Pathways English Majors Committee

Meeting of January 20, 2012, 1:00-4:00 pm

**Present:** Josh Wilner (Chair, City), Duncan Faherty (Queens), Hildegaard Hoeller (Staten Island), Allison Pease (John Jay), Linda Reesman (Kingsborough), Barbara Webb (Hunter), Martha Nadell (Brooklyn)

**Absent:** Grace Tullaro (Lehman), Jim Tolan (BMCC), Sue Young (LaGuardia)

The committee outlined the learning outcomes corresponding to two of the three courses it has previously agreed will serve as transferable between institutions, and as either prerequisites or integral parts of English majors at each institution. These learning outcomes are below.

**Course 2,** what we refer to as a basic or introductory literature course.

Students will be able to:

1. Respond in writing to literary works.
2. Demonstrate familiarity with literary works by multiple authors in a variety of genres.
3. Read two or more texts and authors in relation to each other.
4. Analyze and interpret based on careful attention both to the detail and overall design of a literary work.
5. Understand the role of context in determining meaning.

After the learning objectives were determined we narrowed the possible titles for such courses to a menu of three:

1. Writing about Literature
2. Introduction to American, British, or Anglophone Literature
3. Introduction to World Literature

**Course 3,** what we refer to as a basic methods class, and agree should be titled *Introduction to Literary Studies.*

Students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate working knowledge of basic terms and concepts used in the analysis of a variety of literary genres.
2. Demonstrate how literary works relate to their immediate historical context and to the traditions from which they emerge.
3. Close-read a literary work and explicate relationships between parts and wholes and between form and meaning.
5. Reflect on the critical assumptions that inform their own and others interpretations.

Respectfully submitted,

Allison Pease