

Narrative is radical, creating us at the very moment it is being created.

Toni Morrison, Nobel Lecture (1993)

THE DEPARTMENT

The Department of English at Arizona State University (ASU) is dynamic and is committed to excellent teaching, highly accomplished research, and substantive community and professional service. Offering degree programs in literature, comparative literature, English education, linguistics, and rhetoric and composition, we are a robust, broadminded group, rooted in tradition but always reaching toward greater invention, collaboration, and achievement.

Like the Sonoran desert in which ASU is situated, there is more vitality here than many expect. Faculty, students, alumni, and friends of the department participate in a rich offering of activities for diverse populations: colloquia, community-building events, conferences, lectures, outreach programs, performances, publications, reading groups, readings, symposia, and workshops.

In keeping with the spirit of innovation essential to narratives of the West, English at ASU, part of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, prides itself on seeding and nurturing the new. Indeed, new thought, new expression, and new ways of experiencing language and culture constitute the heart of our vision and work. Because most of us have come from other places, we understand the importance of extending a warm welcome to all.

1885

TEMPE NORMAL SCHOOL (ASU) ESTABLISHED AS A
TEACHERS COLLEGE ON 20 ACRES OF COW PASTURE
DONATED BY GEORGE AND MARTHA WILSON

