

English Department

		Department Mission and Goals for Student Learning			The thesis essay will present an original, compelling argument. It must at once explicate the issue and appreciate its complexity. The thesis must also make a case for its own significance: Why does this matter? An audience unfamiliar with the text or the approach should still be able to follow the argument.
		To assist students in improving their critical and creative writing, and to help them express ideas coherently, with clarity, precision, forcefulness, and grace	To enrich the cultural background of students through the study of significant works of literature and the programming of extracurricular literary events	To provide for those students who choose to major or minor in English a rich, intensive program of study of literature and film through textual analysis and an understanding of historical periods, cultural movements, and critical and theoretical approaches, while emphasizing Literary Studies, Film Studies, or Creative Writing	
VSL Goals appear below and Program Goals appear to the right. Make a mark in the appropriate cell if you program goals help achieve VSL goals.					
Our students engage in rigorous inquiry and informed deliberation by:					
I1	· investigating and researching underlying causes and connections	x			x
I2	· synthesizing evidence from multiple sources	x	x		
I3	· designing ways to answer their questions	x	x	x	x
I4	· acquiring the skills to evaluate arguments and evidence critically	x	x	x	
I5	· developing independent, nuanced, and thoughtful analyses	x	x	x	x
I6	· making connections among different bodies of knowledge	x	x	x	
I7	· communicating their findings effectively and persuasively through written, oral, experiential, visual, or other appropriate methods	x			x
I8	· reflecting on their studies and being prepared to engage with the world based on their inquiry and deliberation		x		
Hendrix College students actively and reflectively engage with multiple					
MC1	· understanding the past, present, and future needs of the earth and of humanity, and of the challenges of our interdependence				
MC2	· considering ethical conundrums from conflicting perspectives		x		
MC3	· bringing their experiences in the wider community back to the classroom to enhance their course of study		x		
The Hendrix College community supports these goals by:					
C1	· fostering an awareness of different cultures through a commitment to diversity and inclusion		x	x	
C2	· providing opportunities for students to confront the diverse challenges and needs of our shared communities in order to inspire them to lead lives of service				
The college community provides opportunities for students to develop as whole persons in their personal and professional lives by:					
WP1	· guiding students in examining their abilities and strengths	x		x	
WP2	· helping them recognize how their skills can work for them and for the good of others, both now and in the future	x		x	
WP3	· providing tools and opportunities to prepare our students for their prospective professional lives	x		x	x
WP4	· striving to inspire students to lead lives of accomplishment as both leaders and team members			x	
WP5	· encouraging their development into individuals who are independent, responsible, and attentive to their own mental and physical well-being				
WP6	· nurturing their life-long love of learning, both about themselves and about the world as curious, creative, and active participants in life and in their communities.	x	x	x	x

Senior Thesis Objectives for ENGL and ENGF						Senior Thesis Objectives for ENGC			
The thesis will engage secondary and critical sources in substantive ways. Instead of dropping occasional supporting quotations, it should make those sources an integral part of the line of argumentation and inquiry. The sources should be discussed.	The thesis will demonstrate command of its own methodology (including its limitations)	The thesis will show familiarity with the other pertinent and important scholarship.	The thesis will place its subject in a larger aesthetic, cultural, and/or historical context.	The thesis will be well-organized, solidly and compellingly argued, and gracefully written, free of grammatical errors and stylistic gaffes	The thesis will demonstrate mastery the MLA style in terms of format, documentation, citation, and other matters.	The senior thesis will consist of a brief aesthetic statement and an extended creative manuscript of a single literary genre (poetry, fiction, or nonfiction).	The aesthetic statement will place the creative manuscript in a larger aesthetic context, including literary influences and issues of form, craft, and genre. It will engage secondary sources in substantive ways, discussing the secondary sources listed in its bibliography.	The thesis will be in Standard Manuscript Format, gracefully written, and free of grammatical errors and stylistic gaffes (unless errors are intended to produce specific effects).	The creative manuscript will demonstrate engagement with the contextual and formal issues put forth in the aesthetic statement
x		x	x			x	x	x	
	x	x				x		x	
	x							x	
x		x	x			x		x	
x				x	x	x			
			x						
			x						
				x					
				x					

