English BA

College of Arts & Sciences, Department of English

Linda Null

Mission: The English BA curriculum is designed to improve students' skills in writing, critical reading, and thinking; to enrich their cultural experience; and to prepare them for all professions requiring a high level of expression, imagination, and intellectual activity, including creative writing, editing, teaching, law, politics, and management.

Students graduating with a degree in English will employ their capacity to write dearly with 85% of students scoring "Very Good" or above in each relevant rubric category of the ENGL 4995 Senior Colloquium research paper.

- The document presented a clear thesis statement.
- The document was well organized with main points related to the thesis.
- The writer developed the main points using effective rhetorical strategies.
- The topic was appropriate for the designated audience, and specific terms were explained.
- Sources used were appropriate to the purpose of the writing and were managed well.
- Format features appropriately addressed the prompt.
- The writing demonstrated correct diction, syntax, usage, grammar, and mechanics.
- Tone and style were appropriate for the audience.

ENGL 4995 Senior Colloquium Rubric:

 85% of students will score "Very Good" or above in each relevant rubric category. In Spring 2023, the rubric which was described in the Assessment Methods area of this report was used for the first time to evaluate students' writing in ENGL 4995 Senior Colloquium.

There were 8 categories to be evaluated in the rubric. Twelve students submitted essays. Ninety-two % of the students scored scored "Excellent" or "Very Good" in four of the categories. The category with the lowest number of students scoring "Excellent" was "Correct diction, syntax, usage, etc." This category and the category "Sources Appropriate" were the areas with the highest number of students not scoring "Excellent" or "Very Good."

The rubric with results for both the writing and the oral evaluation is attached. \* See Appendix

The outside reviewer noted that the department "seems to have been effective in providing opportunities for students to develop their oral communication skills." She suggested that the "department should shift focus to assessing assessing one or more of the other learning outcomes." Hence, we developed the rubric for assessing writing in ENGL 4995 and used it for the first time in Spring 2023. The

Students graduating with a degree in English will read widely and perceptively, as demonstrated by 80% of students scoring at or above the national average on the ETS English Major Field Test.

English Major Field Test taken during students' last semester in the English BA program.

The ETSEnglish Major Field Test: 80% of composite scores at or above the national average.

In Fall 2022, only two students took the ETSEnglish Major Field Test. ETSprovided only limited information on the results of these students.

In Spring 2023, five students took the field test. the results for Spring 2023 are below:

| 1 British Literature Pre-1660 | 48 | 49.3 |
|-------------------------------|----|------|
|-------------------------------|----|------|

| 2 British Literature 1660-1900 | 43 | 40.6 |
|--------------------------------|----|------|
|                                | 40 | 40.0 |

- 3 American Literature to 1900 52 48.8
- 4 British and American Literature
- 1901-1945 46 46.8
- 5 Literature in English Snce 1945 57 50.4
- 6 Literary History 51 45.6
- 7 Identification 35 40.1

8 Literary Theory 40 40.3

In Spring 2023, TTU majors scored above the national mean in four of the eight categories of evaluation (50%). The goal was 80%. In Literary Theory, TTU English majors scored only .3 below the national mean. In the category of "identification," English majors had their lowest score (35 with 40.1 as the national mean.)

The English BA Ourriculum Committee should discuss these results, but it appears that the department should place more stress on definition of terms.

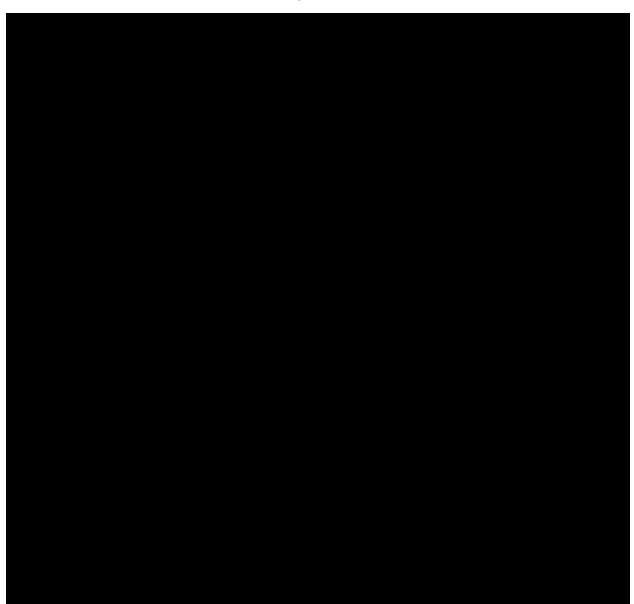
Students graduating with a degree in English will apply their ability to think critically with 80% of students performing at or above the national average on the California Critical Thinking Skills Test (CCTST).

The California Oritical Thinking Skills Test assesses critical thinking skills, including analysis and interpretation sub-scores, which relate to the English major student learning outcomes.

80% of students will perform at or above the national average on the CCTST.

On the California Critical Thinking Skills Test (CCTST) the mean score for English majors for

Some of the thresholds should be revised in consideration of the way that data are reported. For example, we do not have individual scores on the OCTST, so we should not use a threshold that depends on having separate scores for each English major who took the test.



Appendix 2: ENGL 4995 oral pres results 23 spring

Appendix 2: ENGL 4995 oral pres results 23 spring, cont.



Appendix 3: ENGL 4995 writing assessment rubric rev jan 2023, cont.

| Intercultural<br>Knowledge  | Excellent | Very Good | Good | Fair | Poor |
|---|-----------|-----------|------|------|------|
| The writing<br>articulates<br>how<br>intersectional<br>cultural rules<br>and biases<br>shape the<br>creation of<br>texts. |           |           |      |      |      |

| Prose Quality  | Excellent | Very Good | Good | Fair | Poor |  |
|--|-----------|-----------|------|------|------|--|
| The writing<br>used correct<br>diction,<br>syntax, usage,<br>grammar, and<br>mechanics |           |           |      |      |      |  |
| The tone and<br>style were<br>appropriate<br>for the<br>audience.                      |           |           |      |      |      |  |