



University of Maryland University College

**Baccalaureate Degree Program in English
Department of Communication, Arts, and Humanities**

PROGRAM ASSESSMENT PLAN
Program Outcomes and Learning Assessment Criteria

Summer 2007

Baccalaureate Degree Program in English

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PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The English program enables students to pursue successful careers in a wide range of professions. Systematic study of language and literature develops the skills required to manage complex information and ideas, conduct original research, convey difficult concepts, and articulate ideas with clarity and conviction. An English major or minor equips students for careers in such areas as education, writing and publishing, journalism, law, public relations, business, and management. The English program also meets the needs of students who are planning to continue graduate study in literature and/or related fields.

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PROGRAM OF STUDY

The program of study for the Baccalaureate Degree Program in English is as follows:

GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

Communications	12 credit hours
Arts and Humanities	6 credit hours
Behavioral and Social Sciences	6 credit hours
Biological and Physical Sciences	7 credit hours
Mathematics	3 credit hours
Interdisciplinary or Emerging Issues	7 credit hours

CROSS-CURRICULAR PERSPECTIVE REQUIREMENTS

Historical Perspective	3 credit hours
International Perspective	3 credit hours
Civic Responsibility Perspective	3 credit hours

REQUIRED COURSES

ENGL 240	Introduction to Fiction, Poetry, and Drama or Other supplemental English course	3 credit hours
ENGL 303	Critical Approaches to Literature	3 credit hours
ENGL 345	Modern Poetry or other poetry genre course	3 credit hours
ENGL 441	The Novel in America Since 1914 or Other fiction genre course	3 credit hours

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PROGRAM OF STUDY (continued)

ENGL 311	17 th - and 18 th -Century British Literature or Other pre-1800 period course for the major	3 credit hours
ENGL 433	American Literature: 1914 to the Present or Other historical period course for the major	3 credit hours
ENGL 364	African American Authors Since 1900 or Other American author for the major	3 credit hours
ENGL 406	Shakespeare: Power and Justice or Other British author course for the major	3 credit hours
ENGL 454	Modern World Drama or Other drama genre course	3 credit hours
Supplemental Courses	Any 2 ENGL Courses	6 credit hours

MINOR AND ELECTIVE COURSES

43 credit hours

Minor and/or elective courses are to be taken in the last 60 hours along with required major courses. Refer to the current UMUC School of Undergraduate Studies Catalog for the minor and/or elective course requirements.

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DEVELOPMENT OF PROGRAM OUTCOMES

The table below identifies the curricular influences that support the program outcomes specific to the Baccalaureate Degree Program in English.

SOURCES/RESOURCES PROVIDING CURRICULAR FOUNDATION FOR PROGRAM OUTCOMES Baccalaureate Degree Program in English		
SOURCE	DESCRIPTION	WEB ADDRESS OR DOCUMENT NAME (if applicable)
Core Learning Areas of the UMUC School of Undergraduate Studies	<p>All UMUC degree programs are required to imbed identified Core Learning Areas into the program of study. The Core Learning Areas are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written Communication (COMM) • Technology Fluency (TECH) • Information Literacy (INFO) • Quantitative Literacy (QUAN) • Critical Thinking (THIN) • Scientific Literacy (SCIE) <p>The expanded definition for each Core Learning Area was considered in creating the respective program outcome.</p>	UMUC <u>Institutional Plan for the Assessment of Student Learning</u>
National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE)/National Council for Accreditation of Teachers of Education (NCATE)	NCTE and NCATE issued program standards for Grades 7-12 in October 2003.	<u>http://www.ncte.org/prog/ncate/107902.htm</u>
English Disciplinary Faculty Committee	The English Disciplinary Faculty Committee is a state committee working to draft outcomes for an Associate Arts of Teaching (AAT) Secondary English degree.	<u>AAT English Committee Progress Report (submitted 6/06 to Maryland AAT Oversight Council)</u>

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PROGRAM OUTCOMES

The program outcomes specific to the Baccalaureate Degree Program in English are delineated below. The program outcomes describe the expectations for all graduates of the Baccalaureate Degree Program in English.

CORE LEARNING AREA	PROGRAM OUTCOMES Baccalaureate Degree Program in English
	Upon completion of the Baccalaureate Degree Program in English, graduates will be able to:
COMM	Create written communication appropriate for the purpose and that meets standards of style and grammatical correctness.+ Write analyses of literary works supported by relevant details of text and subtext, including language, style, structure, and other textual features.*
TECH	Evaluate technological concepts related to computers and components of information systems.+ Use online resources to locate scholarly articles and other materials for literary research.*
INFO	Address recognized research needs by retrieving, evaluating, and using information appropriately.+ Evaluate the validity, credibility, and relevance of secondary sources for a specific topic in literary research.*
QUAN	Apply mathematical and numerical reasoning skills.+ Apply analytic categories derived from various theoretical perspectives to identify relevant data sets and to formulate and solve problems in the interpretation of literary texts.*
THIN	Analyze the ways that genre and other aesthetic choices of authors affect the responses of readers.*
SCIE	Identify key concepts and principles of natural sciences.+ Support or refute the elements of critical theories such as Marxism and psychoanalytic theory that claim a basis in scientific methods of inquiry.*

+ Denotes a program outcome specific to core skills, knowledge, and values gained from completion of the general education requirements. This program outcome is common across all UMUC baccalaureate degree programs.

* Denotes a program outcome specific to core skills, knowledge, and values gained from completion of requirements in the baccalaureate degree program. This program outcome is unique to each UMUC baccalaureate degree program.

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ALIGNMENT OF PROGRAM OUTCOMES WITH LEARNING OBJECTIVES AND ASSESSMENT METHODS

The following grid aligns the program outcomes of the Baccalaureate Degree Program in English with 1) learning objectives from the designated program coursework and 2) specific methods used to assess student learning within the degree program.

CURRICULAR ALIGNMENT			
Baccalaureate Degree Program in English			
CORE LEARNING AREA	PROGRAM OUTCOMES	LEARNING OBJECTIVE(S) AND CORRELATING COURSEWORK	METHOD(S) OF ASSESSMENT
COMM	Create written communication appropriate for the purpose and that meets standards of style and grammatical correctness.+	Plan and write a research-based essay that makes effective use of resources found in databases available from UMUC's Office of Information and Library Services as well as resources located through Web search engines. (WRTG 101)	Research Paper
		Research, compile, and document relevant, credible information and use it to support ideas presented in your writing. (WRTG 393)	Research Paper
		Collect, select, analyze, interpret, and organize data, and use it appropriately in business communications, including a long formal report. (WRTG 394)	Research Paper
		Conduct a systematic audience analysis and apply it to a report, essay, or research paper. (WRTG 391)	Research Paper
	Write analyses of literary works supported by relevant details of text and subtext, including language, style, structure, and other textual features.*	Identify and analyze literary elements in poetry, short stories, and plays. (ENGL 240)	Essay/Writing Task
TECH	Evaluate technological concepts related to computers and components of information systems.+	Analyze issues faced by information system professionals, including security, ethical, and privacy problems. (IFSM 201)	Exam (Course/Chapter)

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CURRICULAR ALIGNMENT			
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CORE LEARNING AREA	PROGRAM OUTCOMES	LEARNING OBJECTIVE(S) AND CORRELATING COURSEWORK	METHOD(S) OF ASSESSMENT
	Use online resources to locate scholarly articles and other materials for literary research.*	Locate relevant online resources, cite sources in Modern Language Association (MLA) style, manage quotations, and check the validity and credibility of sources. (ENGL 303)	Other: Library Exercise (Part I of Two-Part Secondary Sources Assignment)
INFO	Address recognized research needs by retrieving, evaluating, and using information appropriately.+	Select relevant print and electronic sources to answer research questions. (LIBS 150)	Exam (Course/Chapter)
	Evaluate the validity, credibility, and relevance of secondary sources for a specific topic in literary research.*	Locate relevant online resources, cite sources in Modern Language Association (MLA) style, manage quotations, and check the validity and credibility of sources. (ENGL 303)	Other: Online Library Research Assignment
QUAN	Apply mathematical and numerical reasoning skills.+	Solve linear, quadratic, higher-order polynomial, fractional, radical, exponential, logarithmic, and absolute value equations and inequalities. (MATH 107)	Exam (Course/Chapter)
		Develop problem solving skills. (MATH 105 or MATH 106)	Exam (Course/Chapter)
	Apply analytic categories derived from various theoretical perspectives to identify relevant data sets and to formulate and solve problems in the interpretation of literary texts.*	Analyze poetry by applying reader-response, formal/structural, and psycho/social critical framework and develop a model for reading contemporary poems. (ENGL 345)	Essay/Writing Task
THIN	Analyze the ways that genre and other aesthetic choices of authors affect the responses of readers.*	Discuss the approaches and techniques used by the authors. (ENGL 441)	Essay/Writing Task

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CURRICULAR ALIGNMENT			
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CORE LEARNING AREA	PROGRAM OUTCOMES	LEARNING OBJECTIVE(S) AND CORRELATING COURSEWORK	METHOD(S) OF ASSESSMENT
SCIE	Identify key concepts and principles of natural sciences.+	Recognize the differences and the interrelationships among physics, chemistry, the earth sciences, and astronomy. (NSCI 100)	Exam (Course/Chapter)
		Explain the significance of DNA in determining the composition, characteristics, reproduction, and behavior of an organism. (BIOL 101)	Exam (Course/Chapter)
	Support or refute the elements of critical theories such as Marxism and psychoanalytic theory that claim a basis in scientific methods of inquiry.*	Identify and apply various critical/theoretical approaches to a piece of literature. (ENGL 303)	Essay/Writing Task

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