Expected Outcomes: Literature Track--Literary and Cultural Theory

Students will demonstrate expert knowledge of literary and cultural theory appropriate to their chosen field of study.

Assessment methods

Method: GDE Exam Review

Two raters independently reviewed General Doctoral Exams (GDE) for seven PhD students focusing in literature. Student exams were rated on each outcome according to a 4-point scale, with 1 being “not acceptable,” 2 “acceptable,” 3 “good,” and 4 “excellent.” A detailed rubric rating for each outcome was developed.

Findings:

The average score was 3.5, indicating good to excellent performance.

How did you use findings for improvement?

We will continue to stress the importance of this outcome in graduate literature teaching and in the mentoring of our students.

Additional comments:

To provide a broader measure of how well our students are meeting this outcome, next year we will consider examining student dissertation prospectuses as an additional means of assessment.

Expected Outcomes: Literature Track--Literary Movements and Genres

Students will demonstrate expert knowledge of significant literary movements and literary genres appropriate to their chosen field of study.

Assessment methods

Method: GDE Exam Review

Two raters independently reviewed General Doctoral Exams (GDE) for seven PhD students focusing in literature. Student exams were rated on each outcome according to a 4-point scale, with 1 being “not acceptable,” 2 “acceptable,” 3 “good,” and 4 “excellent.” A detailed rubric rating for each outcome was developed.

Findings:

The average score was 3.6, indicating good to excellent performance.

How did you use findings for improvement?

We will continue to stress the importance of this outcome in graduate literature teaching and in the mentoring of our students.

Additional comments:
To provide a broader measure of how well our students are meeting this outcome, next year we will consider examining student dissertation prospectuses as an additional means of assessment.

**Expected Outcomes: Literature Track—Historical and Cultural Contexts**

Students will demonstrate expert understanding of the historical and cultural contexts appropriate to their chosen field of study.

**Assessment methods**

**Method: GDE Exam Review**

Two raters independently reviewed General Doctoral Exams (GDE) for seven PhD students focusing in literature. Student exams were rated on each outcome according to a 4-point scale, with 1 being “not acceptable,” 2 “acceptable,” 3 “good,” and 4 “excellent.” A detailed rubric rating for each outcome was developed.

**Findings:**

The average score was 3.4, indicating good to excellent performance.

**How did you use findings for improvement?**

We will continue to stress the importance of this outcome in graduate literature teaching and in the mentoring of our students.

**Additional comments:**

To provide a broader measure of how well our students are meeting this outcome, next year we will consider examining student dissertation prospectuses as an additional means of assessment.

**Expected Outcomes: Literature Track—Innovation**

Students will demonstrate familiarity with innovations in critical and theoretical approaches to English studies of the last decade.

**Assessment methods**

**Method: GDE Exam Review**

Two raters independently reviewed General Doctoral Exams (GDE) for seven PhD students focusing in literature. Student exams were rated on each outcome according to a 4-point scale, with 1 being “not acceptable,” 2 “acceptable,” 3 “good,” and 4 “excellent.” A detailed rubric rating for each outcome was developed.

**Findings:**

The average score was 3.2, indicating good performance.

**How did you use findings for improvement?**

We will continue to stress the importance of this outcome in graduate literature teaching and in the mentoring of our students. We will also consider ways of revising or modifying this outcome in response to faculty concerns that the ten-year time frame used to designate current innovations in English studies is too short.

**Additional comments:**
To provide a broader measure of how well our students are meeting this outcome, next year we will consider examining student dissertation prospectuses as an additional means of assessment.