



## DEPARTMENTAL PLAN FOR ASSESSMENT OF STUDENT LEARNING 2004-2005 ACADEMIC YEAR

**Department:** English

**Program:** Undergraduate Major

### *Mission Statement*

The English Department provides quality undergraduate instruction in literature in English, literary criticism and theory, the English language, literacy studies, creative writing, cultural studies, film studies, and related fields. We prepare students for careers in a variety of fields, including teaching and publishing; our students will be well-prepared to pursue graduate and professional degrees in areas where good writing skills and critical appraisal of texts are important (e.g., English and Law).

### *Student Learning Goals*

Student Learning Goal 1: Be a proficient reader of English literary and critical texts.

- Objective 1.1: Critically read and interpret texts in literature, rhetoric and linguistics.
- Objective 1.2: Know how to access and evaluate knowledge in English studies.
- Objective 1.3: Discover intellectual and aesthetic pleasures through literature and language.
- Objective 1.4: Know the history of English literature and criticism.

Student Learning Goal 2: Be a proficient writer of English.

- Objective 2.1: Produce writing that achieves its rhetorical and artistic goals.
- Objective 2.2: Critically read and interpret texts in English studies.
- Objective 2.3: Discover intellectual and aesthetic pleasures through writing.
- Objective 2.4: Know the history of, and alternate methods for, the study of language and culture.

Student Learning Goal 3: Cultivate interest in, and engagement with, the human world.

- Objective 3.1: Know the history of the English language and literature, including historical cultural differences.

Objective 3.2: Understand modern and contemporary cultural differences amongst writers and speakers in English language and literature.

Objective 3.3: Understand cultural and aesthetic differences between speakers and writers of English and those of languages other than English.

Student Learning Goals & Objectives	Educational Experiences	Assessment Methods	Timeline	Responsibilities	Use of Results and Process for Documentation & Decision-Making
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<b>GOAL 1: Be a proficient reader of English literary and critical texts.</b>					
Objective 1.1: Critically read and interpret texts in literature, rhetoric, and linguistics.	All courses	English 271-2 survey; English 209 survey; English 226 survey; English 308 survey	Biennial	Faculty in subspecialties will administer surveys; Curriculum Committee will review results	Curriculum Committee will review results of all assessments and report annually to the department, making recommendations for changes in curriculum or pedagogy. Results are on file and available to the faculty and other stakeholders. The Curriculum Committee will regularly assess the assessment instruments and propose needed changes to the department.
Objective 1.2: Know how to access and evaluate knowledge in English studies.	All courses, especially English 271-2 (recommended for majors) and all 400-level courses (two are required).	Selected 400-level portfolio narrative  Senior focus group	Annual  Triennial	Faculty teaching 400-level course will provide Curriculum Committee with a narrative of the review.	
Objective 1.3: Discover intellectual and aesthetic pleasures through literature and language.	All courses	Senior focus group	Triennial	Consultant will administer and present to the Curriculum Committee	

<b>Student Learning Goals &amp; Objectives</b>	<b>Educational Experiences</b>	<b>Assessment Methods</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsibilities</b>	<b>Use of Results and Process for Documentation &amp; Decision-Making</b>
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Objective 1.4: Know the history of English literature and criticism.	Most courses, esp. English 241-2, 301-2, 303-4, 315-6, 401, 403, 404, 405, 406	Senior focus group  Selected 400-level portfolio narrative	Triennial  Annual	Faculty	Occasionally, the faculty may take part in retreats to discuss curricular & related matters.
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**GOAL 2:  
Be a proficient writer of English.**

Objective 2.1: Produce writing that achieves its rhetorical and artistic goals.	Most courses, esp. English 110, 120, 125, 226, 305, 308, 408, 411-2	English 308 survey	Biennial	Faculty	Curriculum Committee will review results of all assessments and report annually to the department, making recommendations for changes in curriculum or pedagogy. Results are on file and available to the faculty and other stakeholders. The Curriculum
Objective 2.2: Critically read and interpret texts in English studies.	All courses	Surveys  Focus Groups  Narrative	Biennial  Triennial  Annual	Faculty  Consultant  Faculty	
Objective 2.3: Discover intellectual and aesthetic pleasures	All courses	Surveys  Focus Groups  Narrative	Biennial  Triennial  Annual	Faculty  Consultant  Faculty	

Student Learning Goals & Objectives	Educational Experiences	Assessment Methods	Timeline	Responsibilities	Use of Results and Process for Documentation & Decision-Making
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through language and literature.					Committee will regularly assess the assessment instruments and propose needed changes to the department.
Objective 2.4: Know the history of, and alternate methods for, the study of language and culture.	Many courses, esp. English 161-2, 209, 226, 305, 308, 309, 370, 408, 411-2, 417, 418, 442	English 209, 308 surveys  Focus group  Narrative	Biennial  Triennial  Annual	Faculty  Consultant  Faculty	Occasionally, the faculty may take part in retreats to discuss curricular & related matters.

<b>GOAL 3: Cultivate interests in, and engagement with, the human world.</b>					
Objective 3.1: Know the history of the English language and literature, including historical cultural differences.	Many courses, esp. English 209, 241-2, 265, 301-2, 303-4, 315-6, 401, 403, 404, 405, 406, 442	Focus group  Narrative	Triennial  Annual	Consultant  Faculty	Curriculum Committee will review results of all assessments and report annually to the department, making recommendations for changes in curriculum or pedagogy.

Student Learning Goals & Objectives	Educational Experiences	Assessment Methods	Timeline	Responsibilities	Use of Results and Process for Documentation & Decision-Making
Objective 3.2: Understand modern and contemporary cultural differences amongst writers and speakers in English language and literature.	Many courses, esp. English 241-2, 265, 303, 304, 320, 321, 322, 330, 331, 332, 357, 359, 365, 369, 370, 409, 415, 418, 419	Focus Group  Narrative	Triennial  Annual	Consultant  Faculty	Results are on file and available to the faculty and other stakeholders. The Curriculum Committee will regularly assess the assessment instruments and propose needed changes to the department.
Objective 3.3: Understand cultural and aesthetic differences between speakers and writers of English and those of languages other than English.	Foreign language requirement (second-year proficiency); 161-2, 209, 241-2, 370, 418, 419	English 209 survey  Focus group  Narrative	Biennial  Triennial  Annual	Faculty  Consultant  Faculty	Occasionally, the faculty may take part in retreats to discuss curricular & related matters.