

UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON ENGLISH DEPARTMENT
ASSESSMENT PLAN FOR SCHOLARSHIP & DIVERSITY
IN THE UNDERGRADUATE ENGLISH MAJOR

Revised 03-24-2010

Outcome 1: Graduating English majors will be able to produce their own scholarly arguments appropriate to the discipline.

Measures:

- A. In an anonymous survey of graduating English majors, 90% of respondents will agree that they write papers for the English major in which they presented their own argument or interpretation about a topic, issue, or text and supported it with scholarly sources from their research.
- B. In a random sample of major papers from the capstone seminars (ENG 490), 90% of students will present scholarly arguments appropriate to the discipline

Outcome 2: Graduating English majors will understand and be able to apply multiple critical and/or theoretical approaches to their analysis of texts.

Measures:

- A. In an anonymous survey of graduating English majors, 90% of respondents will “agree” or “strongly agree” that they understand 3 or more theoretical or critical approaches from a list of options; and 80% will be able to identify 2 or more approaches from the list that they employed in their own analysis of texts.
- B. In a random sample of papers from ENG 476, 488, and 490, 90% of students will employ two or more identifiable critical and/or theoretical approaches (note: two papers from the same student which each employ a different approach will meet this measure).
- C. In a random sample of papers from ENG 490, 90% of students will employ one or more identifiable critical and/or theoretical approaches.

Outcome 3: Graduating English majors will recognize that English is a multi-faceted discipline including rhetoric and composition, creative writing, and literary studies.

Measures:

- A. In an anonymous survey of graduating English majors, 80% of respondents will be able to provide short answers in which they identify two of the three primary areas that comprise English Studies, and 60% of respondents to the same question will be able to identify all three primary fields.
- B. In exit interviews, 80% of graduating majors will be able to identify two of the three primary areas of English studies, and 60% will be able to identify all three areas.

Outcome 4: Graduating English majors will recognize that the study of texts representative of cultural and social diversity is central to the discipline of English.

Measures:

- A. In an anonymous survey of graduating English majors,
 - i. at least 80% of respondents will “strongly agree” that at least two listed aspects of diversity are “central” to their study in English courses at UD.
 - ii. at least 80% of respondents will “agree” or “strongly agree” that at least three listed aspects of diversity are “central” to their study in English courses at UD.
 - iii. at least 80% of respondents will provide short answers responses indicating that they see diversity as very important to the discipline.
- B. In exit interviews, 80% of graduating English majors will be able to identify an aspect of diversity that has helped shape the way they think about literature, writing, and/or rhetoric and to explain how this is so.