

**CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, HAYWARD**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH**  
**Assessment of Master's Programs in English**

**[Note: Program descriptions are given at the end of this document.]**

**Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs):**

Students admitted to either of the two master's programs in English must meet certain prerequisites; therefore, the department assumes that students enter with a high skill level. The following information on admissibility is taken from the university catalog:

To be admitted to the M.A. program in English [literature/composition/creative writing], the student must: (1) hold the B.A. degree from an accredited college or university, with a major in English, and (2) have an undergraduate GPA in English courses of at least 3.0. If the student cannot comply with these requirements, he or she may petition the department by letter for special consideration. A student not admitted to the program because of deficiencies is urged to enroll in the university as an "Unclassified Post-baccalaureate" student to overcome these deficiencies.

**1. Outcome:** Students completing the M.A. degree in English will be able to analyze and interpret various kinds of texts in clear and cogent prose.

**Indicators:** The writer demonstrates effective use and analysis of supporting quotations and does so in a well-organized, logically structured product that leads to an original conclusion.

**2. Outcome:** Students completing the M.A. degree in English will be able to discuss several theoretical perspectives about literature or about applied linguistics (e.g., pedagogy, second language learning).

**Indicators:** Student's theoretical approach is fully integrated into the analytic process. Student writer accurately and specifically identifies theoretical concepts. Student writer clearly explains sequence by which particular theoretical standpoints lead to specific readings of texts.

**3. Outcome:** Students completing the M.A. degree in English (literature) will demonstrate in-depth knowledge of two areas of British/American literature; those in the TESOL option will demonstrate in-depth knowledge of adult ESL pedagogy and the linguistic underpinnings of this enterprise.

**Indicators:** The literature student passes two area examinations OR passes one area examination and writes a University Thesis. The TESOL student produces a final portfolio with analysis, as well as a capstone project involving original applied work.

**4. Outcome:** Students completing the M.A. degree in English will demonstrate facility with conducting research in traditional/nontraditional ways, including library research, the Internet, and data collection and analysis.

**Indicators:** The student's seminar papers demonstrate a well-developed use of secondary materials with significant reference to ideas beyond primary texts. Connections between primary and secondary materials are clearly identified. Essays reveal a breadth of perspective.

**5. Outcome:** Students completing the M.A. degree in English will demonstrate the ability to learn independently.

**Indicators:** Students demonstrate this outcome in their seminar papers and presentations; for those completing a thesis, competency is demonstrated through the originality of the thesis (argumentation) and the breadth of the material used to support the thesis (review of the literature).

**Note: The indicator descriptions that appear above identify a student operating at an exceptional skill level.**







monitor your development in that area. Based on a review of relevant literature and data you have compiled, explain how and why your teaching style has evolved.

- 3) **An annotated bibliography and overview of a specific topic in TESOL.** Your project will include annotations of approximately twenty publications related to your chosen topic, and a three- to five-page essay that explains dominant threads in the professional conversation. Your essay should also identify and summarize any publications that are frequently referred to in the discussion of your topic or that you consider central to understanding key issues and concepts.

**Please Note:**

If you have an idea for a project that does not appear to fit one of the recommendations, please discuss alternatives with your advisor.

**PROCEDURE**

Submit the Capstone Project Proposal to your Thesis Advi

All students except those who are "Classified Graduate" students in English must have the written permission of an English graduate advisor to enroll in a graduate course in English.

ENGL 3005 Study of Language (4)  
ENGL 3010 Modern English Grammar (4)

ENGL 3015 Introduction to Phonology (4) or SPPA 3855 Introduction to Phonetics (4)

ENGL 3020 Advanced Expository Writing (4)  
ENGL 3040 Linguistic History of the English Language (4)  
ENGL 4040 Introduction to American Dialects (4)  
COMM 4830 Intercultural Communication (4)

ANTH 3800 Language and Culture (4) or HDEV 4520 Language Acquisition and the Symbolic Function (4)

Two courses in modern British or American literature

**Required Courses (45 units)**

ENGL 6501 and 6502 Theory and Practice of Teaching ESL I and II (8)  
ENGL 6503 Second-Language Acquisition (4)  
ENGL 6504 Morphology and Lexical Semantics (4)  
ENGL 6506 Sociolinguistics (4)  
ENGL 6507 Testing and Evaluation for Teaching ESL (4)  
ENGL 6508 Supervised Tutoring/Teaching (8)  
ENGL 6509 Computer Assisted Language Learning and Teaching (4)  
ENGL 6750 Theory and Practice of Composition (4)  
ENGL 6909 Departmental Thesis (5)

**"Classified Graduate" Status and Advancement to Candidacy**

Students are normally admitted to the master's program in English as "Conditionally Classified Graduate" students. Once the students have completed any outstanding prerequisite courses and have passed the Writing Skills Test, they may apply for "Classified Graduate" status. In order to advance to candidacy, students must have completed 24 units of graduate-level coursework with grades of "B" and higher.

**Applying for Graduation**

Students must apply formally to graduate with a master's degree by submitting a "Candidate for Degree" card during the Add/Drop period for the quarter before the one in which they expect to graduate. They must ask the English Department's Graduate Coordinator to send a "Major Check" sheet to the Graduate Evaluations Office.