

Pathways English Majors Committee

Learning Outcomes

A. English Composition

A course in this area must meet all of the following learning outcomes. A student will:

- Read and listen critically and analytically, including identifying an argument's major assumptions and assertions and evaluating its supporting evidence.
- Write clearly and coherently in varied, academic formats (such as formal essays, research papers, and reports) using standard English and appropriate technology to critique and improve one's own and others' texts.
- Demonstrate research skills using appropriate technology, including gathering, evaluating, and synthesizing primary and secondary sources.
- Support a thesis with well-reasoned arguments, and communicate persuasively across a variety of contexts, purposes, audiences, and media.
- Formulate original ideas and relate them to the ideas of others by employing the conventions of ethical attribution and citation.

B. Introduction to Literature

A course in this area must meet all of the following learning outcomes. A student will:

- Be able to respond proficiently in writing (i.e. per the outcomes for "A") to literary works.
- Display familiarity with literary works by a variety of authors in a variety of genres.
- Be able to offer an extended discussion in writing of two or more texts and authors in relation to each other.
- Demonstrate the ability to analyze and interpret based on careful attention both to the detail and overall design of a literary work.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the role of context in determining meaning.

C. Introduction to Literary Studies

A course in this area must meet all of the following learning outcomes. A student will:

- Display a working knowledge of basic terms and concepts used in the analysis of a variety of literary genres.
- Demonstrate an understanding of how literary works relate to their immediate historical context and to the traditions from which they emerge.
- Be able to undertake the close reading of a literary work, with particular emphasis on the relationship between parts and wholes and between form and meaning.
- Be able to construct a literary argument using secondary sources (in particular discipline-specific databases and archives) and employing MLA style.
- Engage in written reflection on the critical assumptions that inform their own and others' interpretations of literary works.