

**Major Field Assessment Plan**  
**B. A. Liberal Arts Studies**

The mission of Southeastern Louisiana University is to meet the education and cultural needs, primarily of Southeast Louisiana, to disseminate knowledge and to facilitate life-long learning through quality instruction, research and service in a safe, student-centered environment.

The purpose of the B.A. in Liberal Arts Studies is to develop effectiveness in communication, provide cultural and social background, and prepare students for entrance to postgraduate studies and/or a variety of professions and vocations.

**Goal 1**

Liberal Arts Majors should have broad knowledge of the English language and literature.

A. Expected Outcome

Liberal Arts Studies majors will have adequate knowledge of literary theory, literary history, and major literary works.

Assessment

Liberal Arts Studies majors will earn at least a C average in their major courses.

B. Expected Outcome

Liberal Arts Studies majors will have adequate knowledge of the English language, including grammar, rhetoric, and composition.

Assessment

In each of the major courses, at least one written work will be evaluated for expertise in grammar, rhetoric, and composition. Liberal Arts Studies majors will earn at least a C average in their major courses.

C. Expected Outcome

LAS majors should express satisfaction with the quality of instruction and the overall learning environment provided by the Department of English

Assessment

SLU Exit Survey

D. Expected Outcome

LAS majors will satisfy the knowledge goals for the second field.

Assessment

LAS majors will earn at least a C average in their minor field courses.

**Goal 2**

Liberal Arts Studies majors will have the necessary skills to engage in scholarly research and criticism.

A. Expected Outcome

Liberal Arts Studies majors will be able to use the major indices and library resources pertinent to research in English and in other appropriate fields.

Assessment

60% of the English majors will earn B or better in LS 102.

B. Expected Outcome

LAS majors will be able to analyze intelligently and critically both prose and verse.

Assessment

LAS majors will successfully complete at least twelve hours of English courses which emphasize critical analysis of prose and poetry and will compose a critical essay or research paper all of these courses.

C. Expected Outcome

English majors will acquire thorough knowledge and skill in the use of MLA documentation format.

Assessment

Every paper assigned to major classes beginning with English 102 will be evaluated carefully for correct use of MLA documentation.

### **Goal 3**

LAS majors will be prepared for postgraduate studies and/or a variety of professions and vocations.

#### **A. Expected Outcome**

At least 50% of LAS majors will be accepted to programs of postgraduate studies and/or will be employed in a profession utilizing their language and literature skills within six months after graduation.

#### **Assessment**

SLU Survey of Undergraduate Degree Alumni

### **Goal 4**

LAS majors will possess cultural knowledge and global awareness through reading, research, and field experience.

#### **A. Expected Outcome**

LAS majors will acquire knowledge of other countries, governments, cultures, peoples, languages, and histories through a study of literature.

#### **Assessment**

Students have the opportunity to choose from a wide variety of multi-cultural and ethnic literatures, including English 121H (Ancient Epic), 122H (Modern Epic), 230 (World Literature), 231 (British Literature), 291H (Tragedy and Comedy), 292H (Modern Fiction), 301 (English Literature to the Restoration), 303 (English Literature from the Restoration), 310 (Black Writers), 331 (Shakespeare: Comedies and Romances), 332 (Shakespeare: Tragedies and Histories), 351 (Literature in Translation to the Renaissance), 352 (Literature in Translation from the Renaissance to the Present), 374 (Literature and Film), 392 (Native American Literature), 411/506 (English Novel), 412/507 (The Continental Novel), 429/527 (Woman's Literature), more specific upper-level classes in British and World Literature, 480/580 (Non-European Literature), and 415 Special Topics courses which explore such global topics as ethnic literature, gender issues in literature, and specific global literary influences like the Vietnam War.

B. Expected Outcome

The number and quality of multi-cultural literary studies classes will increase.

Assessment

The English Department is now conducting searches for two tenure-track positions in the field of Literature of the Americas as well as in issues of race and sexualities from a global perspective. These new positions will expand current teaching in global issues in our department.

C. Expected Outcome

LAS majors will have more opportunity and encouragement to acquire knowledge of other countries, governments, peoples, languages, and histories through field experience.

Assessment

Students participation in study-abroad programs will increase because of greater information on present programs, teacher encouragement to participate in these programs, and dissemination of information about scholarships and other inducements to student travel