San Francisco State University – Academic Planning: Assessment
Mission Statement Template

** Please see resources at the Academic Planning website

Department: English Language and Literature

Department Contact: Sugie Goen-Salter

College: Liberal and Creative Arts

Guidance from the faculty University Academic Assessment Advisory Committee (UAAAC) for Mission Statements: The program’s mission statement concisely articulates its guiding purpose and identity, clarifies the educational value of its curriculum, and aligns with the university’s broader public mission.

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<th>DEVELOPED</th>
<th>DEVELOPING</th>
<th>NEEDS DEVELOPMENT</th>
<th>ABSENT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clear statement of program’s purpose and identity, the educational value of curriculum, and its link to university’s mission</td>
<td>Mission statement articulates program’s purpose but may lack broader context</td>
<td>Vague mission statement with little connection to specific program</td>
<td>No mission statement</td>
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Did you have current mission statement as of Spring 2016? X Yes ___ No

If so, what is it?

Scrolling captions (for website)
The English Department serves a diverse population on a flagship CSU campus that reflects the racial, cultural, and linguistic diversity of the San Francisco Bay Area. [city image with people or bridge image]

Students who major in English have the opportunity to work with distinguished faculty who are actively engaged in research, who have published with major presses and journals, and who are the recipients of prestigious awards and grants. [picture of smiling happy friendly faculty having a discussion]

As the Department that offers first and second-year composition courses as well as 4 undergraduate majors and 4 Master’s-level graduate degrees, we touch the lives of more students at SF State than any other. [image diverse students talking and laughing with books and papers open in front of them]

Our Mission
What if you could be globally engaged through the study of diverse texts and language practices? What if you could be in classes that combine analysis and imagination? What if your education could be a collaborative intellectual experience? The English Department consists of vibrant and interdisciplinary programs to study communicative practices of cultures and writers all over the world. Our courses, whether on canonical authors or in fields such as Digital Humanities and World Englishes, reflect our commitment to the study of English in global contexts. Our student-centered classrooms offer opportunities to use multiple technologies, modalities, genres, and theoretical frameworks to read critically the word and the world around us, with an eye toward writing the future. By gaining self-reliance, empathy, and intellectual focus, our students go on to become teachers, writers, entrepreneurs, publishers, content designers, attorneys and activists, exciting careers that draw on their analytic skill sets and their humanistic values. In addition to shepherding the next generation of
critical thinkers into diverse career paths, the English Department also creates exponential change by preparing engaged and effective educators for tomorrow’s diverse classrooms.

**Web site Sidebars:**

Our Undergrad Majors Include:
(English Education, Literature, Linguistics and Professional and Technical Writing)

Our Graduate Programs Include:
(Literature, Linguistics, Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages, Composition)

**Please address all questions. What was the process of revising your mission statement this semester?**

We created our mission statement as part of a Teagle BA Redesign project. The process began with a faculty retreat (attended by 23 TT faculty members, representing 70% of the department. This retreat involved a group brainstorm/discussion of our shared values across programs. A subcommittee of 15 members (13 faculty representing all programs within the department and 2 staff) were then tasked with developing a mission statement (along with developing a new core curriculum and core program learning outcomes). Over the course of fifteen meetings across the Fall 2016 and Spring 2017 semesters, the subcommittee worked on drafting the mission statement alongside work on the revised core curriculum and PLOs.

**How were department faculty members involved?**

In addition to the involvement in the retreat and/or involvement on the faculty subcommittee, regular progress reports were made to the department’s English Advisory Board (our governing committee) and members of the subcommittee made a presentation at our end-of-Fall faculty meeting followed by a Q&A session with all faculty in attendance. Once the mission statement left the subcommittee, per departmental bylaws, it was sent to our English Advisory Board for ratification. From EAB, the mission statement was ratified by departmental vote. The final ratification took place at our end-of-Spring faculty meeting on May 26, 2017.

**Was it developed in department meetings or other gatherings?**

Please see above

**What informed your discussions about your new or revised mission statement (e.g. changes in the profession, new focus of the department)?**

The mission statement was largely informed by the redesign of our BA degree and with an eye toward redesign of the MA (which will commence next year). It was also informed by important movements in the field that are more prominently featured in our program redesign, e.g, a focus on digital humanities, a focus on English in global contexts, a focus on language and culture.

**What is the revised mission statement?**

See above

Please post your revised mission statement on your department web page.

Given that this semester you revised your mission statement, DUEAP will assume your AY 2017-2018 will include a review of your program learning goals. If that is not the case, please notify the Associate Dean of Academic Planning. Thank you!