

Pre-2025 Bread Loaf MA Degree Requirements

Master's degree candidates must complete ten units, including five distributional requirements, and receive a grade of B- or better in each. No master's thesis is required.

Though students have 10 years to complete the degree, most take two units per summer and finish the degree in four or five summers. Each one-unit course at Bread Loaf receives the equivalent of three semester hours or 4.5 quarter hours of graduate credit.

The curriculum is divided into six groups:

- **Group 1** Writing, Pedagogy, and Literacy
- **Group 2** British Literature: Beginnings through the 17th Century
- **Group 3** British Literature: 18th Century to the Present
- **Group 4** American Literature
- **Group 5** World Literature
- **Group 6** Theater Arts

Degree candidates are required to take one unit from **Group 2**, one from **Group 3**, one from **Group 4**, **one from Group 5**, and one additional unit from any of these groups. The remaining five units are electives.

Transferring Credit

A maximum of two graduate courses (the equivalent of six semester-hour or nine quarter-hour credits) may be [transferred from another institution](#).