

ENGL 476 Comprehensive Examination

Instructions

The purpose of this portfolio is to collect work that you have completed throughout the course of your time at Mayville State University in pursuit of an English Liberal Arts, or English Secondary Education degree. The portfolio will be used to assess your attainment of the outcomes associated with your degree. Additionally, it will provide you a chance to reflect on the progress you've made throughout your time in the degree program. Finally, the portfolio will include planning material for your time after graduation.

Requirements:

Content (see below)

Design: The portfolio should be designed as one cohesive document with attention given to navigability, accessibility, and aesthetic appeal.

Formatting: Follow either MLA or APA style guides

Deadline: Final portfolio will be due by the Friday before Finals Week

The portfolio must include:

1. **Title Page**
2. **Table of Contents**
3. **Reflection Letter (1-3 pages)**
4. The reflection letter will explain the contents of your portfolio and ask you to explain how the contents of the portfolio reflect your attainment of the ability to research, conduct close reading, carry out critical thinking, and synthesize complex information for a variety of academic and professional situations.
5. **Writing Samples**
6. Your portfolio must contain a minimum of 25 pages of polished and completed writing conducted throughout the coursework of your degree.

7. Your writing sample must contain at least one academic paper of 12+ pages. If no such paper exists, the student will be asked to complete a research project under the guidance of the instructor.
8. If possible, writing should reflect a variety of genres.
9. If you are a Teacher Education Student, your portfolio must also include a lesson plan you've created relating to the teaching of English Studies.

10. Post-graduation goal-setting and planning documents

11. This section will allow you to design and implement these documents as you see fit, but they should include:

12. Short, medium, and long term goals

13. A timeframe of next steps in your career and things you must or hope to complete. This may include exploring options, visiting graduate programs, researching career opportunities, etc.

- Students taking their comprehensive examination will demonstrate the ability to both read and interpret English texts. This means that:
- students will compose an essay that integrates texts from the English program of study and produce an extended research paper that explores a topic,
- they will draft this essay all semester long and visit regularly with the English Faculty and the Professor of Record for this course.
- Students will choose an issue/topic/argument that they wish to further develop into a 10-15 paged, thesis-driven, research paper that is substantive in quality, uses relevant sources, and is written in MLA format.

- They will also provide a 2-3 paged summation of the 10-15 paged essay which reflects upon the topic's relevance to their English education at Mayville State University.
- They will submit said reflective piece at the same time as the main research project, and engage in a face-to-face, formal conversation with the English Faculty about their essay, as well as the additional 2-3 paged summation.
 - You will be asked to submit journals (at least a few sentences, but as long as you need to articulate concerns) throughout the semester to update us on your process and keep you on track. You will also be asked to schedule conversations and submit drafts according to the schedule.
- A grade of S or U will be given upon completion of the above.