## Originating Unit

Type of action: $\square$ change in course

change in program

## Type of change requested:

| $\square$ |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Number | $\square$ | Course Title |
| $\square$ | Description | $\square$ |
| Prerequisite(s) Program |  |  |
| $\square$ | Drop Course | $\square$ | Requirements

Semester and year course/program will take effect: Fall 2021

## Course instructional methodology:

course component types: ugradcouncil.tcu.edu/forms/Course Component Types.pdf

Current name:

Proposed name:
Appropriate computer abbreviation (30 spaces or less):

## Programs Only

Current program code:
(ex:EDCE-PHD)

Proposed code (list 2)
or
Current CIP code: 23.0101
Does the change require a new or change in CIP code: $\square$ Yes $\square$ No
If yes, what is the proposed new CIP code:
*for reference please visit: nces.ed.gov/ipeds/cipcode/resources.aspx?y=56 Is the program already considered TCU STEM: $\square$ Yes No

Does the change include a request to be a TCU STEM program: $\square$ Yes $\checkmark$ No

Description of change (omit if dropping a course or program):
Reduce required courses and course distribution. Eliminate foreign language requirement.

## Present Catalog Copy

Students must complete for credit a minimum of 54 semester hours of graduate courses, exclusive of 12 credit hours for the dissertation. Postgraduate hours completed more than seven years prior to a student's admission into TCU's English graduate program may not count toward requirements; the graduate adviser will determine applicable credit on a case-by-case basis.
Of the 54 hours, at least 36 must be taken at TCU. Students must take 12 hours in Foundations to the Profession and remaining hours in electives, as outlined below.
I. Foundations to the Profession (12 hours)

Students must complete 12 hours in coursework that addresses each of the four areas listed below. The course in critical theory may be satisfied through transfer/waiver.
ENGL 60513
Teaching College Composition 3.00
ENGL 60113
Introduction to Graduate Studies and the Profession of English 3.00
ENGL 60803
Literature Pedagogy 3.00
ENGL 60123
Introduction to Modern Critical Theory 3.00
II. Electives (24 hours)

Students must complete a minimum of 12 hours in coursework that addresses at least four of the six areas listed below. Although each 3-hour seminar typically addresses two of the areas, students will receive credit for only one area per course.

- Genre
- Historical Engagement
- National/Transnational/Comparative Approaches
- Research Methods/Methodology
- Textual/Scholarly Production
- Theory

Students should select their additional coursework based on intended area(s) of specialization, in consultation with the director of graduate studies.

Language Requirement
Reading knowledge of one approved foreign language, typically selected from French, German, Spanish or Latin, is required. Other languages may be offered on approval of the Departmental Graduate Committee, but the language should be the one most appropriate to the student's research, field of concentration or professional development. This requirement may be met by satisfying the general University statement under Ph.D. Degree Requirements or by any other means approved by the Departmental Graduate Committee. The language requirement must be satisfied before the student can be admitted to candidacy for the Ph.D. degree.
Examinations
A student takes qualifying comprehensive examinations, consisting of a minimum of two exams in two different areas, when she or he has completed for credit 48-54 hours of graduate courses, of which 36 must be from TCU; has completed requisite coursework; and has met the language

## Proposed Catalog Copy:

Students must complete for credit a minimum of 54 semester hours of graduate courses, exclusive of 12 credit hours for the dissertation. Postgraduate hours completed more than seven years prior to a student's admission into TCU's English graduate program may not count toward requirements; the graduate adviser will determine applicable credit on a case-by-case basis.

Of the 54 hours, at least 36 must be taken at TCU. Of these courses, students must take 6 hours in Pedagogy and remaining hours in electives, as outlined below. The course in Teaching College Composition may be satisfied through transfer/waiver.
I. Pedagogy (6 hours)

ENGL 60513
Teaching College Composition 3.00

ONE of the following:
ENGL 50973
Directed Pedagogical Study 3.00
ENGL 60803
Literature Pedagogy 3.00
II. Electives ( 30 hours)

Students should select their additional coursework in consultation with their English advisor(s) and the Director of Graduate Studies, focused not only on intended area(s) of specialization but in preparation for qualifying examinations.

## Examinations

A student takes qualifying comprehensive examinations, consisting of a minimum of two exams in two different areas, when they have completed for credit $48-54$ hours of graduate courses, of which 36 must be from TCU; and completed requisite coursework. These examinations are based on the student's areas of concentration. The student and their advisory committee will determine the areas to be covered by the exams. A student who fails one or more areas of the examinations may retake the failed area(s) again, but a second failure on any area of the examination bars the student from candidacy.

## Dissertation

Doctoral students must complete a dissertation that demonstrates their ability to do independent and original research, and to synthesize their findings and existing knowledge into a unified document. A candidate must present a dissertation prospectus to their advisory committee for discussion, suggestions and approval before proceeding with the project. The candidate's oral defense of the dissertation is a public lecture based upon their findings, presented to the Department of English graduate faculty, graduate students and other interested persons within the academic community.

## Advisory Committee

Before taking qualifying examinations, a student requests through the director of graduate studies that the associate dean of AddRan College of Liberal Arts appoint an advisory committee of four members. The dissertation director normally serves as chair of the student's advisory committee.


## Supporting evidence or justification:

- In a survey conducted last spring, we discovered that four required courses is on the high end of the spectrum for the number of courses required in peer and aspirant PhD programs and we therefore seek to reduce our requirements.
- We wish to respond to persistent, consistent grad student feedback that they wish to be immersed more immediately in their fields of study and are discontented with being required to take many (and in some semesters mostly) required classes. Students in all areas of study consistently express a wish for more content-rich classes and this proposal responds to that feedback. We therefore recognize that the number of required courses is related to the retention of students in our program. - We wish to respond to faculty perceptions that the large number of required courses, which diminishes the number of content-driven courses students take, has led to inadequacies in preparation for article publication, qualifying exams, and the writing of the dissertation prospectus. We therefore recognize the number of courses as related to the success and time to degree of our students.
- We wish to respond to the changed context of smaller numbers of students going forward brought about by the changes to our funding model. Required classes tend to be relatively large, leaving elective courses at risk; we would like to distribute enrollment demand to drive heterogeneous and substantive class offerings.
- Instead of distribution requirements, we envision mentoring and advising doing the work of ensuring that students make their way through our curriculum in a way that prepares them for exams and dissertations.


## Explain how the change(s) will affect the current outcomes and assessment mechanisms?

Some assessment is currently done in connection with currently required courses. We have identified other courses in the curriculum that can have new outcomes added to enable them to serve as assessment mechanisms for our current program outcomes. Some of our current assessment is done by means of evaluating exams and dissertations and these remain unaffected by the program changes proposed here.

## Additional resources required

Faculty: none

Space: none

Equipment: none

Library: none

Financial Aid: none

Other: none

Change in teaching load: none
Does this change affect any other units of the University? Yes $\square$ No $\boldsymbol{\nearrow}$
If yes, submit supporting statement signed by chair of affected unit.

If cross-listed, provide evidence of approval by all curriculum committees appropriate to both the originating and the cross-listed units.

Chair of Originating Unit:

Name: Theresa Gaul
Unit: English Department

Signature:


Digitally signed by Gaul, Theresa
Date: 2021.01.05 13:08:35-06'00'

