ENGLISH PROGRAM MISSION

The study of English allows us, through the written word, to enter the flow of human thought through the ages as together we--students and professors--explore traditional and contemporary literature, consider the structures and potentialities of the English language, and share the individual visions or revisions of our own voices in writing and speaking. Our programs and faculty value the interrelatedness of ideas and cultures, seek to balance the theoretical with the practical, and place our students at the center of inquiry and discovery.

ENGLISH MAJOR PROGRAM GOALS AND LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Goal #1 Students will acquire balanced knowledge of authors, works, and periods of British, American, and world literature, including some in-depth knowledge.

Objective 1.1 describe and interpret works of British, American, and world literature, diverse in genre, culture, and gender

Objective 1.2 recognize and refer to features of literary genres, literary and critical terms, and critical approaches

Goal #2 Students will be proficient critical readers of literary texts.

Objective 2.1 describe, analyze, interpret, and evaluate features of texts in several genres, applying literary and critical terms

Objective 2.2 critically analyze and interpret relations of a literary text with other texts, cultural contexts, related works, critical approaches

Goal #3 Students will write clear, well-developed critical essays about literature

Objective 3.1 plan, write, and revise critical essays about literature with good insights, argument, organization, evidence, and analysis

Objective 3.2 write critical essays about literature that integrate good research, correct documentation, and standard written English

Goal #4 Students will develop independence, responsibility, and appreciation for literary studies.

Objective 4.1 develop independent thinking and related habits of mind, such as confidence, responsibility for work, cooperation, reflection

Objective 4.2 appreciate the value of literary study: for intellectual, aesthetic, and personal growth; creativity; and social awareness