

Department of English and Modern Languges Discipline-Specific Guidelines

English Division

Revised Fall 2020

Nature of the Discipline(s) in the Department of English and Modern Languages in the Realm of Teaching

Discipline specific notes, additions, or deletions accompanying the Faculty Guide "Basic Expectations of Teaching"

It should be noted that all courses offered by the English department are writing intensive with multiple formal essays and informal writing, and many tests and quizzes require significant writing. As a result, marking and returning the assignments is especially difficult to complete in just a few days.

Discipline specific notes, additions, or deletions accompanying the Faculty Guide "Teaching Effectiveness"

While not discipline specific, the English Department advocates the use of the university LMS and other such tools as part of teaching effectiveness.

Nature of the Discipline(s) in the Department of English and Modern Languages in the Realm of Research and Scholarship

Elements critical to scholarship which may be unfamiliar to faculty in other disciplines

Scholarship in Literary and Composition/Rhetoric Studies takes place in libraries, archives, and at our computers. While our work can certainly involve or even require travel, much of our work does not include it. It may be difficult for people whose research methodology is very different to understand this.

Department/program scholarship, service-learning, and community engagement scholarship could also count as important scholarly work, dependent on subject and context.

Directing or performing in a play or a dramatic reading (under some circumstances, this might be considered service rather than professional growth)

Meaning of Peer Review and circumstances where peer review is not necessary for the work product to be considered for scholarship.

Peer review for English involves the review of submissions by peers, generally anonymously. Journal articles and book proposals often involve peer review. Peer-review is not the only measure of quality in our scholarship. Occasionally, a conference presentation will be invited to be included in published conference proceedings or included because it was designated as best in panel.

Additionally, an editor will serve as the commenter if an essay is being included in a collection of essays; while this is not technically peer-reviewed, it is considered to be equivalent. Monographs are sometimes peer-reviewed anonymously but not always; similar to the above item, a monograph is considered to be a significant work of scholarship.

What does and does not qualify as meaningful creative work

Articles, book chapters, and monographs about literature, rhetoric, and writing as well as poetry, novels, nonfiction writing, short stories, screenwriting, podcasts, and playwriting are valued as creative work in our discipline.



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Can "Paid" work be considered scholarship

Yes; payment for a grant, writing a book, or shorter work, creating a presentation or video, or leading a workshop does not negate the scholarship required to create it.

How 21st century forms of disseminating work product into the intellectual marketplace figure into accepted norms of scholarship

Digital platforms have become common in literary scholarship; many peer-reviewed journals publish in solely digital formats. Open-access teaching or scholarly lecture videos should also be seen as important contributions that are published on digital platforms; some of these videos reach a large audience and provide important public access.

Departmental assessment of scholarship quality

Similar to other disciplines in the liberal arts, peer-review is considered to be a sign of quality work. Presentations at larger, national and international conferences are also well-regarded, but smaller, more regional conferences are also valuable. Editing collections for an academic or reputable press is also significant, as is publication within such a collection. Single-authorship is most common for English scholars, although co-editing and co-writing is also an effective scholarly practice.

Departmental assessment of scholarship quantity

English faculty should strive to present or publish something each year. By the time a faculty member goes up for promotion, they should have a minimum of two to three peer-reviewed articles or a book (monograph or edited collection) OR a number of smaller articles, reviews, presentations, and other scholarship that would somehow equate to two peer-reviewed articles.

Nature of the Discipline(s) in the Department of English and Modern Languages in the Realm of Service

Need, value, and expectation of departmental service

Department service is highly valued because of the many aspects of department life that require collaboration. Some examples include periodic pedagogical workshops for First-Year Writing (FYW), periodic assessment practices for FYW, advising discipline-specific student organizations such as Sigma Tau Delta (STD) and English Advisory Board (EAB), managing assessment for the department, serving as editor of *Counterpoint*, and serving as editor of the *Wingate Research Review* (this is not solely the responsibility of the English department, but it tends to fall to one of our faculty members).

Other departmental service duties include representing the department on committees (such as Teacher Education or special/ad hoc committees). Some of these committees are extensive including hiring committees or leading departmental initiatives (such as curriculum or textbook review).

The department coordinates several minors housed in the department (Creative Writing, Professional and Technical Writing, Film Studies), and as other departments, supervises internships.

Modern Languages:

One example of important departmental service in Modern languages is the administration and evaluation of hundreds of placement exams.



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Need, value, and expectation of university service

No discipline specific notes.

Importance of service to the profession

Not required but considered to be a valuable use of time

Importance of service to the community

Not required but considered to be a valuable use of time

Departmental assessment of service quality

We recognize that service contributions can vary widely and provide different levels of significance to the department, institution, and profession. Some responsibilities are significantly more demanding than others.

No other discipline specific notes.

Departmental assessment of service quantity

The number of committees (whether appointed or special/ad hoc), number of official advisees as well as additional mentoring, and services to the department's students, organizations, and initiatives are quantifiable in number; however, one significant responsibility could potentially require the same effort of several other assignments.

No other discipline specific notes.