# Redesigning our Majors Symposium

## Crossing Traditional Curricular Borders

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# Redesign Overview - what we were trying to do

- ❖ 4 sub-disciplinary concentrations

- ❖ Merge Technical and Professional Writing

- ❖ Increase opportunities to work collaboratively

- ❖ Provide a pathway into our graduate programs

- ❖ Meet the requirements of CSU Executive Order 1071

# Redesign Overview - Our Goal

To create a core curriculum that signifies disciplinary knowledge defined as "the arts of language and the tools of literacy"

(language borrowed from the Modern Language Association's 2009
*Report to the Teagle Foundation on the Undergraduate Major in Language and Literature*)

# Redesign Process - What & How

❖ Faculty Retreat - all T/TT faculty - shared values

❖ Teagle Committee - 13 faculty & 2 staff
Mission Statement & Curriculum
Core Program Learning Outcomes

❖ Bi-monthly rich intellectual discussions
Documentation of work on google doc
Exploring possibilities; understanding constraints

# Lessons Learned - Recursive Process

❖ Flexible ordering, recursive process

❖ Meetings - utilize the power of time
 Meet briefly: **always** end on time
 Meet regularly: momentum

❖ Focus on ideas not colleagues

❖ Table all word-smithing

❖ Begin in person, but embrace technology

# Outcomes - More Than Our Goals

❖ Mission Statement
Website Content Design

❖ Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs) - 6 Core Values

❖ Core Curriculum - 24 shared units

# Mission Statement

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 exciting careers as writers, entrepreneurs, publishers, content designers, and activists, with 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.

# Core Curriculum

1. Lower Division English

2. Lower Division English

3. Linguistics

4. Rhetoric & Professional

5. GWAR

6. Shakespeare

7. Global

8. History

# Program Learning Outcomes

- **Disciplinary Knowledge.** English majors will be able to differentiate how language use varies across the contexts and genres of professional writing and rhetoric, literature, and linguistics.

- **Research.** English majors will be able to formulate and pursue methodologically sound lines of inquiry, effectively placing their ideas side by side with the ideas of others, drawing persuasively on credible primary and secondary sources.

- **Written Communication.** English majors will be able to produce rhetorically effective texts across a range of digital, print and multimedia formats.

- **Global.** English majors will be able to carefully read and critically examine the ways in which culture and global context affect language, literature, and writing.

- **Historical.** English majors will be able to analyze language and texts in relation to the historical and social contexts in which they are situated.

- **Application & Engagement.** English majors will be able to apply critical thinking, close reading, and rhetorical persuasion to engage productively and ethically in scholarly, civic, and professional communities.