Assessing Student Learning in the English Major Capstone

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ACE 10 Course: English 487
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First, students are asked to look back on their work in the major and select samples covering a range of learning outcomes in the major to be included in a portfolio. Second, students engage in a common intellectual inquiry and produce substantial final projects key to the common inquiry. This final project then becomes a key component of the portfolio.

Student Work: Students devise their own projects within the ACE requirements

The English department has developed a set of learning outcomes and a programmatic assessment process for the English major that uses the English major capstone (an ACE 10 certified course required of all majors) as a collection site for student work to be assessed. The course includes two components. First, students are asked to look back on their work in the major and select samples covering a range of learning outcomes in the major to be included in a portfolio. Second, students engage in a common intellectual inquiry and produce substantial final projects key to the common inquiry. This final project then becomes a key component of the portfolio.

The English department has thirteen learning outcomes for majors. We score four outcomes every year (the foundational outcomes) and the additional outcomes on a rotating basis. This year, we will be scoring outcomes 1, 2, 3, 4, 9, 11, and 13. Our scoring is conducted by a group of faculty from across the subdisciplines of English studies using a rubric. Our learning outcomes and the rubric for outcomes to be scored this year are represented below.

Outcomes for the English Major

We scoring of student portfolios is scheduled to take place on APRIL 11th. Stay tuned!

Improving ACE 10 Learning

The English Department Assessment Coordinator and subject area coordinators, as appropriate, present the results of assessment activities the subject to the department, and, based on department discussion and feedback, individuals or committees in the department may take action to improve teaching and learning or revise curricula.