Mission Statement Annual Assessment Report

Department: English Language and Literature       College: Liberal and Creative Arts

Degree Program(s): English Literature MA

Mission Statement Rubric – developed and used by the University Academic Assessment Advisory Committee (UAAAC) to provide feedback to programs about their mission statement.

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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DEVELOPED</th>
<th>DEVELOPING</th>
<th>NEEDS DEVELOPMENT</th>
<th>ABSENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<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>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. What was your most recent mission statement prior to any revisions?
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.

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.

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.

2. Please describe the process of revising or developing your mission statement. What informed your discussions about your new or revised mission statement (e.g., changes in the profession, new focus of the department)? How were department faculty members involved? Was it developed in department meetings or other gatherings?

We revised our MA program in Literature in order to come into compliance with EO 1071. Starting in AY 2016-17, and with support from the Teagle foundation, we began the process of redesigning the English BA and received final University approval for our new BA in Feb 2019. As part of the BA redesign process, we also engaged in early discussions about the redesign of our MA programs. These early discussions took part in meetings of the Teagle redesign subcommittee (comprised of 15
members, 13 faculty representing all programs within the department and 2 staff). A shift in focus from BA redesign to MA redesign began in earnest in AY 2017-18. In consultation with the Dean of Graduate Studies, we made the decision to elevate the MA concentration in Literature to its own MA degree (now titled the **MA in English Literatures**) and to revise the **MA in English** to include three EO-1071 compliant concentrations in TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages), Composition and Linguistics. Once this decision was made in Fall 2017, the literature faculty formed a separate committee to propose the MA in English Literatures. This committee met via Zoom throughout Fall 2017 and Spring 2018 to finalize the plans for the elevated MA and submitted those plans to the full department for approval in Spring 2018. In Fall 2018, the elevated MA in English Literatures was submitted the College of Liberal and Creative Arts and to the University for Approval. The MA in English Literatures was approved by Academic Senate at its Feb 5, 2019 plenary.

3. **What is your revised mission statement?**

The mission of the MA Program in English Literatures is to provide students with intellectual rigor, diversity of subjects and approaches, and excellence in teaching. Course offerings balance traditional literary history with new work in such fields as postcolonial studies; food studies; digital literacies; environmental humanities; cultural studies; literature and psychology; narrative, lyric, and performance theories; and feminist studies. Students in the program have the flexibility to design and personalize their master’s program to meet their diverse interests and provide opportunities for professionalization in the field.

The MA Program serves the needs of those whose goal is teaching in junior or community colleges or private high schools, pursuing a PhD, or advancing skills and knowledge in reading and writing about literature. Our graduates work as teachers in high schools and community colleges; enter the field of publishing; write for journals, magazines, and online publications; earn PhDs; enter law school; start their own businesses; and work for non-profits, foundations, and government agencies.

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

Given that this year you revised your mission statement, the next step would be to review your program learning goals next year.