



# Program Specification

— (Postgraduate)

<b>Program Name:</b>	MA in English Literature
<b>Program Code:</b>	023102
<b>Qualification Level:</b>	7
<b>Department:</b>	Department of Languages and Translation
<b>College:</b>	College of Humanities and Social Sciences
<b>Institution:</b>	Northern Border University
<b>Program Specification:</b>	New <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> updated <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Last Review Date:</b>	December 2024

\*Attach the previous version of the Program Specification.

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## A. Program Identification and General Information:

### 1. Program's Main Location:

Department of Languages and Translation, College of Humanities and Social Sciences, Northern Border University, Arar

### 2. Branches Offering the Program (if any):

None

### 3. System of Study:

☒ Coursework & Thesis

☐ Coursework

### 4. Mode of Study:

☒ On Campus

☐ Distance Education

☐ Other .....(specify)

### 5. Partnerships with other parties (if any) and the nature of each:

- Partnership Arrangement: None

- Type of Partnership:

- Duration of Partnership:

### 6. Professions/jobs for which students are qualified:

- Working in all the sectors of Ministry of Culture
- Lecturer of English Language, literature, and literary theory
- Saudi literature translator
- Language program director or coordinator
- Working in English-Arabic dictionary Design
- A researcher in the field of national literature at research centers
- Material Designer and Developer
- Teacher trainer
- Translator or Interpreter
- Editor
- Content Writing
- Journalist
- Teaching English in Public, higher education, and private institutions
- Working in broadcasting, media, and television
- Diplomatic jobs outside the Kingdom
- Working in tourism sector

### 7. Relevant occupational/ Professional sectors:

### 8. Major Tracks/Pathways (if any):

Major track/pathway	Credit hours (For each track)	Professions/jobs (For each track)
<b>Thesis Track:</b>	36	university faculty members, the sectors of Ministry of Culture, translators, journalists, Editor, literature critical analysts, etc.

### 9. Total credit hours: ( 33 HRs )

## B. Mission, Goals, and Program Learning Outcomes

### 1. Program Mission:

**To provide high quality education and training in scientific research within the area of English Literature. To foster literary studies that contribute to the growth of the community.**

### 2. Program Goals:

The program aims to:

- 1- Provide graduates with academic knowledge of English literature and literary theory.
- 2- Prepare postgraduate students to conduct innovative research in the field of English Literature.
- 3- Enrich universities with highly qualified academics in the area of English Literature who are able to serve the society.

### 3. Program Learning Outcomes:

#### Knowledge and Understanding:

K1	Demonstrate knowledge of English literature and its various genres in a wider context.
K2	Identify literary theories and their application to the interpretation and evaluation of literary texts.
K3	Demonstrate high-level proficiency in literary research.
K4	Demonstrate critical and analytical skills in close reading, interpretation and evaluation of various literary texts.

#### Skills:

S1	Apply literary theories to academic research and critical thinking.
S2	Conduct an authentic academic research.
S3	Examine and evaluate literary texts using critical and analytical skills.
S4	Utilize information and communication technology in conducting scientific research

#### Values, Autonomy, and Responsibility:

V1	Demonstrate integrity while conducting academic research.
V2	Collaborate effectively in team work.
V3	Contribute to fostering community quality life.

\* \* Add a table for each track (if any)

## C. Curriculum:

### 1. Curriculum Structure:

Program Structure	Required/ Elective	No. of courses	Credit Hours	Percentage
Course	Required	9	30	90%
	Elective	1	3	10%
Graduation Project (if any)				
Thesis (if any)				
Field Experience(if any)				
Others (.... )				
Total		10	33	100%

\* Add a separated table for each track (if any).

### 2. Program Courses:

Level	Course Code	Course Title	Required or Elective	Pre-Requisite Courses	Credit Hours	Type of requirements (Institution, College, or Program)
Level 1	LIT6060	<a href="#">English Literature: A Historical Perspective</a>	Required	-	3	-
	LITR6061	<a href="#">American Literature: A Historical Perspective</a>	Required	-	3	-
	LITR6062	<a href="#">African Literature</a>	Required	-	3	-
	LITR6062	<a href="#">Research Methods in Literature</a>	Required	-	3	-
Level 2	LITR6063	<a href="#">20<sup>th</sup> Century Drama</a>	Required	-	3	-
	LITR6064	<a href="#">20<sup>th</sup> Century Poetry</a>	Required	-	3	-
	LITR6065	<a href="#">20th century Literary Theories</a>			3	-
Level 3	LITR6066	<a href="#">Postcolonial Literature</a>	Required	-	3	-
	LITR6067	<a href="#">20<sup>th</sup> Century Novel</a>	Required	-	3	-
	LITR6068	<a href="#">Comparative Literature</a>	Elective	-	3	-
	LITR6069	<a href="#">World Literature in English</a>				
Level 4	Thes6070	<a href="#">Thesis</a>	Required	Research Methods in Literature	6	-

\* على الطالب أن يختار احد هذين المقررين الأدب المقارن-LITR6068 او أدب عالمي-LIT6069

**Total Hours: 36**

### 3. Course Specifications:

Insert hyperlink for all course specifications using NCAAA template (T-104)

#### رابط التوصيفات

[English Literature: A  
Historical Perspective](#)  
[American Literature: A  
Historical Perspective](#)  
[African Literature](#)  
[Research Methods in  
Literature](#)  
[20<sup>th</sup> Century Drama](#)  
[20<sup>th</sup> Century Poetry](#)  
[20th century Literary  
Theories](#)  
[Postcolonial Literature](#)  
[20<sup>th</sup> Century Novel](#)  
[Comparative Literature](#)  
[World Literature in  
English](#)  
[Thesis](#)

### 4. Program learning Outcomes Mapping Matrix:

Align the program learning outcomes with program courses, according to the following desired levels of performance  
(I = Introduced P = Practiced M = Mastered).

Course code & No.	Program Learning Outcomes										
	Knowledge and understanding				Skills				Values, Autonomy, and Responsibility		
	K1	K2	K3	K4	S1	S2	S3	S4	V1	V2	V3
LIT6060	I										
LITR6061	I										
LITR6062						M					
LITR6064		M		M			M				
LITR6063		M		M			M				
LITR6065		M		M			M				
LITR6067		M		M			M				
LITR6066	I						M				
LITR6068	I						M				
LITR6069				P							
The6070			M		M			M	P	P	P

\* Add a separated table for each track (if any).

\* على الطالب أن يختار احد هذين المقررين الأدب المقارن- LITR6068 او أدب عالمي LIT6069

## 5. Teaching and learning strategies applied to achieve program learning outcomes:

Describe teaching and learning strategies, to achieve the program learning outcomes in all areas.

### (A) Curricular Activities

(1) Teaching and learning strategies related to the domains of "knowledge" and "skills":

- lectures
- tutorials
- problem-solving exercises
- supervised research papers
- self-learning (students are encouraged to study independently and use the library resources)
- videos and audio recordings
- Blackboard (online learning system)

(2) The development of "values" is embedded in the teaching and learning strategies employed across all courses.

### (B) Extra-Curricular Activities

#### Aims

- Enable students to sample and enjoy a broad range of activities and pursuits.
- Stimulate interest in current social, economic, or cultural topics outside their study program.
- Encourage students to enhance their social skills and build a cooperative ethos.
- Develop professional ideals and standards through activities.
- Develop leadership capabilities of members.

#### Objectives

- Ensure that students are fully informed of procedures and policies regarding extracurricular activities.
- Provide safe recreational experiences within the KAU university environment.
- Communicate and disseminate information through campus media on and off campus grounds.
- Obtain assistance from staff in planning and conducting any programs, events, or projects.
- Use campus facilities, services, building, and properties in conformity with KAU policies and regulations



## 6. Assessment Methods for program learning outcomes:

Describe assessment methods (Direct and Indirect) that can be used to measure the achievement of program learning outcomes in all areas.

The program should devise a plan for assessing Program Learning Outcomes (all learning outcomes should be assessed at least once in the program's cycle).

### (A) Knowledge and Skills Domains

#### **Direct Assessment**

- tests
- essays, assignments, and reports
- oral presentations
- language tasks
- formative assessment (e.g., oral feedback and in-class discussions)
- Assessment of PLOs through direct measurement of CLOs

#### **Indirect Assessment**

- Course Evaluation Surveys: conducted at the end of every semester and provide
- Feedback from all students for all courses offered at the university level.
- Alumni Surveys: alumni are asked to rate the program outcomes and give their feedback on their experience through a survey that is distributed annually.
- Employer Surveys: Employers will be asked to rate the achievement of the program outcomes through a survey that is distributed periodically.

### (B) Values, Autonomy, and Responsibility Domain

Professional development report, journals

## D. Thesis and Its Requirements (if any):

### 1. Registration of the thesis:

(Requirements/conditions and procedures for registration of the thesis as well as controls, responsibilities and procedures of scientific guidance)

Following the requirements stated in the Unified Regulations for Postgraduate Studies at Northern Border University (<https://cdn2.me-qr.com/pdf/20507076.pdf>). The following summarize the main steps:

#### Thesis Registration in Literature

1. To register for a thesis, students must meet the postgraduate criteria set by Northern Border University. This involves completing fifty percent of the credit hours, finishing all prerequisite courses, and getting approval from their academic advisor or program coordinator
2. Students choose a thesis topic in consultation with their academic advisor and a faculty expert in their area of interest. The topic should align with their academic and career goals and contribute to the field of Literature.
3. A detailed thesis proposal is required, outlining the research questions, objectives, methodology, and expected contributions. This proposal must be reviewed and approved by a thesis committee of relevant faculty members.
4. After the proposal is approved by the thesis committee, students must follow the registration process set by their academic department or program. This includes submitting the proposal, completing registration forms, and meeting all university requirements.
5. Upon registration, students are assigned a supervisor or supervisors who provide ongoing guidance and support throughout the thesis research process.



### **Responsibilities and Duties of the Scientific Supervisor**

1. Guide the student and emphasize the importance of scientific research, academic integrity, and responsibility.
2. Familiarize the students with regulations and ensure that they read and work according to the university regulations related to theses.
3. Encourage the student to complete all official thesis registration processes.
4. Support the student in creating a detailed research timeline.
5. Advise the student and facilitate connections with relevant entities or individuals who can assist with research challenges.
6. Meet with the student on a regular basis to review progress and submit periodic reports on the student's research achievements.
7. Provide feedback to help students meet the required academic standards.
8. Motivate the student to publish parts of their thesis in recognized scientific journals.
9. Discuss any significant delays with the student and ensure that they prepare a revised schedule to ensure timely thesis submission.
10. Assist the student in preparing for their thesis defense, including presentation skills and effective communication of research.
11. Inform the scientific research administration of the defense schedule and coordinate with the defense committee.
12. Ensure the implementation of required adjustments to the thesis as recommended by the defense committee.

### **Responsibilities and Duties of the Student**

1. Follow the research plan approved by the department council, faculty council, and the dean of graduate studies.
2. Fulfill all academic requirements promptly, demonstrating commitment and responsibility.
3. Follow the guidelines provided by the scientific supervisor.
4. Develop the necessary skills in the research field and take full responsibility for managing research activities required for completion.
5. Discuss any issues or challenges encountered during the research with the main supervisor immediately.
6. Keep the supervisor informed about the research plan, timeline, and stages, and follow up on any changes in the supervision arrangement.
7. Adhere to academic integrity, avoid plagiarism, correctly document all sources of information, and give appropriate credit to original authors.
8. Include a section in the thesis acknowledging any assistance or support received during the research.
9. Make all required adjustments to the thesis as recommended by the defense committee and comply with their decisions.

## 2. Scientific Supervision:

(The regulations of the selection of the scientific supervisor and his/her responsibilities, as well as the procedures/mechanisms of the scientific supervision and follow-up)

### 2. Scientific Supervision:

Following the requirements stated in the Unified Regulations for Postgraduate Studies at Northern Border University (<https://cdn2.me-qr.com/pdf/20507076.pdf>), the following summarize the main elements:

The scientific supervisor starts to comply with the tasks associated with supervising the research thesis after finalizing all the formal procedures to register the research thesis.

#### 2.1 Regulations to Select a Scientific Supervisor:

The program follows the applied procedures for scientific supervision published by the NBU website and made accessible in the Literature Postgraduate Programs Handbook, introduced during the New Students Orientation. The languages and translation department requires the following conditions to select a scientific supervisor for MA research theses:

- Major research area in Literature.
- Supervised Literature -related project/thesis in a regular program.
- Supervisors cannot be assigned to more than five students.

#### 2.2 Responsibilities of Scientific Supervisors:

The supervision of research theses in the Literature program is responsible for:

- Discussing with the student the ideas for the research thesis and announcing the selected ideas among the other students to avoid duplication.
- Filling out and submitting the Supervisor Consent Form.
- Assisting the students to prepare and submit their research project proposals.
- Meeting the students weekly to discuss the thesis.
- Following up on the project's completion stages.
- Advising and guiding the students during all thesis phases and milestones

### 3. Thesis Defense/Examination:

(The regulations for selection of the defense/examination committee and the requirements to proceed for thesis defense, the procedures for defense and approval of the thesis, and criteria for evaluation of the thesis)

Following the requirements stated in the Unified Regulations for Postgraduate Studies at Northern Border University (<https://cdn2.me-qr.com/pdf/20507076.pdf>). This following summarizes the main elements:

#### 3. Thesis Defense/Examination

The regulations for the selection of the defense/examination committee and the requirements to proceed for thesis defense, the procedures for defense and approval of the thesis, and criteria for evaluation of the thesis are detailed below.

##### Thesis Committee Selection

The responsibility for selecting the thesis committee lies with the Graduate Studies Committee.

##### The procedures of selecting the members of the Examinations committee:

- The Graduate Studies Committee selects the thesis committee members based on their expertise and relevance to the thesis topic.
- The committee must include at least one external examiner to provide an unbiased perspective and ensure the quality and integrity of the thesis evaluation process. Committee members:
- The committee typically consists of the student's scientific supervisor, other faculty members with relevant expertise, and the external examiner.
- The external examiner should be a recognized expert in the field and should not be affiliated with the institution.

#### 3.1 Regulations for Selection of the Examination Committee

The complete report of the research thesis is evaluated by the examination committee, which includes the thesis supervisor and another faculty member who must be a supervisor for another research thesis. Examination committees are provided with an evaluation rubric.

#### 3.2 Requirements to Proceed for Research Thesis Examination

The MA in Literature research thesis is assessed primarily on the final Draft that was written by the students.

#### 3.3 Procedures for Approval of the Research Thesis

Students upload the final documentation and presentation of their research thesis on Blackboard. Program coordinators approve the submissions after ensuring that they fulfill the requirements. The examination committee then evaluates the thesis and completes the reports of evaluation as requested by the Post-graduate studies Deanship.



## H. Student Admission and Support:

### 1. Student Admission Requirements:

In addition to meeting the requirements stated in the Unified Regulations for Postgraduate Studies at Northern Border University. The admission requirements for the proposed MA in Literature may include:

1. Academic Qualifications: A Bachelor's degree in English language or a related field, with a minimum grade of "Very Good" or equivalent.
2. Proficiency in the English language: Achieving a minimum score of 6.5 on the IELTS exam, with no less than 6 in both reading and writing.
3. Post-Graduate General Aptitude Test (PGAT) with a minimum score of 60%
4. Recommendations: Submission of three letters of recommendation from previous employers or academic institutions, attesting to the applicant's academic abilities and potential for success in the program.
5. Interview: Successful completion of a personal interview conducted to assess the applicant's competency, motivation, and alignment with the objectives of the MA in Literature program

### 2. Guidance and Orientation Programs for New Students:

(Include only the exceptional needs offered to the students of the program that differ from those provided at the institutional level).

This can be done through procures, the university website, the college website and the department website.

#### Orientation Programs:

- Guided tours of department-specific facilities.
- Introductions to resources, research facilities, and academic expectations.
- Networking sessions with faculty, and senior students.
- Sessions on academic publishing and research opportunities.



### 3. Student Counseling Services:

(Academic, professional, psychological and social)

(Include only the exceptional needs offered to the students of the program that differ from those provided at the institutional level)

#### **Academic Counseling:**

- Appointment of an academic adviser for each student.
- Display of teaching schedules and office hours of faculty members outside their offices for easy access.

#### **Professional Counseling:**

- Career development workshops focused on job search strategies, resume building, and interview preparation specific to Literature.
- Networking opportunities with industry professionals, alumni, and guest speakers from the field.
- Workshops on academic publishing, and conference presentations.

#### **Psychological Counseling:**

- Workshops on stress management, mindfulness, and work-life balance tailored for graduate students.

#### **Social Counseling:**

- Social events and activities organized specifically for MA in Literature students to foster community.
- Networking events to encourage social connections among students, faculty, and professionals in the field.

### 4. Special Support:

(Low achievers, disabled, and talented students).

#### **Underachieving Students**

- i. Identify at-risk students based on their grades at the end of the semester.
- ii. Meet with these students as a group or individually to discuss the underlying causes of their problems.
- iv. Keep written records of the students and suggest solutions for later follow-ups.
- v. Disabled students should be communicated with regularly to assess whether they are having trouble in their learning process.

#### **Gifted and Talented Students**

They should be given opportunities to showcase their talents at the program, department, faculty, and university level.

## E. Faculty and Administrative Staff:

### 1. Needed Teaching and Administrative Staff:

Academic Rank	Specialty		Special Requirements / Skills (if any)	Required Numbers		
	General	Specific		M	F	T
Professor	English	Literature	-	1	1	1
Associate Professor	English	Literature	-	1	1	2
Assistant Professor	English	Literature	with a two-year tenure track who already published two research articles in specialized refereed journals	1	1	2
Technicians and Laboratory Assistant	-	-	-	-	-	-
Administrative and Supportive Staff	Head	Head of the department at main campus	-	1	0	1
Others (specify)	-	-	-	-	-	-

## F. Learning Resources, Facilities, and Equipment:

### 1. Learning Resources:

Learning resources required by the Program (textbooks, references, and e-learning resources and web-based resources, etc.)

- Different textbooks relevant to the courses taught.
  - SDL
- Relevant websites.

### 2. Facilities and Equipment:

(Library, laboratories, classrooms, etc.)

- SDL
- Language Labs
- Classrooms

### 3. Procedures to ensure a healthy and safe learning environment:

(According to the nature of the program)

This will be done by following the related protocols set by the university.

## G. Program Quality Assurance:

### 1. Program Quality Assurance System:

Provide a link to quality assurance manual.

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ekQZfVDGYOAwg4VnGUEP566fdwVg3by/view?usp=drive\\_link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ekQZfVDGYOAwg4VnGUEP566fdwVg3by/view?usp=drive_link)

### 2. Program Quality Monitoring Procedures:

KPIs measurement, program evaluation, stakeholder surveys, and compliance with NCAAA accreditation standards.

### 3. Procedures to Monitor Quality of Courses Taught by other Departments:

These can be done through Dept. Quality committee, College Quality committee, Deanship for Quality.

### 4. Procedures Used to Ensure the Consistency between within the main campus:

(including male and female sections).

Non-Applicable

### 5. Assessment Plan for Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs):

[https://drive.google.com/open?id=11xUX\\_nTfZ6cSAQQFzLH\\_0gMmuNFCNDgw&usp=drive\\_copy](https://drive.google.com/open?id=11xUX_nTfZ6cSAQQFzLH_0gMmuNFCNDgw&usp=drive_copy)

### 6. Program Evaluation Matrix:

Evaluation Areas/Aspects	Evaluation Sources/References	Evaluation Methods	Evaluation Time
Effectiveness of teaching	Faculty members, students, program leaders, course reports	Survey, observation PLOs assessment	End of academic year
Effectiveness of assessment methods and practices.	Students, faculty members, administrative staff, independent reviewers	Surveys, observation	End of academic year
Effectiveness of leadership	Students, faculty members, administrative staff	Surveys	End of academic year
Overall quality of the program	PLOs, teaching/assessment, improvement	Course reports, program report	End of academic year

**Evaluation Areas/Aspects** (e.g., leadership, effectiveness of teaching & assessment, learning resources, services, partnerships, etc.)

**Evaluation Sources** (students, graduates, alumni, faculty, program leaders, administrative staff, employers, independent reviewers, and others.)

**Evaluation Methods** (e.g., Surveys, interviews, visits, etc.)

**Evaluation Time** (e.g., beginning of semesters, end of the academic year, etc.)

## 7. Program KPIs:\*

The period to achieve the target (\_\_\_\_) year(s).

Standard	KPIs Code	KPIs	Targeted Level	Measurement Methods	Measurement Time
<b>-2- TEACHING AND LEARNING</b>	KPI-PG-1	Students' Evaluation of Quality of learning experience in the Program	4	questionnaires	By the end of the semester
	KPI-PG-2	Students' evaluation of the quality of the courses	3.5	questionnaires	By the end of the semester
	KPI-PG-3	Students' evaluation of the quality of academic supervision		questionnaires	By the end of the semester
	KPI-PG-4	Average time for students' graduation		statistics	By the end of the semester
	KPI-PG-5	Rate of students dropping out of the program		statistics	By the end of the semester
	KPI-PG-6	Employers' evaluation of the program graduates' competency	3	questionnaires	By the end of the semester
<b>-3- STUDENTS</b>	KPI-PG-7	Students' satisfaction with services provided	3	questionnaires	By the end of the semester
<b>-4- FACULTY MEMBERS</b>	KPI-PG-8	Ratio of students to faculty members	10:1	statistics	By the end of the semester
<b>-6- RESEARCH AND PROJECTS</b>	KPI-PG-9	Percentage of publications of faculty members	2%	statistics	By the end of the semester
<b>-6- RESEARCH AND PROJECTS</b>	KPI-PG-10	Rate of published research per faculty member	2	statistics	
	KPI-PG-11	Citations rate in refereed journals per faculty member	1%	statistics	





Standard	KPIs Code	KPIs	Targeted Level	Measurement Methods	Measurement Time
	KPI-PG-12	Percentage of students' publication	1%	statistics	
	KPI-PG-13	Number of patents, innovative products, and awards of excellence		statistics	

\*including KPIs required by NCAAA

## H. Specification Approval Data:

Council / Committee	Department Council
Reference No.	
Date	

