

# Executive Summary of Program Assessment

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*The summary, including this page, should be no more than three pages.*

**Campus:** UMKC

**College/School:** College of Arts and Sciences (if applicable)

**Academic Unit:** Department of English

**Date Submitted:** 15/03/19 (dd/mm/yy)

**Person Responsible for Success of Program:** Virginia Blanton, PhD, and Jennifer Phegley, PhD, Co-Chairs

**Submitted by:** Office of the Provost

## Degree Programs

Degree (e.g., BS, MA, PhD)	Degree Program	Enrollment		Number of Degrees Awarded	
		Most Recent Fall Semester 2017	5-Year Fall Semester Average	Most Recent Academic Year 2017	5-Year Average
BA	English	170	169	35	41
MA	English	15	17	5	7
MFA	Creative Writing and Media Arts	29	34	14	9

## Changes Since Last Review

- Two programs have been developed and are progressing through the approval process as of March 2019:
  - English BA –American Literary and Cultural Studies emphasis
  - Five-Year BA/MA Program for pre-professional students
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## Strategies or Plans for Improving Program

- Creation of more fully online programs to reach a more diverse body of students. Online English Minor in Writing has been approved; future plans include the development of a fully online English Minor in Manuscript, Print Culture, and Editing.
- Continue to develop recruitment and retention activities, such as our annual undergraduate/graduate symposium, and develop new internship opportunities to augment those we already offer on-and off-campus.
- Set benchmarks for the high-impact learning experiences, that faculty might include a requirement that the research/learning is presented in some fashion, such as at the symposium, furthered through a SUROP or SEARCH project. It is important to us that our high-impact learning experiences are ones that are delivered well and have an affect on student performance.
- Two initiatives to attract MA students have been approved by the department and will be sent through the campus-level review process: the 18-hour Graduate Certificate in

English Language & Literature and the 3+2 program. We plan to expand our graduate recruitment via High School College Program and other channels. We have also begun to offer more courses at the 400/5500 level as online or hybrid classes and will continue to develop additional online offerings that we recognize as especially attractive to students in full-time employment.

- In an effort to help with retention and graduation rates in the MFA program, the creative writing faculty have instituted a mid-program review, assessing the program's second year students each spring. Additionally, the director of creative writing is now monitoring enrollments each semester, and contacting students who fail to enroll for the semester. The director has also contacted students who have dropped out of the program in the past two years. Moving forward, the program will continue these efforts and look for other ways to increase our graduation and retention rates.

### **Other Comments**

[Click here if you wish to include additional comments about program.](#)