

Department of English Language and Literature

Student Outcome Assessments – Undergraduate English literature major:
[draft statement of outcomes: 5 Dec 06]

1. Range of literature – Describe the philosophical and aesthetic values in a broad selection of literature from a variety of historical periods, cultures, and genres.
2. Literary devices – Recognize, apply, and explain the use and effects of literary elements, rhetorical devices, and themes in literary texts.
3. Critical approaches – Demonstrate an understanding of different critical approaches ability to employ them in analyzing and interpreting literary texts.
4. Writing processes – Use effective processes to generate, compose, organize, revise, and present writing for varied purposes and audiences.
5. Research processes – Frame research questions; plan and conduct inquiry using credible sources; integrate and cite researched information and interpretations with textual evidence.
6. Critical thinking – Use the skills of close-reading, researching, theorizing, and writing, as well as knowledge of human experiences to articulate views on social justice and individual identity, actions, and creations.

Plan for collecting materials to be reviewed for assessing student attainment of desired outcomes: exploring the possibility of asking students to create and maintain portfolios of their written work—together with their reflections on their portfolios; portfolios to be reviewed by a committee of faculty teaching courses in the English Major.