

## ENGLISH LITERATURE

### Mission Statement

*In addition to preparing an increasingly diverse population of critically trained readers and writers, the Department seeks to achieve academic and practical recognition for the excellence of its writers and theorists of language. The Department provides instruction, advising, and experiential opportunities for students in an environment promoting scholarship, critical thinking, free inquiry, creativity, and clear and candid communication that attends to the rhetorical conventions of specific genres, audiences, situations, and purposes. In addition, as informed analysts of literature, rhetoric, and culture, we challenge students to develop standards for ethical engagement with the world of discourse, fostering knowledge about how all texts acquire meaning and power in changing historical contexts.*

### Student Learning Outcomes

UWF English Literature graduates should be able to do the following:

#### Content

- Recognize basic elements of literary works such as plot, setting, character, point of view, form, and narrative structure
- Identify models of rhetoric employed in newspapers, journals, and speeches
- Describe the general social, historical, and philosophical contexts in which literary works have developed
- Seek careers in publishing, teaching, advertising, law, business, and librarianship among others

#### Critical Thinking

- Critically interpret literary works by American, British, and other international writers of various genres, periods, traditions, and ethnic backgrounds
- Relate general background materials crucial to the understanding of British and American Literature
- Apply theoretical perspectives to literary studies, including but not limited to formalist, historicist, feminist, and psychoanalytic perspectives
- Engage in the entire world of discourse and debate from politics to education

#### Communication

- Recognize and correctly adhere to commonly employed English grammatical structures and syntax
- Employ information technologies in their professional and personal pursuits
- Present ideas clearly and effectively in written and oral communications

## **Integrity/Values**

- Describe the aesthetic values that support and challenge the literary canon
- Develop standards for ethical engagement with the world of discourse

## **Project Management**

- Develop expertise in one literary period and in one major writer through reading and analysis of primary texts, research in the relevant critical traditions, recognizing specific historical, aesthetic, and/or critical features particular to the period and author, and writing original critical essays concerning the period and author
- Abide by deadlines and guidelines provided for various projects
- Collaborate effectively with colleagues
- Design communication models specific to a given task or audience

## **Assessment of Student Learning Outcomes**

Our commitment to students is to provide learning opportunities of the highest quality possible. In return we expect hard work and dedication. As students take advantage of majors-only classes with our nationally and internationally recognized faculty, their progress will be assessed in a variety of ways. These include: formal essays, quizzes, short critical responses, group projects, exams, individual meetings with professors, oral presentations, skills-building exercises (such as crafting thesis statements), contributions to online discussions, and, during a capstone course in the senior year, special projects involving engagement with the community. Before graduation, students will also complete an exit survey in which they assess their own intellectual growth and professional development as an English major.

## **Job Prospects for English Literature Graduates**

Graduates with English Literature majors have many options after graduation for employment. Although some jobs require additional training in graduate school, many graduates can qualify for employment directly upon completion of the undergraduate major.

Publisher	Editor
Creative Writer	Playwright
Technical Writer	Journalist
Advertising Specialist	Teacher
Lawyer	Business Person
Librarian	

***Find Out More About English Literature at UWF:***

**<http://uwf.edu/english>**