAL VISITING SCHOLARS



## CONNECTION

The Department of English at Arizona State University understands that a spirit of community is essential to fulfilling its mission, and we are as intent on maintaining the connections we have as we are on creating new ones. To this end, we welcome contact with all who have been part of the ASU English community and with those who are eager to create new possibilities for growth and celebration.



Produced by the Department of English at Arizona State University and the Department Advancement Board.

### ADVANCEMENT BOARD MEMBERS

Joan Berry, MTESL 2005  
Bettie Anne Doebler, Professor Emerita  
Beatrice "Babs" Gordon, BA 1987, MA 1989 and Faculty Emerita  
Dan Shilling, PhD 1987  
Maire Simington, MA 1976, PhD 2003

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