

UNC Charlotte Department of English Website Usability Test - Graduate Student Edition

To begin the test, follow the instructions below carefully in the order given. If comfortable, we encourage you to describe your thought process out loud as you test. These responses can help us adjust website design elements to ensure that critical information is easy to locate and use.

Set Up Screencast-O-Matic:

- Open your web browser and navigate to <https://screencast-o-matic.com/screen-recorder>
- Click on the *Launch Free Recorder* button.
- A pop-up box will appear to indicate that the recorder is launching. Follow any automatic prompts from your computer. You may need to click the Launch button again for the recorder to appear on your screen.
- When you see text reading “Recorder will record anything that happens in this frame” at the top of your screen, that means the recorder has successfully launched.
- To test audio, say a short phrase verbally and watch the bottom left corner of your screen. If the **green** bars on the recorder flash, your audio is ready to go.

Navigate to the Website:

- Open a new web browser tab and navigate to <http://english.uncc.edu>
- Click the red **REC** button on the screen recorder to begin recording your session.

Task #1: What is Required to Apply for the M.A. In English?

- Under the heading *English Graduate Programs*, click on the linked text *Read More*.
- On the page titled Graduate Program Information, look for the sidebar on the left of the screen and click on *Admissions*.
- Scroll down to under the heading *Application Materials* and locate the key items that prospective students must submit, highlighted in **bold** text.
- List them here in **GREEN** text: **your answer here**

Task #2: I'm In The Program; Who Is My Adviser?

- Return to the top of the page. Hover your cursor over the main heading that reads *ADVISING*. Click on the subheading that appears for *Graduate Advising*.
- Locate the name of the adviser for students in the M.A. in English or the dual M.A./M.F.A. program and type their name: **your answer here**

Task # 3: How Do I Declare A Concentration?

- Scroll down on the *Graduate Advising* page.
- Locate the paragraph that indicates how all M.A. students must declare a concentration.
- What is the system to declare or change a concentration called? **your answer here**

Task #4: What's The Difference Between an M.A. Thesis and an M.A. Project?

- Scroll up and on the left sidebar, click the linked text that reads *Capstone Experience*.
- Read the first 3-4 lines of text under the subheadings *M.A. Thesis* and *M.A. Project*.
- In which concentrations do students have the option to complete a Project instead of a Thesis? **your answer here**

Task # 5: What Is On The M.A. Literature Exam?

- Scroll down to the bottom of the Capstone Experience page to locate the heading that reads *M.A. Exam*. Just below it, locate the subheading for *Grading and Assessment*.
- What are the four principles used to assess the exam? **your answer here**

****At this point, please click on the red Pause bars to stop recording your session.****

****On the recorder click Done, then Save/Upload, and save your file.****

Post-Test Questions:

- On a scale from 1 (very difficult to use) to 10 (perfectly easy to use), how would you rate your experience navigating the English department website?
- Which website elements (text, images, organization etc) did you find most helpful?
- Which website elements did you find confusing or unhelpful, if any?

Congratulations, you have completed the test!

Thank you for participating!