Mission and Vision

Mission Statement
MISSION: Members of the English Department at FSU take as our mission the effective, rigorous instruction of students in our general education courses and our major and minor programs. All majors take a core of literature, writing, and language courses upon which to build and practice the development of their knowledge and skills. Majors choose among three concentrations--Professional Writing, Creative Writing, and Literature--and the English Education option. In addition, the Department sponsors or co-sponsors minors in Journalism, Film Studies, Public Relations, Women’s Studies, and Environmental Humanities, and a Certificate in Professional Writing.

The Department thereby sustains the University’s mission to provide “a comprehensive array of baccalaureate programs with an emphasis on arts and humanities,” and we support the objectives of promoting “economic development of the region” and of responding to the national shortage of teachers. Our Center for Creative Writing provides cultural opportunities and instructional outreach to the entire region.

English courses cultivate students’ critical thinking and problem-solving skills, appreciation of diverse and multi-cultural perspectives, oral and written fluency, cultural values of tolerance and understanding, learning that is both active and collaborative, and proficiency in the technologies of writing and research. English majors in their senior year may take advantage of an extensive internship program, and all majors construct a portfolio for submission in a required Capstone course that also permits the department to assess student learning outcomes.

VISION: The English Department will continue to play a critical role in the revitalization of the University and the region. Our newly revamped Literature concentration has put us in the forefront of American universities by offering a true trans-Atlantic perspective; our certificate in Professional Writing enables us to provide the regional business community with essential expertise in workplace communication. We are currently evaluating innovative programs in ENGL 101 designed to meet the needs of increasing numbers of underprepared students being
admitted to the University. Updates and changes are also being proposed for our Professional Writing and Creative Writing concentrations. In addition, we are at present overhauling our departmental website to facilitate the recruiting and retention of majors. We look forward to an exciting future of delivering state-of-the-art education and expanded community outreach, from facilities that enable us to keep pace with appropriate progress in instructional technology and which reflect the magnitude of our contribution to the achievement of the University’s mission.

**Related Items**
*There are no related items.*

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### 1. : Assessment: Links to CLAS Goal 2

**Narrative**
Examine goals, outcomes, and assessments of General Education courses and the English major.

**Related Items**

1.1: ENGL 101
Examine goals, outcomes, and assessment for ENGL 101 (both regular and Basic Writing sections). Report any gathered student learning outcome data to Rob Smith for GEP assessment.

1.2: ENGL 300-level
Form a committee to look at goals, outcomes, and assessments of 300-level composition courses. Once data is gathered, begin reporting to Rob Smith for GEP assessment.

1.3: Capstone
Examine assessment of English Capstone.

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### 2. : Merge Departments of English and Foreign Languages: Links to CLAS Goals 2 and 4

**Narrative**
The departments of English and Foreign Languages will be merging July 15. Many details need to be addressed to ensure a harmonious existence.

**Related Items**

2.1: Administration
Clearly identify and define administrative roles and responsibilities

2.2: Evaluation
Define evaluation guidelines for faculty.

2.3: Mission and Vision
Examine and update Mission and Vision.

3. : Professional Development: Links to CLAS Goal 3

Narrative
The department is committed to ongoing professional development. We will continue to support, encourage, and track faculty publications, engagements, conference papers, etc.

Related Items
3.1: Encourage professional development
Encourage, support, and track professional development.

4. : Cooperation and Enhancement: Links to CLAS Goal 3

Narrative
The department will work collaboratively and collegially with other departments, offices on campus, the community, and colleagues at other universities in partnerships that improve student learning and professional development.

Related Items
4.1: Cooperative ventures
Foster cooperative ventures other departments, administrative units, student groups on campus, the Frostburg community, and other universities.

4.2: ELL/ENGL 101 cooperation
Liaise with other offices to support degree-seeking and non-degree-seeking non-native speakers of English.

5. : Cover Staffing Needs: Links to CLAS Goal 4

Narrative
The newly merged Department of English and Foreign Languages has unique staffing needs. We have critical areas that must be addressed in terms of fair workload and coverage for in-demand courses.
Related Items

5.1: Administrative Assistant Compensation
Pursue additional workload compensation for administrative assistant for the merged departments. The admin is currently managing one of the largest offices on campus and will be taking on increased responsibilities.

5.2: Conversion of FTNTT Foreign Language Faculty
Upon certification of successful teaching, research, and service, convert newly-hired FTNTT Foreign Languages faculty member to tenure-track.

5.3: PIN request for Journalism/PR/Advanced Composition
Pursue one PIN request to replace three faculty losses in Professional Writing, with particular focus in Journalism/Public Relations/Professional Writing (Advanced Composition).

To death and retirement, the department will have lost three professors in professional writing within two and a half years. A new hire with professional experience in journalism, PR, and discipline-specific composition will help the department offer necessary classes in two healthy, popular minors and our always-in-demand general education courses, especially those needed for the growing nursing program.

1.1: ENGL 101
Examine goals, outcomes, and assessment for ENGL 101 (both regular and Basic Writing sections). Report any gathered student learning outcome data to Rob Smith for GEP assessment.

Related Items
There are no related items.

1.2: ENGL 300-level
Form a committee to look at goals, outcomes, and assessments of 300-level composition courses. Once data is gathered, begin reporting to Rob Smith for GEP assessment.

Related Items
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1.3: Capstone
Examine assessment of English Capstone.

Related Items
There are no related items.
2.1: Administration
Clearly identify and define administrative roles and responsibilities

Related Items
There are no related items.

2.2: Evaluation
Define evaluation guidelines for faculty.

Related Items
There are no related items.

2.3: Mission and Vision
Examine and update Mission and Vision.

Related Items
There are no related items.

3.1: Encourage professional development
Encourage, support, and track professional development.

Related Items
There are no related items.

4.1: Cooperative ventures
Foster cooperative ventures other departments, administrative units, student groups on campus, the Frostburg community, and other universities.

Related Items
There are no related items.

4.2: ELL/ENGL 101 cooperation
Liaise with other offices to support degree-seeking and non-degree-seeking non-native speakers of English.

Related Items
There are no related items.
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Related Items
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