

English Department Learning Outcomes Assessment Report

Assessment in the English Department Programs

The English Department is still transitioning to the new assessment protocol. Most notably, we still don't have program-specific outcomes for each of our four majors. The reasons for this are specific for each major:

- The Creative Writing major went two years without a permanent director. We now have that person in place, and we are now prepared for that person to play a lead role in both articulating goals and in revising an assessment plan.
- The ILA content curriculum is not substantially different from that of the English major. In our current revision of our major programs, those two programs will become even more similar in content. We don't believe it makes sense, in this case, to separate the content goals for the programs.
- The Professional Writing and Editing major will need one or more distinct objectives, but it is a new program and has not had any graduates yet, so we still have time to develop those objectives.

Plans for English Goals and Assessment

Our department is due to assess and update its departmental goals and learning objectives, as well as its assessment protocol. We plan to make these revisions a major focus of the external review we have scheduled for this spring, as well as our annual May retreat. We will build our new assessment protocol around the new guidelines for assessment reporting.

Curricular Changes

Our department is in the midst of a major curricular overhaul. While these changes have been engaged in with our ongoing assessment feedback in mind, by far the main purpose of these revisions has been curricular efficiency. For the most part, our goal has been to improve efficiency without compromising on our strengths, specifically consistent improvement in student writing skills, student satisfaction with faculty instruction and department culture, and student satisfaction with career readiness.

Ratified

This report was ratified by the English Department on 2/1/23