To be adopted:

Proposed Change in Requirements for the Major in English

Present:

1. One course from each of the following groups (20 units total). Students must fulfill one of these requirements by taking a seminar, to be chosen from among ENGL 023A, ENGL 023B, ENGL 023C, ENGL 031, or ENGL 032. The seminar should normally be taken in the student’s sophomore year, prior to or concurrently with the student’s first upper-division English courses.

   A. English Literature to 1620: ENGL 023A, ENGL 129A, ENGL 149, ENGL 151A, ENGL 151B, ENGL 151T, ENGL 152 or ENGL 153

   B. English Literature from 1620-1800: ENGL 023B, ENGL 125A, ENGL 129B, ENGL 154, ENGL 161A, ENGL 161B, or ENGL 161T

   C. English Literature 1800-1900: ENGL 023C, ENGL 125B, ENGL 166A, ENGL 166B, ENGL 166T, ENGL 172A, ENGL 172B, or ENGL 172T

   D. American Literature to 1900: ENGL 031, ENGL 126A, ENGL 127A, ENGL 130, ENGL 131, or ENGL 132

   E. Twentieth Century Literature: ENGL 032, ENGL 125C, ENGL 126B, ENGL 127B, ENGL 129C, ENGL 133, ENGL 134, ENGL 176A, ENGL 176B, ENGL

Proposed:

1. ENGL 102 (4 units). This course should normally be taken prior to or concurrently with the student’s first upper-division English course.

2. Five courses (20 units), at least 8 units of which must be at the lower division level.

   E. Literature after 1900: ENGL 032, ENGL 125C, ENGL 126B, ENGL 127B, ENGL 129C, ENGL 133, ENGL 134, ENGL 135, ENGL 176A, ENGL 176B,
2. One 4-unit course on literature and ethnicity, literature and gender, or literature and sexuality, to be chosen from among the following: ENGL 121 (E-Z), ENGL 122, ENGL 123A, ENGL 123B, ENGL 124A, ENGL 124B, ENGL 136, ENGL 136T, ENGL 138A, ENGL 138B, ENGL 138T, ENGL 139, ENGL 139T, ENGL 143 (F-Z), ENGL 144 (E-Z).

3. One 4-unit course on literature and related fields, including theory, or a literary theme or genre chosen from ENGL 100 (E-Z), ENGL 101, ENGL 140 (E-Z), ENGL 141 (E-Z), ENGL 142 (E-Z), ENGL 143E, ENGL 145 (E-Z).

4. Seven courses (28 additional units) in upper-division English. (Only 4 units are accepted from ENGL 103, ENGL 190, or any upper-division Creative Writing course. Proposals for ENGL 190 must be approved by a sponsoring faculty member and the Department Chair. If the student uses units from ENGL 190, a copy of an approved petition is placed in the student’s file.)

**Total units in major: 56 units, including 4 units of lower division courses (to be selected from ENGL 023A, ENGL 023B, ENGL 023C, ENGL 031, or ENGL 032) and 52 units of upper division courses.**

Students are encouraged to take at least one of the following courses as a college breadth requirement or as an elective: WRLT 017A-WRLT 017B-WRLT 017C; CLA 027A-CLA 027B, CLA 040; ETST 071, ETST 114, ETST 120, ETST 124, ETST 138, or ETST 170; or any literature course in a language other than English. Students are also encouraged to take a course in British or American history, such as HIST 017, HIST 150, HIST 151, HIST 152.

Each student is assigned a faculty advisor.
for help in shaping a program and following it through to graduation. Students are expected to see their advisors on a regular basis, normally once per quarter prior to registration. Information about advisors is available in the Department Office from the Undergraduate Students Affairs Assistant.

**JUSTIFICATION:** The proposed revisions in the major involve the following changes: (a) all English majors will be expected to take a course in the methodology of English and American literary and cultural study at the upper division level, listed as “English 102” above; (b) students must satisfy part, and may satisfy all, of their period requirements at the lower division level; (c) the distribution of the total number of units is adjusted to account for changes (a) and (b); (d) English 135, Irish Literature, is added to the options for satisfying requirement 3.

The revisions are meant to address two structural problems in the present major and to preserve its pedagogic successes as much as possible. One structural problem is that the small size of the “sophomore seminars” has meant a bottleneck is created in the flow of potential English majors into the program. A student has to declare English in order to ensure a place in the natural starting point of the major. If we lift the cap on the lower division period courses, we allow a place for students to try out the English major. (At present, the number of English majors is about 60% of what it was six years ago. The present major has coincided with a stabilization, but not an increase, of the number of majors). The second structural problem is that transfer students, who make up 40% of our major cohort, are effectively prevented from transferring any of their units to the major, discouraging them from choosing UCR as a campus for an English major. By allowing all or part of the period requirement to be satisfied at the lower division level, we would be making English major transfer to UCR more likely. The reinstatement of a methods and materials requirement (English 102) addresses the felt need of both students and faculty for a course that would provide the skills that meet the expectations of critical performance in upper-division courses.

Finally, the option of a broadly based lower division survey will allow much more scheduling flexibility and efficiency, and will ensure that ladder faculty are available to teach courses open to freshman and sophomores.

Approved by the Department February 2, 1998.
Approved by the CHASS Executive Committee: 3/4/98.
Approved by the Committee on Educational Policy: 3/13/98