English M.A. Program
Student Learning Outcomes and Assessment Cycle

Part 1: Student Learning Outcomes

1. Students will demonstrate an advanced level of expertise in literary history, literary theory, and rhetoric and writing.

2. Students will demonstrate advanced reading, critical, and analytical skills in the interpretation and evaluation of literary texts, as well as the ability to construct a sustained, sophisticated, and original argument on a specialized topic.

3. Students will demonstrate a command of scholarly writing, including the ability to organize and present material in a cogent fashion; formulate and defend original arguments; and employ effectively the language of their discipline.

4. Students will be able to participate actively in the theoretical discussions central to the field.

5. Students will demonstrate high-level proficiency in literary research and in the synthesis of research, which will culminate in the writing of a substantial and original master's thesis.

Part 2: Curriculum Map

The table below outlines each of the student learning outcomes listed above and the courses and program requirements that correspond to each of the objectives described in the outcomes.

English MA Program Student Learning Outcomes	**MA Courses and Program Requirements**
Learning Outcome 1	ENG 500, ENG 529, ENG 530, ENG 538, ENG 539, ENG 547, ENG 548, ENG 602, ENG 615, ENG 616, ENG 617, ENG 618, ENG 622, ENG 629, ENG 632, ENG 636, ENG 640, ENG 645, ENG 646, ENG 672, ENG 677, ENG 678
Learning Outcome 2	ENG 500, ENG 529, ENG 530, ENG 538, ENG 539, ENG 547, ENG 548, ENG 615, ENG 616, ENG 617, ENG 618, ENG 622, ENG 629, ENG 632, ENG 636, ENG 640, ENG 645, ENG 646, ENG 672, ENG 677, ENG 678
Learning Outcome 3	ENG 500, ENG 529, ENG 530, ENG 538, ENG 539, ENG 547, ENG 548, ENG 615, ENG 616, ENG 617, ENG 618, ENG 622, ENG 629, ENG 632, ENG 636, ENG 640, ENG 645, ENG 646, ENG 672, ENG 677, ENG 678
Learning Outcome 4	ENG 672
Learning Outcome 5	ENG 687

Part 3: Key Assessments

Each of the literature courses in the English MA program requires a minimum of 20-25 pages of scholarly writing, in which students demonstrate advanced and sophisticated reading and analytical skills in the interpretation of literary texts. Students in all literature courses respond to literary works by formulating and defending original arguments in a cogent manner and by demonstrating, through their writing and reading skills, their understanding of critical theory. In their culminating activity, a 30-40-page master's thesis, students demonstrate a high-level of proficiency in scholarly writing, literary theory, and in the synthesis of research. Students meet with their thesis supervisor throughout the thesis-writing process and receive feedback on drafts, suggestions for revisions, and recommendations about additional resources. The M.A. coordinator serves as the secondary reader of the M.A. thesis.

Part 4: Assessment Cycle

Assessment of student learning is an ongoing process that takes place throughout each semester through assignments that are embedded into each course, including the evaluation of response narratives, seminar papers, and oral presentations, as well as guided primary and secondary source research for the culminating M.A. thesis. Because of the ongoing evaluation of student performance, no formal assessment cycle is in place in the M.A. program.