2021-2022 Assessment Cycle
Assessment Plan

Mission Statement

Consistent with the mission of the University and the College of Arts and Sciences, the Department of English seeks to satisfy the needs and aspirations of three different groups of students:

•Those taking English to satisfy the University's writing requirement

•Those taking English to satisfy general education Humanities requirements

•Those taking English to satisfy major requirements in one of three undergraduate emphases:
Literature, Creative Writing, and English Education.

English majors will acquire the skills and habits of mind that serve them well in all occupations and professions. Majors will learn to read carefully, write effectively, exercise good judgment in solving problems, and flexibly adopt different points of view. More specifically, students will become knowledgeable about great literature (American, British, and World) and writing, understand how language functions in communication and the arts, and appreciate and understand how human beings from different cultures and/ or from different times have used the literary arts to shape experiences thoughtfully and meaningfully. Students will acquire the ability to express these ideas via analysis, creative thinking, and writing. Writing majors will experience and broad range of writing experiences, literature majors will analyze and interpret a variety of literary works, and education majors will learn current methods for teaching processes of reading, writing, speaking, listening, thinking, and viewing and their interconnections.

Measures

BA Writing Outcome Set
PSLO 1

Outcome: Identify and articulate major developments in British, American, and World Literature.

Measure: Course Grades
Program level Direct - Other

Details/Description:

English writing majors are required to take three of the six survey courses (one from American, English, and World): EN 325, EN 326, EN 330, EN 331, EN 360, and EN 361. These courses are used to measure PSLO 1.

Acceptable Target:

The following are the course grade proficiency levels: A=Advanced, B=Target, C=Developing, and D or below is unsatisfactory. 100% of English writing majors must earn a C= developing or higher in EN 325, EN 326, EN 330, EN 331, EN 360, and EN 361. At least 70% should earn a B=target or higher in the courses used to measure PSLO 1. English Writing majors must take the courses measuring PSLO 1 and must make a C or better in each to fulfill program requirements.

Measure: Portfolio Assesment
Program level Direct - Portfolio

Details/Description:

Toward the end of their degree, writing majors take EN 384: Publishing Lab as a capstone course, editing a literary magazine, compiling a portfolio of their creative work, and bringing the work therein to publishable quality. Student portfolios are usually assessed each spring by a writer of distinction who has had college teaching experience. The emphasis has created a rubric to facilitate that portfolio review. One of the points on the rubric assesses students' ability to show evidence of an understanding of the literary past–in terms of influences and style. This literary past is primarily developed in the British, American, and World Literature survey courses. This category on the portfolio rubric serves as another means of evaluating Program Student Learning Outcome 1.

Acceptable Target:	For this score point, student portfolios are evaluated from 1 to 5, 5 being the highest rating. The following are the proficiency levels. 5=Advanced, 4=Target, 3=Developing, 2-1=Unsatisfactory. The overall portfolio score for this score point given by the external rater should be a 3 or higher.

PSLO 2

Outcome: Interpret how the diverse range of human experiences, identities, and cultures is reflected in language, literature, and multimedia texts.

▼ **Measure:** Course Grades
Program level Direct - Other

Details/Description:	Course grades from EN 360 World Literature I and EN 361 World Literature II are used to measure PSLO 2: Students will interpret how the diverse range of human experiences, identities, and cultures is reflected in language, literature, and multimedia texts.
Acceptable Target:	The following are the course grade proficiency levels: A=Advanced, B=Target, C=Developing, and D or below is unsatisfactory. 100% of English writing majors must earn a C=developing or higher in EN 360 and EN 361. At least 70% should earn a B= target or higher. English writing majors must take EN 360 or EN 361and must make a C or better to fulfill program requirements.

▼ **Measure:** Portfolio Assessment
Program level Direct - Portfolio

Details/Description:	Toward the end of their degree program, writing majors take EN 384: Publishing Lab as a capstone course, editing other student work, bringing a piece of writing to publishable quality themselves, designing a literary magazine, and compiling a portfolio of their creative work. Student portfolios are usually assessed each spring by a visiting writer of distinction who has had college teaching experience. The emphasis has created a rubric to facilitate that portfolio review. One of the points on the rubric assesses students' ability to show evidence of an understanding of the contemporary literature–in terms of influences and style. Through their coursework focusing on contemporary literature, writing majors develop knowledge of how the diverse range of human experiences, identities, and cultures is reflected in language, literature, and multimedia texts (PSLO 2). Therefore, this category on the portfolio rubric serves as another means of evaluating Learning Outcome 2.
Acceptable Target:	For this score point, student portfolios are evaluated from 1 to 5, 5 being the highest rating. The following are the proficiency levels. 5=Advanced, 4=Target, 3=Developing, 2-1=Unsatisfactory. The overall portfolio score for this score point given by the external rater should be a 3 or higher.

PSLO 3

Outcome: Analyze how language works, especially regarding grammar, writing conventions, and rhetorical situation.

▼ **Measure:** Course Grades
Program level Direct - Other

Details/Description:	Course grades from EN 300 Advanced Composition and EN 310 Grammar and Linguistics are used to measure PSLO 3: The student will analyze how language works, especially regarding grammar, writing conventions, and rhetorical situation.
Acceptable Target:	The following are the course grade proficiency levels: A=Advanced, B=Target, C=Developing, and D or below is unsatisfactory. 100% of English writing majors must earn a C=developing or higher in EN 300 and EN 310. At least 70% should earn a B= target or higher. English writing majors must take EN 300 and EN 310 and must make a C or better to fulfill program requirements.

▼ **Measure:** Course-Embedded Assessment
Course level Direct - Portfolio

Details/Description:	In EN 300: Advanced Composition, writing majors must submit a portfolio of writing. One aspect of the portfolio is evaluated on the student's ability to apply the grammars and other aspects of language as media for communication (PSLO 3). What this means is that through their portfolio work students are evaluated for their ability to analyze and apply the forms and conventions appropriate to a particular genre and illustrate a mastery of organization, presentation, mechanics, grammar, formatting, and documentation in their writing.
Acceptable Target:	The proficiency levels are 4=Advanced; 3=Target, 2=Developing, and 1=Unacceptable. 100% of the portfolios should receive a rating of a 2 or higher for Forms and Conventions and 70% should receive a rating of 3=Target or higher.

▼ **Measure:** Portfolio Assessment
Program level Direct - Portfolio

Details/Description:	Toward the end of their degree, writing majors take EN 384: Publishing Lab as a capstone course, editing a literary magazine, compiling a portfolio of their creative work, and bringing the work therein to publishable quality. Student portfolios are usually assessed each spring by a writer of distinction who has had college teaching experience. The emphasis has created a rubric to facilitate that portfolio review. One of the points on the rubric assesses students' facility with language—sentence structure, vocabulary, grammar, mechanics, fluency, and originality. This score point is aligned to PSLO 3: The student will analyze how language works, especially regarding grammar, writing conventions, and rhetorical situation. Therefore, this category on the portfolio rubric serves as another means of evaluating Learning Outcome 3.
Acceptable Target:	For this score point, student portfolios are evaluated from 1 to 5, 5 being the highest rating. The following are the proficiency levels. 5=Advanced, 4=Target, 3=Developing, 2-1=Unsatisfactory. The overall portfolio score for this score point given by the external rater should be a 3 or higher.

PSLO 4

Outcome: Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the forms, genres, and conventions of literary and multimedia texts.

▼ **Measure:** Course Grades
Program level Direct - Other

Details/Description:	Course grades from EN 206, 207, 209, 305, 306, 307, 301, and 384 are used to measure PSLO 4.

Writing majors must earn a C or better in these genre courses to meet program requirements.

Acceptable Target:	The following are the course grade proficiency levels: A=Advanced, B=Target, C=Developing, and D or below is unsatisfactory. 100% of English writing majors must earn a C=developing or better in these courses. At least 70% should be at B=target or higher. 100% of majors should receive a C or Developing or higher in each course. 70% should receive a Target or higher in each course.

Measure: Course-Embedded Assessment
Course level Direct - Portfolio

Details/Description:	In EN 300, students must submit a portfolio of writing. The overall portfolio score is a measure of the student's ability to express knowledge of forms, genres, and conventions (PSLO 4).
Acceptable Target:	The proficiency levels are 4=Advanced; 3=Target, 2=Developing, and 1=Unacceptable. 100% of the portfolios should receive a rating of a 2 or higher for the overall portfolio score and 70% should be rated a 3 or higher for the overall portfolio score.

Measure: Portfolio Assessment
Program level Direct - Portfolio

Details/Description:	Toward the end of their degree, writing majors take EN 384: Publishing Lab as a capstone course, editing a literary magazine, compiling a portfolio of their creative work, and bringing the work therein to publishable quality. Student portfolios are usually assessed each spring by a writer of distinction who has had college teaching experience. The emphasis has created a rubric to facilitate that portfolio review. Overall portfolio scores are also used as a measure of PSLO 4: The student willd emonstrate knowledge and

understanding of the forms, genres, and conventions of literary and multimedia texts.

Acceptable Target:

The proficiency levels for the EN 384 portfolio assessment are 5=Advanced 4=Target 3=Developing 2=Limited 1=Unsatisfactory. 100% of students should average a score of a 3 or higher on the on the overall rubric measuring PSLO 4. 70% of students should average a score of a 4=Target or higher on the overall rubric measuring PSLO 4.

PSLO 5

Outcome: Create and revise texts in a broad range of literary forms.

▼ **Measure:** Survey
Program level Indirect - Survey

Details/Description:

Toward the end of their degree program, writing majors take EN 384: Publishing Lab as a capstone course, editing other student work, bringing a piece of writing to publishable quality themselves, designing a literary magazine, and compiling a portfolio of their creative work. Beginning in the fall of 2019, students in this class are completing a survey about their experience in the Writing Emphasis. It solicits information about what types of writing experiences they've had, including the variety of forms/genres they've had to opportunity to produce work in: short story, novel or novella, flash fiction, memoir, personal essay, literary journalism/narrative nonfiction, free-verse poetry, formal poetry, prose poetry, hybrid, playwriting, screenwriting, and other.

Acceptable Target:

An average of 6 forms/genres or better is acceptable.

Analysis and Reporting Calendar

Data are collected annually and analyzed biennially for each PSLO (1-5). Data for PSLOs 1, 3, and 4 are analyzed in odd-numbered years; data for 2 and 5 are analyzed in even-numbered years.

Stakeholder Involvement

Writing faculty develop, plan, and review assessment procedures and implementation periodically throughout the year. They continue to fine tune the portfolio assessment they developed. Every year they identify an external reviewer to assess the EN 384 portfolios. The Writing faculty realize documentation of stakeholder involvement is a weakness, but will continue to seek better methods of documentation.

Program Assessment Plan Review Cycle

The Program Assessment Plan is reviewed every other year. Changes were made to the Assessment Plan in FY16.

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