

"Coming to WKU for my MA in English was the best decision I could have made for my academic career. I entered the program as an undergraduate with a decent background in English, but I've left feeling like a real scholar. The relationships with faculty and fellow students have always been supportive and congenial. In this supportive environment, though, we've been challenged to produce our best work and use that work to further our careers by publishing articles and presenting at major conferences. With all the attention and support offered at WKU, I've been able to take full advantage of many opportunities that would have been otherwise unavailable to me."

- Conor Scruton, M.A. 2017

"I've always been a reader, but WKU's graduate program in English deepened my appreciation for literature and helped me better understand my relationship to it. The coursework provides no shortage of reading material, but it also provokes a lot of questions for the curious reader. Why don't critics evaluate Shakespeare's Cleopatra as a protagonist? What should we make of the homoerotic subtext in Nathaniel Hawthorne's *The Blithedale Romance*? Why does Edith Wharton continually reference the Furies of Greek mythology in *The House of Mirth*? Getting to think about these kinds of questions and discuss them with fellow students and brilliant faculty members is such a rewarding experience. And it's a nice reminder of why reading is one of the most important things we can do: it helps us make sense of the world around us."

- Ryan Pait, M.A. 2017

"The number one priority we look for in our choice of graduate studies is the staff we'll be working with, and WKU delivers in spades. I've felt so blessed to be a part of such an intelligent and genuine group of people. Regardless of subject--literature, rhetoric, professional writing, or composition--I've had nothing but good experiences with the professors here. They're challenging, but never demanding; professional, but never distant. Most importantly, they've helped me grow in many ways, in both my studies and my life. I can easily say, in no uncertain terms, that I owe the person I am today, in part, to studying at WKU. And for that, I am grateful."

- David Gifford, M.A. 2017