

English, Literature, and Journalism Department Student Equity and Success—Our Vision

Values/Mission

- The mission of the English, Literature, and Journalism Department is to assist all students in reaching their academic, professional, and personal goals through command of the written word.
- The faculty and staff of the English, Literature, and Journalism Department are committed to welcoming and supporting diverse students.
- The Department commits itself to supporting students with significant academic and personal challenges.
- The members of the Department commit ourselves to basing our decisions on sound data and our lived experience as classroom instructors.

Our Program

- Our composition program provides rigorous training in critical analysis and the conventions of academic writing.
- Our literature program invites students, both majors and non-majors, to explore the diversity of global literatures and cinema.
- Our creative writing program helps students find and express their unique voices through practice writing poetry, fiction, nonfiction, and memoir.
- Our journalism program equips students with the skills they need to work in a complex, constantly changing media environment.

Actions

The Department has recently taken the following actions in order to serve our diverse student community more effectively:

- We have voted to increase access to composition courses and allow for more rapid completion of the composition sequence by expanding our use of multiple measures, specifically basing placement into composition classes on high school performance data (GPA/ coursework) as well as on a writing sample when appropriate.
- We have begun shifting from a primarily prerequisite to a primarily co-requisite model of remediation, which research demonstrates provides better student outcomes.

Institutional Support

These changes mean a dramatic shift in how students are placed in our composition sequence. However, the reality is that many students face significant academic and personal challenges, which will not be removed by higher initial English placements. Therefore, in order to achieve its mission of supporting student equity, access, and success in this new pedagogical environment, the English, Literature, and Journalism Department requires additional institutional funding and support, particularly in these areas:

- Academic Support: tutoring, tutors in the classroom, individualized instruction, faculty mentoring
- Student Services: counseling, advising, orientation, support programs
- Support/Co-requisite courses
- Classroom space and environment, computer classrooms, instructional technology
- Research
- Professional development, Conference and Travel, Adjunct Mentoring
- Technology

MOTION: The English, Literature, and Journalism Department adopts the following multiple measures for placing students in composition courses.

ENGL 1A OR ENGL 1A/66 Co-Req	≥2.6	OR	2.4-2.59 AND B or higher in regular 12 th grade English.	OR	ENGL 1A on placement test
ENGL 1A/66 Co-Req	2.4-2.59	OR	Or 2.2-2.39 AND B or higher in regular 12 th grade English.	OR	
ENGL 68 OR ENGL 90	2.2-2.39	OR	Or 2.0-2.1 AND B or higher in regular 12 th grade English.	OR	ENGL 68 on English placement test
ENGL 67 OR ENGL 90	1.8-2.19	OR	Or 1.7 AND B or higher in regular 12 th grade English.	OR	ENGL 67 on English placement test