

## Graduate Area Comprehensive Exam (GACE) in English

### Requirements

After completing 18 semester hours of graduate coursework, graduate students may be eligible to sit for the Graduate Area Comprehensive Exam in English (the GACE). The full list of requirements is set out below.

- All students must have completed 18 semester hours with a GPA of 3.0 or higher.
- **M.A.** students must have successfully completed ENG 505, ENG 501, and LING 501
- **M.A.T.** students must have successfully completed ENG 503, ENG 505, LING 501, EDFL 515, and either LING 504 or ENG 609.
- All elective courses (6 hours for the M.A. and 3 hours for the M.A.T.) must have been completed in English and at JSU.
- No student may have an “I” grade in the degree program and be eligible for the exam.
- All students must have taken and passed the Graduate English Competency Exam.
- All students must have completed the online Application for Degree Candidacy.
- All students must be enrolled in at least one semester hour during the semester the exam is administered and must have submitted an application for the GACE on or before the deadline noted on the Division of Graduate Studies website.
- All students must submit an “Application for the Graduate Area Comprehensive Exam”

### Exam Date

The exam is administered once each semester (fall, spring, and summer) on a Saturday; the date of the exam is set by the Division of Graduate Studies and is available on the Division of Graduate Studies website at <http://www.jsu.edu/graduateschool/important-dates/>. Students should consult with their academic advisors to determine the date set for the exam.

### Exam Grading

There are six sections on the GACE in English. Each section is graded separately by a faculty member with expertise in the specific area that section addresses. If a student earns a failing grade on one (1) or two (2) sections of the exam, the student will be permitted to retake those sections within two weeks of the initial exam date. If a student earns a failing grade on three (3) or more sections of the exam or if the retake attempt is not successful, the student must sit for the entire exam during the next scheduled exam date.

The Division of Graduate studies allows students to take the GACE a maximum of two (2) times. If the student fails a second time, the student may petition the academic dean for permission to take the examination the third time. If permission for a third exam is not granted or the student is not successful on the exam, then student will officially be withdrawn from the program.