**Department of English**

**Texas State University**

**Departmental Committees 2024-2025**

**I. Curriculum Committees**

***Advanced Studies.*** Advises Director of Advanced Studies; makes recommendations to faculty on course/curriculum development and program assessment; supports activities of Major/Minor Committee. Chair: Director of Advanced Studies. Continuing ex officio voting members: directors of departmental minors and emphases.

Kathleen McClancy, Chair

Deborah Balzhiser

John Blair, ex officio (Creative Writing)

Denae Dyck

Roger Jones

Lindy Kosmitis, ex officio (Teacher Preparation)

Simon Lee

Susan Morrison

Sara Ramírez

Graeme Wend-Walker

Julie Weng

Nancy Wilson, ex officio (Writing and Rhetoric)

***Creative Writing.*** Advises Advanced Studies Director and Committee on undergraduate creative writing courses and development of undergraduate creative writing emphasis.  Chair of committee appoints standing subcommittee to judge best poem and best piece of fiction for *Persona* awards.  Director is ex officio member, Advanced Studies

John Blair, Chair

Jason Coates

Doug Dorst

Jennifer duBois

Chad Hammett

Roger Jones

Kate McClancy, ex officio

Cecily Parks

Sean Rose

***Graduate Studies.*** Advises Director of Graduate Studies; makes recommendations to Graduate Faculty on policies and procedures for graduate programs, curriculum, and faculty.  Chair: Director of Graduate Studies.  Continuing members: Directors of MA/Literature, MA/Technical Communication, MA/Rhetoric and Composition, and MFA programs; student representatives from MA, MA/TC, MA/RC, and MFA programs.

James Reeves, Chair

Emily Banta

drea brown

Chris Dayley

Debra Monroe

Eric Leake

Cecily Parks

Elizabeth Skerpan-Wheeler

Robert Tally

Steve Wilson

Graduate students: MAL- Madison Richards; MA/TC-Kelsey Caswell; MA/RC- Catlinh Dinh; MFA (Rose GA)-JQ Carratello; MFA-Devine Byrd

***First-Year English.*** Advises WPA; makes recommendations to faculty on policies, curricula, and textbooks for first-year English.  Chair: WPA

Nancy Wilson, Chair

Lauren Brentnell (ex officio: member of AI and Honor Code Task Force)

Jay Cruz

Cory DeBoest

Matt Hudson

Whitney May

Jacob Moore

Matt Passant

Francine Pilkington

Cassie Polasek (ex officio: member of Reading Task Force)

Tiffany Rainey

Ali Riegel

Laura Sims

Blake Vanderlind

Eric Wallenstein

Sandi Welch

Anne Winchell (ex officio: member of AI and Honor Code Task Force)

First-Year English Subcommittees

* ENG 1310 Co-Req ***Development.*** Works with faculty to develop strategies and best practices for paired reading/writing classes.

Cory DeBoest, Chair

Joanna Collins

Jay Cruz

Tiffany Rainey

Cassie Polasek 

* ***Textbook Review/Creation Committee.*** Vets English 1310 and English 1320 textbooks to establish a list of approved textbooks for faculty. Begins work on creating customized Texas State textbook(s).
* **Top Hat Textbook Creation Committee**
* Tiffany Rainey, Co-Chair
* Cory DeBoest, Co-Chair
* Laura Sims
* **ENG 1320 Calendar using *The Norton Introduction to Literature***
* Nancy Wilson, Chair
* Matthew Hudson
* Jay Cruz

* **Vetting ENG 1310 and ENG 1320 textbooks**
* Nancy Wilson, Chair
* Francine Pilkington
* Ali Riegel
* ***Classroom Management.*** Reviews existing literature on classroom management, as well as existing Texas State policies, in order to develop and disseminate best practices.

Eric Wallenstein (Chair)

Jay Cruz

Whitney May

Jacob Moore

Matt Passant

Blake Vanderlind

Sandi Welch

***New Lecturer Support Committee*** Supports new lecturers as they learn Texas State/English Department systems, policies, and expectations.

Ali Riegel and Mark Hernandez, Co-Chairs

Taylor Cortesi: Cameron Busby

Mark Hernandez: Tucker Cowan

Jeff Karr: Aunika Garza

Jessica Martinez: Katelyn Hammack

Whitney May: Ashland Hubbard

Robert Meador Rene’ LeBlanc

Kamron Mehrinfar: Idza Luhumyo

Jacob Moore:   Howard Meh-Buh

Paige Powell:  Dr. Sarah Hart Micke

Beck Proffer: Chisom Obike

Ali Riegel: Dr. Kathleen Reeves

Richard Robertson:  Emily Rolen

***Sophomore Literature Committee.*** Advises Director of Lower-Division Studies; makes recommendations to faculty on policies and curricula for sophomore literature courses.

Chad Hammett, Chair

Andrew Barton

Jason Coates

Jay Cruz

Ross Feeler

Joe Falocco

Katie Kapurch

Jeff Karr

Kate McClancy, ex officio

Paige Powell

Ben Reed

James Reeves

Alan Schaefer

Robert Tally

Steve Wilson

***Writing and Rhetoric Committee*.** Advises Advanced Studies Director and Committee about writing and rhetoric courses and the Writing and Rhetoric Emphasis. Advises the Coordinator of the Computer Labs on goals and policies, staffing decisions, and overall direction of the labs. Ex officio members: Director, Advanced Studies, and Lab Coordinator.

Eric Leake and Nancy Wilson, Co-Chairs

Deborah Balzhiser

Lauren Brentnell

Joanna Collins

Logan Fry

Stephanie Grossman

Kate McClancy, ex officio

Octavio Pimentel

Alan Schaefer

***Online Courses***. Assists with development of new online courses; reviews policies and procedures to achieve best practices.

Jason Coates, Chair

Ben Austin

Deborah Balzhiser

John Blair

Lauren Brentnell

Laura Ellis-Lai

Logan Fry

Vanessa Johnson

Roger Jones

Robert Meador

Scott Mogull

Laura Sims

Anne Winchell

Pinfan Zhu

***Teacher Preparation.*** Advises faculty on policies related to teacher preparation, including curricular requirements for teacher certification.  Chair: Department Representative to Teacher Preparation Council.  Ex officio member: Director, Advanced Studies.

Lindy Kosmitis, Chair

Cory DeBoest

Cassie Polasek

Laura Sims

Aunika Garza

Kate McClancy, ex officio

***English First Gen Proud Committee***

Octavio Pimentel (Chair)

Emily Banta

Joanna Collins

Cory DeBoest

Sara Ramírez

**II.  Faculty Committees**

***Faculty Review, Full Professors.*** Reviews and evaluates teaching, scholarly/creative activity, and service of full professors; recommends evaluations to the full professors; recommends changes in procedures for annual review.  Members serve three-year terms, with a new member selected each fall by drawing a name from the roster of eligible full professors.

Octavio Pimentel (began 2022) Chair

John Blair (began 2024)

Joe Falocco (began 2024)

***Faculty Review, Associate/Assistant Professors.*** Reviews and evaluates teaching, scholarly/creative activity, and service of assistant and associate professors; recommends evaluations to the senior faculty; recommends changes in procedures for annual review.

Susan Morrison, Chair

Geneva Gano

***Faculty Review, Associate and Full FOI.*** Reviews and evaluates the teaching, scholarly/creative activities (if applicable) and service materials submitted by senior lecturers; recommends evaluations to the senior faculty; recommends changes in procedures for annual review.

Suparno Banerjee, Chair

Jason Coates

Chad Hammett

***Faculty Review, Assistant FOI.*** Reviews and evaluates the teaching, scholarly/creative activities (if applicable) and service materials submitted by senior lecturers; recommends evaluations to the senior faculty; recommends changes in procedures for annual review.

Eric Leake, Chair

Jon Marc Smith, Co-Chair

Amanda Mixon

Shannon Shaw

***Faculty Review, Lecturers***. Reviews and evaluates teaching by lecturers; recommends evaluations to the senior faculty; recommends changes in procedures for annual review.

Nancy Wilson Chair

Jon Marc Smith, Co-Chair

Amanda Scott

***Mentoring.*** Works with tenure-track faculty in preparation for annual review and tenure consideration.

Julie Weng, Chair

Jennifer DuBois (mentor for Denae Dyck)

Geneva Gano (mentor for Sara Ramírez)

Eric Leake (mentor for Christopher Dayley)

Kate McClancy (mentor for Nithya Sivashankar)

Cecily Parks (mentor for Lindsay Stern)

James Reeves (mentor for Zoe Bursztajn-Illingworth)

Leah Schwebel (mentor for Emily Banta)

Julie Weng (mentor for Gabriel Duckels)

***Faculty Hiring.*** Screens applicants for tenure-track and tenured positions and makes hiring recommendations to the senior faculty.  The department chair may modify committee membership for the needs of a particular search or may form separate ad hoc committees for multiple searches.

**University Writing Center Director**: Eric Leake (chair), Nancy Wilson, Joanna Collins

**MATC**:  Chris Dayley (Chair), Miriam Williams, Octavio Pimentel

**Chair:** Ron Williams (chair), Angela Ausbrooks, Cecily Parks, Rob Tally, Kate McClancy 

***IA/TA Hiring.*** Advises Chair on policies for screening and hiring Instructional and Teaching Assistants.  Screens applicants for these positions and makes hiring recommendations to the Chair.  Chair: Director of Lower-Division Studies.

Nancy Wilson

Chad Hammett

Chris Dayley

Eric Leake

Bianca Perez

Ben Reed

James Reeves

***Policy Committee***.Advises chair on policy change recommendations. Writes new policy guidelines for review by faculty.

Rob Tally, Chair

Taylor Cortesi

Denae Dyck

Kate McClancy

**III.  Administrative Support Committees**

***English Department Endowment.*** Monitors English department endowment accounts and advises chair on building the department’s overall endowment. Also advises chair on the use of funds generated by endowments.  In particular, oversees the TKL endowment by approving the annual TKL budget and reviewing expenditures from the preceding year.  Chair: English department chair.

Victoria Smith, Chair

Cyrus Cassells

Doug Dorst

Cecily Parks

***Library.*** Advises faculty of annual allocation figures and other information forwarded by Alkek Library acquisitions staff; authorizes book and periodical orders from faculty.

Suparno Banerjee, Chair

James Reeves

Alan Schaefer

Leah Schwebel

Pinfan Zhu

***MA/Literature.*** Advises MA/Literature Director; recommends admission standards; screens MA/Lit applications; composes MA/Lit thesis and comprehensive exam requirements; administers comprehensive exams; nominates TKL Visiting Critics and Scholars.  Chair: MA/Lit Director.  Continuing member: student from MA/Lit program.

James Reeves, Chair

Suparno Banerjee

Denae Dyck

Geneva Gano

Simon Lee

Sara Ramírez

Nithya Sivashankar

Robert Tally

Julie Weng

MA/Literature student: Madison Richards

***Undergraduate Tech Comm***

Christopher Dayley, Chair

Connor Wilson

Vanessa Johnson

Alan Schaefer

Sean Rose

Chris Margrave

Laura Ellis Lai

***MA/Technical Communication.*** Advises MA/TC director; recommends standards for admission to the program; screens TC application portfolios; composes TC thesis and comprehensive exam requirements.  Chair: MA/TC Director.  Continuing member: student from the MA/TC program.

Christopher Dayley, Chair

Deb Balzhiser

Scott Mogull

Miriam Williams

Pinfan Zhu

Octavio Pimentel

MA/TC student: Kelsey Caswell

***MA/Rhetoric and Composition.*** Advises MA/RC Director; recommends standards for admission to the program; screens MA/RC applications; composes RC thesis and comprehensive exam requirements.  Chair: MA/RC Director.  Continuing member: student from the MA/RC program

Eric Leake, Chair

Deborah Balzhiser

Lauren Brentnell

Octavio Pimentel

Elizabeth Skerpan-Wheeler

Nancy Wilson

  MA/RC student: Catlinh Dinh

***MFA.*** Advises MFA Director; recommends standards for admission to the program; screens MFA application portfolios; composes MFA thesis and comprehensive exam requirements; recommends MFA Adjunct Faculty.  Chair:  MFA Director. Continuing member: student from the MFA program.

Debra Monroe, Director

Cyrus Cassells

Jennifer duBois

Roger Jones

Cecily Parks

Steve Wilson

MFA student: Ilza Garcia

***Scholarships.*** Reviews applications for departmental scholarships; recommends awards; oversees any changes in application forms, criteria, and policies that are mandated by scholarship donors or university decisions.

Elizabeth Skerpan-Wheeler, Chair

Deb Balzhiser

Cyrus Cassells

Joe Falocco

Eric Leake

Leah Schwebel

***Communications and Publicity Committee.*** Curates content to promote department programs and events, as well as achievements of students, alumni, and faculty via newsletter, social media, university and WordPress websites, and physical media in Flowers Hall, for Bobcat Day, etc.; coordinates with and receives training and instruction from COLA, Marketing, Media Relations, and other university offices; develops and revises communications policy with department chair; coordinates and directs communications-related taskforces.

Katie Kapurch, Director of Communications

Amanda Scott, Assistant Director of Communications

Rob Tally

James Reeves

Jon Marc Smith

***Newsletter/WordPress Communications and Publicity Subcommittee.*** Collects and edits news for internal digest (“Miscellany”); assembles digests and other information to publish as edited public newsletter posted on department WordPress site; with support staff, manages WordPress site design and features; coordinates with members of Communications and Publicity committee for messaging and branding.

Katie Kapurch, Chair

Amanda Scott, Co-Chair

Rob Tally

***Alumni Outreach Communications and Publicity Taskforce Committee.*** Initiates, coordinates, and organizes outreach to undergraduate and graduate alumni to feature in department communications and for other networking purposes; coordinates with members of Communications and Publicity committee for messaging and branding.

Amanda Scott, Chair

Katie Kapurch

Taylor Cortesi

Bianca Perez

Matthew Hudson

Rob Tally

***Bobcat Day Communications and Publicity Taskforce Committee.*** Represents the department at prospective & admitted student events (i.e., Bobcat Days); set up the day before event and other materials management; coordinates with members of Communications and Publicity committee for messaging and branding.

Katie Kapurch, Chair

Andew Barton

Ross Feeler

Matthew Hudson

Mark Hernandez

Will Jensen

Jessica Martinez

Bianca Perez

Shannon Shaw

Jon Marc Smith, ex officio

Cedric Synnestvedt

Terrance Wedin

Gabriel Duckels

Emily Banta

Zoe Bursztajn-Illingworth

Denae Dyck

Rob Tally, ex officio

Kate McClancy, ex officio

***Outstanding Senior Award***. Receives, reviews, and recommends to faculty nominations for the Outstanding Senior Award.

Graeme Wend-Walker, Chair

Deborah Balzhiser

Roger Jones

Laura Ellis-Lai

Christopher Margrave

Claire Richardson, LA advisor, ex officio

***Visiting Scholars Committee.*** Advises Chair and Coordinators of the Lindsey Literary Series on in-person programming on campus, including the selection of visiting writers and expenditures associated with the series, and ongoing collaborations with Torch Literary Arts. Consists primarily of tenure-track literature faculty in the English Department, who will share hosting duties for selected writers. Continuing members: one MA Literature graduate student and one undergraduate English major. Chair: Coordinators of the Lindsey Literary Series.

Cecily Parks, co-Chair

drea brown, co-Chair

Emily Banta

Zoe Bursztajn-Illingworth

Chris Dayley

Gabriel Duckels

Denae Dyck

Sara Ramirez

James Reeves

Nithya Sivashankar

Lindsay Stern

Julie Weng

Graduate student: MFA –MAL –

Undergraduate student:

***Visiting Creative Writers Committee.*** Advises Chair and Coordinator of the Lindsey Literary Series and the Chair and Coordinator of the Katherine Anne Porter House Visiting Writers Series on the selection of visiting writers hosted by MFA faculty and on expenditures associated with the series. Members share hosting duties for selected writers.  Continuing member: graduate student (MFA) recommended by MFA Director. Chair: Coordinator of the Katherine Anne Porter Literary Series.

Cecily Parks, Chair

drea brown

Jennifer duBois

Debra Monroe

Bianca Perez

Lindsay Stern

Graduate student: MFA –Zachary Eaton

***University Writing Center.*** Advises Director of the University Writing Center about Center goals, policies, and overall direction.  Chair: Associate Director of Writing Center.

Joanna Collins, Chair

Lauren Brentnell

Amanda Mixon

Octavio Pimentel

Paige Powell

Nancy Wilson

***College Review Group Representative.*** Represents the department at Liberal Arts College Review for tenure and promotion.

Representative:  Rob Tally

1stAlternate: Miriam Williams

2nd Alternate:  Octavio Pimentel

***Liberal Arts Faculty Advisory Council Member.*** Represents the department for curricular issues (programs and courses) and other issues as necessary.

Representative: Kate McClancy

***Liberal Arts Communicators Group Representative.*** Represents the department at monthly meetings and receives training from university offices; member of TXST Social Media Work Group. Relays information to Communications and Publicity Committee, department support staff, and faculty.

Representative: Katie Kapurch

***Departmental Representative on Research Enhancement Committee***. Represents the department during the annual review of proposals for research enhancement grants and advises faculty in English who are preparing proposals.

Representative: Suparno Banerjee Alternate:

**Additional Task forces and services:**

***FOI Teaching observations***

Jon Marc Smith, Associate Chair of Adjuncts

Shannon Shaw

Amanda Mixon

***Online Observations***

Jason Coates, Chair

Vanessa Johnson

Miriam

Katie

Logan Fry

***Lecturer Observations***

Jon Marc Smith, Chair

Ali Riegel

Mark Hernandez

Joanna Collins

Ben Reed

***Events***

Rich Riddle (Sigma Tau Delta Co-Advisor)

Sandi Welch

Levi Hernandez

***UWC Consultants***

Michael Agugom (accepted)

Rachel Donalson (accepted)

Anthony Edsall (accepted)

Kathryn Kane (accepted)

Kayla King (accepted)

McKenna (Mickey) May (accepted)

Naomi Wilson (accepted)

***UWC Creative Writing Club***

Kale Hensley (accepted)

***AI and Honor Code Task Force***

James Reeves, Chair

Miriam Williams

Lauren Brentnell

Joanna Collins

Danny Peters

Beck Proffer

Anne Winchell

Jon Marc Smith

***Reading Task Force***

Cassie Polasek, Chair

Mickey May

Richard Robertson

Blake Vanderlind

Eric Wallenstein

Cedric Synnestvedt

***Sophomore Literature Assessment***

Chad Hammett, Chair

Ross Feeler

Andrew Barton

***UWC Essay Contest Judge***

Ben Austin

Stephanie Grossman

Darrell Limuel

Matt Passant

Maryann Perna

Danny Peters

Francine Pilkington

***Tech Comm Assessment***

Sarah Robblee

Connor Wilson

***Upper-Division Assessment***

Kate McClancy, Chair

Logan Fry

Darrell Limuel

Sean Rose

Alan Schaefer

***Persona***

Roger Jones, Advisor

Will Jensen

***Bobcat Poets Society***

Cecily Parks, Advisor

Mark Hernandez

Bianca Perez

***Sigma Tau Delta Advisors***

Jayson Guest

Levi Hernandez

Rich Riddle

Sandi Welch

***Liberal Arts Events Task Force***

Terrence Wedin