

Assessment Plan—AY 2013-2014

Program Department of English College Humanities and Social Sciences Kean University

*Provide the **Mission and Assessment Process** for your program. The description of your program that is on the website is a great starting point for your **Mission**. Go to your program's page on the Kean website and copy and paste the program description below under the heading, **Mission**.*

Mission:

The English Program at Kean University has several related goals that are aligned with the University Mission.

Mission statement

The Kean University English Department is dedicated to the liberal arts mission. More specifically the department's mission is to educate our diverse student community in the processes of critical reading, analytic thinking, and effective writing through the study of literature and writing. Faculty scholarship and the engagement of students in research are central to this mission. Our undergraduate and graduate programs promote literacies central to productive participation in the life of the academy and of the culture at large. Literature options focus on the canons and literary histories of British and American literature, remaining aware of the western critical tradition, contemporary trends in literary theory, and other literary traditions in translation and new media. Writing options study writing as social process, rhetorical theory, and literacies of both print and new media. Teacher certification options for both literature and writing prepare students for the teaching of English.

Our mission undergirds the study of literature and writing through courses and programs. Department service courses for General Studies - College Composition and World Literature - ensure competence in foundational literacies and interpretive theories. Through the Kean University Writing Project, the ESL Program, and the Writing Center, the department prepares writers across disciplines. Programming is responsive to the educational interests of the public we serve.

The English Department promotes on-going engagement with the life of the mind and self-directed learning through reading, writing, and reflection. The English graduate is a literate individual aware of how language creates, represents, and redefines the self and the cultures of our extended global community.

Assessment Process:

English students have from 7 to 9 core courses to take as part of the requirements for the major. These core courses provide a sound backbone of the discipline with regard to the research and theoretical aspects of literary and writing studies as well as the various areas of study within the field. As such, the

core courses are the primary vehicle for assessing the knowledge of our students. Beyond the 7 to 9 core courses, students take 4 to 6 other courses offered within our program, and it is likely that no two (or very few) majors take the exact same grouping of courses. Therefore, the faculty have agreed to center our assessment on the core knowledge of critical reading, effective writing, analytic thinking, and disciplinary content as presented in our core requirements. Each core course has assessment tools as part of the evaluation process; however, culminating assessment is done in ENG 4800 or ENG 4801, Senior Seminar. In this course, assessment data is collected from an assignment that requires students to provide the evidence of meeting program goals. Each semester, composite data from scored student assignments will be collected and analyzed to address areas of program strengths and weaknesses and to inform our decisions ultimately resulting in program improvements.

Students who graduate with a B. A. in English Studies should be able to:

SLO1: students will produce essays through a series of drafts that include exploratory writing or talk, as well as revisions that include addition, deletion, substitution and rearrangement (KU1, KU4); (S1, S2, S4)

Direct Measures:

ENG 2020 = literacy narrative assessed by classroom instructor using University Writing Rubric

ENG 4817 = portfolio of student work assessed by classroom instructor using University Writing Rubric

Indirect Measure:

Entering Student Survey completed at the beginning of ENG 2020

Graduating Student Survey completed at the end of ENG 4817

SLO2: students will identify central ideas/themes of a text through class discussion and writing (KU1, KU3); (K3); (S1, S2, S4)

Direct Measures:

ENG 2020=Process analysis assessed by classroom instructor using the AACU Critical Thinking Rubric

ENG 3020=Rhetorical analysis assessed by classroom instructor using the AACU Critical Thinking Rubric

ENG 4817=Reflective introduction for portfolio assessed by classroom instructor using the AACU Critical Thinking Rubric

Indirect Measure:

Entering Student Survey completed at the beginning of ENG 2020

Graduating Student Survey completed at the end of ENG 4817

SLO3: students will use two or more methodologies from English Studies to develop original research or creative products (KU1, KU2, KU4); (K3); (S1, S4)

Direct Measure:

Final projects completed in ENG 3029, assessed by instructor using research methods rubric created by the department

Indirect Measure:

Entering Student Survey completed at the beginning of ENG 2020

Graduating Student Survey completed at the end of ENG 4817

SLO4: students will demonstrate ability to give a compelling presentation (KU1, KU4); (S1, S2, S5)

Direct Measure:

ENG 2020=presentation on writing careers assessed by classroom instructor using University Oral Presentation Rubric

ENG 3080=presentation on research project, assessed by classroom instructor using University Oral Presentation Rubric

Indirect Measure:

Entering Student Survey completed at the beginning of ENG 2020

Graduating Student Survey completed at the end of ENG 4817

SLO5 students will connect ideas from classroom assignments to contemporary issues in class discussion and presentations (KU1, KU2, KU4); (K3); (S2, S4)

Direct Measures:

ENG 2020=Process analysis assessed by classroom instructor using the AACU Critical Thinking Rubric

ENG 3020=Rhetorical analysis assessed by classroom instructor using the AACU Critical Thinking Rubric

ENG 4817=Reflective introduction for portfolio assessed by classroom instructor using the AACU Critical Thinking Rubric

Indirect Measure:

Entering Student Survey completed at the beginning of ENG 2020

Graduating Student Survey completed at the end of ENG 4817

*** KU Student Outcomes: *Kean University graduates should be able to:***

1. Think critically, creatively and globally;
2. Adapt to changing social, economic, and technological environments;
3. Serve as active and contributing members of their communities; and
4. Advance their knowledge in the traditional disciplines (GE) and enhance their skills in professional areas (Prof. pgms)

****General Education Student Learning Outcomes**

Student Learning Outcomes – Knowledge: Students will demonstrate proficiency in knowledge and content by:

- (K1) applying the scientific method to comprehend natural concepts and processes;
- (K2) evaluating major theories and concepts in social sciences;
- (K3) relating historical references to literature; and
- (K4) evaluating major theories and concepts in the fine arts.

Student Learning Outcomes – Skills: Students will demonstrate the skills necessary to:

- (S1) write to communicate and clarify learning ;
- (S2) communicate effectively through speech;
- (S3) solve problems using quantitative reasoning;
- (S4) think critically about concepts in multiple disciplines; and
- (S5) show information literacy.