PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE ENGLISH DEGREE PROGRAM IN THE COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS CHAPTER IN THE UNDERGRADUATE CATALOG 2018-2020

TY	TPE OF CHANGE:1	✓ Academic✓ Degree Pro	Change ogram Change (THI	ECB ² form requir	red)	
PR	OPOSED CLASSIFI	ICATION:3	⊠ Exclusive	☐ General	☐ Major	
1.	IF THE ANSWER	TO ANY OF T	HE FOLLOWING	G QUESTIONS 1	IS YES, THE C	OLLEGE MUST
	CONSULT LINDA DICKENS, DIRECTOR OF ACCREDITATION AND ASSE				N AND ASSESS	MENT, TO
	DETERMINE IF S.	ACSCOC APP	ROVAL IS REQU	IRED.		
	• Is this a new deg	gree program?				Yes 🗌 No 🔯
	• Is this program b	peing deleted?				Yes 🗌 No 🖂
	Does the program	m offer courses	that will be taught o	off campus?		Yes 🗌 No 🖂
	Will courses in t	his program be	delivered electronic	ally?		Yes 🗌 No 🖂

2. EXPLAIN CHANGE TO DEGREE PROGRAM AND GIVE A DETAILED RATIONALE FOR EACH INDIVIDUAL CHANGE:

Major hours. While keeping the number of hours for the major the same, we are decreasing by three the number of required upper division hours to twenty-one in order to allow lower-division courses that are a content match for the Diverse Perspectives requirement to apply both toward it and the major.

- 1 and 2. To align with the wording of other English requirements in the catalog, as well as to allow for midcatalog inventory additions, we are opting for a descriptive statement for these requirements, rather than an itemized list of course options. A list of course options will continue to be available online for our majors.
- 4. The articulation of a contemporary (1940-present) requirement in the major does not represent a significant change. For our most recent substantive revision to the English major requirements, in 2010, three period-based courses were added (pre-1630, 1630-1830, 1830-1940). At that time, we did not include a 1940-present requirement solely because our students naturally gravitate toward contemporary literature courses when completing the electives within the major, thus rendering a requirement unnecessary. What we've found, though, is that the absence of a formal contemporary literature requirement inaccurately signals to students (and prospective students) that our department does not value contemporary literature, a misconception we'd very much like to remedy. This requirement replaces three hours of lower- or upper-division elective formerly allowed in the major. (Those elective hours are recouped by the deletion of item 8, below.)
- 8. The bulk of our major requirements aim for breadth of study within English, with an additional now-nine hours of English upper-division elective targeted at building depth. Originally, this requirement intended to serve as a capstone course for English majors; however, our students' interests within English are incredibly diverse, so much so that offering enough topics to appropriately match individual student preparation proved an impossible task, especially in light of course enrollment minimums. As a result, most of our students were forced either to opt for a more generic course that offered some practice in research but no capstone experience, or to settle for an in-depth course on a topic for which they were not sufficiently prepared or invested. In order to continue to provide substantive research opportunities for our students, our intent is to scatter additional independent inquiry-flagged courses throughout our curriculum. Since the Independent Inquiry flag requirement flag has been adopted for the Bachelor of Arts (Plan I) degree, item 8 remains something of a *de facto* requirement for most of our majors, as well.

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Other Changes: The other changes are made in the interest of clarity and to provide direction to students. These adjustments allow the requirements to be listed in order of level (two lower-division requirements first, followed by two requirements that may be met by either lower- or upper-division coursework, followed by seven upper-division requirements) so that students who see the order of requirements as a directive will progress through the major appropriately. Our period requirements (1940-present, 1830-1940, etc.) have been reordered accordingly in order to provide a more logical chronological progression from the post-1940 requirement situated at #4.

Honors 1. Adjusted to reflect the proposed change in the major above (item 8).

Honors 2 and 3. The English Honors Program Committee agreed that moving to a single minimum grade expectation of B+ for all honors courses was both logical and prudent. Additionally, English 679HA and 679HB were replaced by English 368H and 369H in our course inventory, respectively.

Honors 5. In that sixty hours in residence are now required for any UT-Austin Bachelor of Arts degree, this statement is superfluous.

3.	TH	HIS PROPOSAL INVOLVES: (Please check all that apply)						
		Courses in other colleges	Courses in proposer's college that are frequently taken by students in other colleges	Flags				
		Course in the core curriculum	Change in course sequencing for an existing program	Courses that have to be added to the inventory				
		Change in admission requirements (external or internal)	Requirements not explicit in the catalog language (e.g., lists of acceptable courses maintained by department office)	·				
4.	SC	COPE OF PROPOSED CHANGE:						
	a.	Does		this proposal impact other				
		colleges/schools? If yes, then how would you do so	?	Yes 🗌 No 🛚				
	b.	Do you anticipate a net change in If yes, how many more (or fewer)	Yes 🗌 No 🛚					
	c.	Do you anticipate a net increase (or decrease) in the number of <u>students from outside</u> of your college taking classes in your college? Yes No in the number of students and/or class seats involved.						
	d.	Do you anticipate a net increase (other colleges?	or decrease) in the number of students from	your college taking courses in Yes ☐ No ☐				
			of students and/or class seats involved.	103 [] 110 []				

If 4 a, b, c, or d was answered with yes, please answer the following questions:

If the proposal has potential budgetary impacts for another college/school, such as requiring new sections or a non-negligible increase in the number of seats offered, at least one contact must be at the college-level.

How many students do you expect to be impacted?

Impacted schools must be contacted and their response(s) included:

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Person communicated with:

Date of communication:

Response:

e. Does this proposal involve changes to the core curriculum or other basic education requirements (42-hour core, signature courses, flags)? If yes, explain:

If yes, Undergraduate Studies must be informed of the proposed changes and their response included:

Person communicated with:

Date of communication:

Response:

f. Will this proposal change the number of hours required for degree completion?

Note: THECB Semester Credit Hour Change Form required, download from URL:

http://www.thecb.state.tx.us/reports/DocFetch.cfm?DocID=2419&format=doc

If yes, explain:

5. COLLEGE/SCHOOL APPROVAL PROCESS

Department approval date: 3/28/2017

Approved by whom: English Undergraduate Curriculum Committee (Cullingford (Chair), Hutchison and Scala (Associate Chairs), Bruster (Undergraduate Adviser), and Humphries (Academic Advisor); Honors Changes

approved by English Honors Committee (Birkholz (Director) et al.)

College approval date: 04/19/17 Approved by whom: COLA Curriculum Design & Assessment

Committee

Dean approval date: 06/05/17 Approved by whom: COLA Faculty

PROPOSED NEW CATALOG TEXT:4

ENGLISH

Major

Thirty-three semester hours of English, including at least [24] 21 semester hours of upper-division coursework consisting of the following:

- 1. [English 314J, 314L, or 314V] An introductory literary skills course
- 2. [English 316L, 316M, 316N, or 316P] An introductory literary survey course
- 3. A diverse perspectives course
- 4. A course in literature or language from 1940 to the present
- [3] 5. An upper-division course in literature or language [prior to 1630] from 1830 to 1940
- [4] 6. An upper-division course in literature or language from 1630 to 1830
- [5] 7. An upper-division course in literature or language [from 1830 to 1940] prior to 1630
- [6. An upper-division diverse perspectives course]
- [7] $\underline{8}$. An upper-division single- or dual-author course
- [8. An upper division research seminar]
- 9. Nine additional semester hours of <u>upper-division</u> coursework in English [, including at least six semester hours of upper division coursework]

A list of courses that may be used to fulfill requirements [3–9] is available in the English Advising Office, Parlin Hall 114, and on the Department of English Web site.

The student must make a grade of at least C- in each course counted toward fulfillment of the major requirements. A minimum grade point average of 2.00 in courses taken at the University and counted toward the major is also required.

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Students are discouraged from taking more than six semester hours of coursework in English in a semester. No student may take more than nine hours of coursework in English in a semester.

English Honors Program

Majors who plan to seek special honors in English should apply for admission to the honors program prior to their junior year. Application forms and information about the program are available in the English Advising Office, Parlin Hall 114, and on the Department of English Web site. The requirements for graduation with special honors are

- 1. Completion of the requirements for a major in English[, except that English 679HB is substituted for the research seminar]
- 2. Completion of three or more upper-division English honors courses with grades of at least $B\pm$; these courses may be counted toward the requirements of the major; two of these courses must be completed prior to enrolling in English [679HA] 368H
- 3. English [679H] 368H and 369H, Honors Tutorial Course I and II, with a grade of at least B+ in each [679HA and a grade of at least A in 679HB], resulting in the presentation and defense of a thesis judged to be worthy of honors 4. A University grade point average of at least 3.33 and a grade point average of at least 3.66 in the coursework required for the major and for honors
- [5. Completion in residence at the University of at least sixty semester hours of coursework counted toward the degree.]

Strike through and replace (with underlines) only the specific language to be changed. Do NOT use track changes, and do not include hyperlinks in the catalog copy. Submit form electronically to the Office of the General Faculty and Faculty Council at fc@austin.utexas.edu. For questions on completing this section, please contact Victoria Cervantes, fc@austin.utexas.edu, 471-5934 or Brenda Schumann, brenda.schumann@austin.utexas.edu, 475-7654.

¹ See https://facultycouncil.utexas.edu/degree-program-changes for detailed explanations.

² Submit required Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board forms to the provost's office (lydia.cornell@austin.utexas.edu); downloadable from URL https://facultycouncil.utexas.edu/thecb-forms

³ **EXCLUSIVE**: of *exclusive* application and of primary interest only to a single college or school ("no protest" period is *seven calendar days*); **GENERAL**: of *general* interest to more than one college or school (but not for submission to the General Faculty) ("no protest" period is *fourteen calendar days*); *major* legislation must be submitted to the General Faculty for adoption ("no protest" period is *fourteen calendar days*).

⁴ The proposed text should be based on the text of the current catalog available at: http://catalog.utexas.edu/undergraduate/