

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA ASHEVILLE  
FACULTY SENATE

Senate Document Number SD2321S  
Date of Senate Approval 03/04/2021

-----  
Statement of Faculty Senate Action:

**APC Document 20 (ENGL):**            **Revise the narrative for the English major;**  
   **Revise the requirements for all concentrations in the**  
   **Major in English;**  
   **Revise the requirements for the Minor in English and the**  
   **Minor in Professional Writing and Rhetoric**

**Effective Date: Fall 2021**

**1. Delete:** On page 140, the narrative description for the major in English:

A major in English entails a sequence of core courses, elective courses in diverse areas of specialization, and workshops that provide a rich variety of opportunities for students to gain broad knowledge while making connections among disciplines and among peoples and cultures. As students encounter fiction, drama, and poetry, they also learn about various interpretive approaches and cultures, using sociological, historical, political, and aesthetic contexts to understand and appreciate literary works of art. As students learn about the art of writing, they also learn how others have used forms of literary expression and about how they can practice the writer's craft.

English courses demand extensive writing practice, engaging classroom discussions, convincing oral presentations, advanced technological integration, teamwork, sustained reading, independent thinking, a disciplined imagination, self-motivated learning, and persistent investigation. Students majoring in English cultivate versatile skills that can be applied broadly in the workplace and in graduate coursework. In tandem with the capstone experience, the department's sequence provides a strong foundation for those planning to teach, to go on to graduate study in English or other fields, or to make a career in writing, business, the nonprofit sector, or any professional career in which writing, thinking, and critical thinking are important.

By practicing the arts of critical thinking, close reading, articulate speaking, and clear writing, students develop and use intellectual capabilities as they acquire and apply lifelong learning skills while inquiring from a range of perspectives, applying knowledge to new settings and finding creative solutions to increasingly complex problems.

**Add:** On page 140, in place of deleted entry:

A major in English entails a sequence of core courses, elective courses in diverse areas of **faculty** specialization, and workshops that provide a rich variety of opportunities for students to gain broad knowledge while making connections among disciplines and among peoples and cultures. As students encounter fiction, drama, and poetry, they also learn about various interpretive approaches and cultures, using sociological, historical, political, and aesthetic contexts to understand, **appreciate, and explicate** literary works of art. As students learn about the art of writing, they also learn how others have used forms of literary expression and about how they can practice the writer's craft.

English courses demand extensive writing practice, engaging classroom discussions, convincing oral presentations, advanced technological integration, teamwork, sustained reading, independent thinking, a disciplined imagination, self-motivated learning, and persistent investigation. Students majoring in English cultivate versatile skills that can be

applied broadly in the workplace and in graduate coursework. ~~In tandem with the capstone experience, the~~ The department's curriculum provides a strong foundation for those planning to teach, to go on to graduate study in English or other fields, or to make a career in writing, business, the nonprofit sector, or any professional career in which writing, thinking, and critical thinking are important.

By practicing the arts of critical thinking, close reading, articulate speaking, and clear writing, students develop and use intellectual capabilities as they acquire and apply lifelong learning skills while inquiring from a range of perspectives, applying knowledge to new settings and finding creative solutions to increasingly complex problems.

- 2. Delete:** On page 140, items I and III and the description under the **Major in English with a Concentration in Literature:**

### **Major in English with a Concentration in Literature**

The concentration in Literature contains a combination of core, genre, culture and identity, seminar, and elective courses that combine breadth and depth, historical overview and close attention to one author or genre to give students the experiences, abilities, and tools for a lifelong engagement with literature and ideas. The capstone experience in which students research, write and edit a comprehensive thesis, allows students to demonstrate their skills as readers and writers. All classes develop skills in speaking, listening, imagining and reasoning.

- I. Required courses in the major—40 hours, including: LIT 240, 324, 334, 335, 497, 498; one course from LIT 325, 326, 327 or 330; one course from LIT 328, 329, 346, 363, 364, or 369; one course from LIT 440, 484, or 488; 8 additional hours in LIT at the 300-400 level. Note: LIT 340 and 398 cannot be used to fulfill the required elective hours within the major.
  
- III. Other departmental requirements—A two-part demonstration of competency, including a written examination and senior thesis with public presentation.

**Add:** On page 140, in place of deleted entries:

### **Major in English with a Concentration in Literature**

The concentration in Literature contains a combination of core courses and electives that emphasize interpretation, literary history, genre, and cultural identity. A mix of survey, readings, and seminar courses create a curriculum that combines breadth and depth, historical overviews, and close attention to particular authors and literary periods. Students will acquire experiences, abilities, and tools for a lifelong engagement with literature and ideas, as well as reading, writing, and discussion skills that will serve them well regardless of career path.

- I. Required courses in the major—40 hours, including: LIT 240, 324, 334, 335; one course from LIT 325, 326, 327 or 330; one course from LIT 328, 329, 346, 363, 364, or 369; two courses from LIT 440, 484, 488, or 490; 8 additional hours in LIT at the 300-400 level. Note: LIT 340 cannot be used to fulfill the required elective hours within the major.
  
- III. Other departmental requirements—Major competency is demonstrated by successful completion of two courses from the following: LIT 440, 484, 488, or 490.

- 3. Delete:** On page 141, item III under **Major in English with a Concentration in Creative Writing:**

- III. Other departmental requirements—A two-part demonstration of competency, including a written examination and a senior Creative Writing Project with public presentation.

**Add:** On page 141, in place of deleted entry:

- III. Other departmental requirements—Major competency is demonstrated by successful completion of LANG 494.

**4. Delete:** On page 141, items I and III under **English with Teacher Licensure:**

- I. Required courses in the major—32 hours: LANG 395, 396; LIT 240, 324, 334, 335, 497, 498; one course from LIT 325, 326, 327 or 330; one course from LIT 328, 329, 346, 363, 364 or 369.
- III. Other departmental requirements—A two-part demonstration of competency, including a written examination and senior thesis with public presentation.

**Add:** On page 141, in place of deleted entries:

- I. Required courses in the major—32 hours: LANG 395, 396; LIT 240, 324, 334, 335; one course from LIT 325, 326, 327 or 330; one course from LIT 440, 484, 488, or 490.
- III. Other departmental requirements—Major competency is demonstrated by successful completion of one course from the following: LIT 440, 484, 488, or 490.

**5. Delete:** On page 141, items I and III under **Creative Writing with Teacher Licensure:**

- I. Required courses in the major—40 hours: LANG 260, 395, 396, 494; LIT 240, 324, 334, 335; one course from LIT 325, 326, 327 or 330; and 8 additional hours of creative writing chosen from LANG 361-366.
- III. Other departmental requirements—A two-part demonstration of competency, including a written examination and a Senior Creative Writing Project with public presentation.

**Add:** On page 141, in place of deleted entries:

- I. Required courses in the major—44 hours: LANG 260, 395, 396, 494; LIT 240, 324, 334, 335; one course from LIT 325, 326, 327 or 330; and 8 additional hours of creative writing chosen from LANG 361-366.
- III. Other departmental requirements—Major competency is demonstrated by successful completion of LANG 494.

**6. Delete:** On page 141, under the **Minor in English:**

At least 20 hours, including: LIT 240; 8 hours selected from LIT 324, 334 or 335; 8 additional hours of LIT at the 300-400 level. LIT 340 and 398 cannot be used to fulfill any of the minor course elective hours.

**Add:** On page 141, in place of deleted entry:

At least 20 hours, including: LIT 240; 8 hours selected from LIT 324, 334 or 335; 8 additional hours of LIT at the 300-400 level. LIT 340 cannot be used to fulfill any of the minor course elective hours.

**7. Delete:** On page 142, under the **Minor in Professional Writing and Rhetoric:**

At least 20 hours, including: LANG 354, 395; 2-4 hours of LANG 340; 10-12 hours from ANTH 336, CLAS 498, DRAM 213, HWP 335, LANG 260, 311, 312, 350, 366, 396, LIT 240, LL 313, MCOM 201, RELS 312, 313. A minimum of 18 hours of LANG/LIT courses is required for the minor. Special topics courses in LANG may be substituted with the approval of the department chair. Note that some of the courses for the minor have prerequisites that may increase the total number of hours needed for the minor.

**Add:** On page 142, in place of deleted entry:

At least 20 hours, including: LANG 354, 395; 2-4 hours of LANG 340; 8-10 hours from ANTH 336, CLAS 498, DRAM 213, HWP 335, LANG 260, 311, 312, 350, 366, 396, LIT 240, LL 313, MCOM 201, RELS 312, 313. A minimum of 18 hours of LANG/LIT courses is required for the minor. Special topics courses in LANG may be substituted with the approval of the department chair. Note that some of the courses for the minor have prerequisites that may increase the total number of hours needed for the minor.

**Impact:** These changes reflect the effects of our proposed update of the English curriculum. No additional English faculty resources will be needed for the changes to the major competency. Although we are providing students with additional options from which to choose to fulfill major requirements, we are not adding more courses to be offered in any given semester. Students will no longer be tasked with balancing their course load while preparing for and taking a competency examination, and instructors will no longer be burdened with balancing their course load while preparing, proctoring, and grading the examination each semester.

The expansion of LANG 395 and 396 will have minimal impacts on English faculty and students in the major. Expanding 395 and 396 requires 4 more faculty hours annually, which at most would result in an adjunct section of LANG 120. Students whose major concentration is English with teaching licensure will not see an increase in major requirements because we are eliminating the requirement that they take one course from LIT 328, 329, 346, 363, 364 or 369. However, students whose major concentration is creative writing with teaching licensure will see an increase in 4 hours to their major requirements because they already were exempted from taking one course from LIT 328, 329, 346, 363, 364 or 369. While this proposal increases requirements for what is already an intense major path, it still falls within the catalogue cap of 45 credit hours. In addition, it does not affect many students. Since Fall 2008, only 9 students have graduated in creative writing with teaching licensure.

**Rationale:** We do not have the faculty to teach our literature curriculum as it is currently constructed. These changes provide us with a sustainable curriculum that allows us to be more nimble and adaptable in our instruction and assessment. We are investing students with more choices of seminar-level courses, encouraging faculty to design novel seminar-level courses, reducing unequal burdens of mentorship among faculty, and refining and improving our mentorship of undergraduate research.

The changes to teaching licensure requirements address an unintended consequence of moving to 4-hour courses. Education students used to take two full courses with the English department; now they only take two term courses of 2-hours each. Teaching licensure students take several English and Education courses; however, faculty in the English, Education, and Languages and Literatures departments believe that licensure students need more instruction in language pedagogy and methodology. This proposal will increase their instructional hours in language pedagogy and methodology from 9 to 13 (LANG 395 - 4, LANG 396 - 4, EDUC 311 - 3, EDUC 432 - 2).