



# THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES

## Application Checklist

Only complete applications will be reviewed by the admissions committee. Please ensure that all of the following materials are uploaded to the Graduate School application server.

**Application.** The official application must be submitted electronically. All applications must be accompanied by a non-refundable application fee, which can be paid online when the application is submitted, or mailed to the Office of Graduate Admissions (address below).

**Official Transcripts.** Please have transcripts sent to:

The University of Southern Mississippi  
Office of Graduate Admissions  
118 College Drive #5024  
Hattiesburg, MS 39406-0001

Please note that *all* transcripts from *all* colleges or universities you have attended are required, not just the most recent. Please also inform the Graduate School if you have changed your name since you attended college, as transcripts which arrive under a maiden or other name may not be filed correctly and may significantly delay processing of your application. You can contact the Graduate School at 601-266-5137.

**Writing Sample.** Applicants to the Literature program should submit 15-20 pages of substantial scholarly writing. Applicants to the Center for Writers should submit 15-20 pages of fiction or poetry and 10-20 of scholarly work.

**Statement of Purpose.** Please submit a 350-750 word statement of purpose indicating your scholarly or creative goals for graduate study. Your statement should highlight your particular academic or creative interests and accomplishments and/or other relevant preparation.

**Letters of Recommendation.** Three letters of recommendation from people who are acquainted with your academic record are required for admission. When you fill out the names and email addresses of your recommender as part of your online application, they will be sent an email directing them how to submit the letters.

**Questions?** If you have questions about the application process, please contact the Graduate School via their online contact form (follow the link on your online application under Additional Info.) If you have specific questions about the English graduate programs, please contact Dr. Joshua Bernstein ([joshua.bernstein@usm.edu](mailto:joshua.bernstein@usm.edu)) for the literature program, or Dr. Adam Clay ([adam.clay@usm.edu](mailto:adam.clay@usm.edu)) for the creative writing program.