

Rhetoric, Composition, and Pedagogy Concentration Degree Plan

- I. **Core Courses (12 units)** – These courses are required for all students in the RCP concentration. With the exception of Intro to Doctoral Studies, these courses are only offered once in a two-year cycle. Therefore, it is critical that students take these courses the first time the courses are offered. If they do not, they will most likely need to extend their course work to complete this requirement.
 - a. ENGL 7390: Intro to Doctoral Studies (3 units) – Offered every fall semester
 - b. ENGL 7324: Critical Pedagogy (3 units) – Offered every other fall semester (It is in rotation with Research Seminar II: Scholarly Writing)
 - c. ENGL 8318: Research Seminar I: Scholarly Reading (3 units) – Offered every other spring semester
 - d. ENGL 8318: Research Seminar II: Scholarly Writing (3 units) – Offered every other fall semester (It is in rotation with Critical Pedagogy)

- II. **Fusion Courses (6 units)** – Each student in the RCP concentration must take two fusion courses. These courses are designed to bridge the theory and practice of Rhetoric and Composition and Literature. As such, each fusion course **must** have both theoretical texts that address core issues and concepts within the discipline of Rhetoric and Composition AND literary works. A member of the RCP faculty offers one of these courses at least once an academic year; however, there are courses offered by literature professors that also meet these requirements. Those courses will be designated as fusion courses.
 - a. **Petitions** – If you take course that you believe meets the above criteria that is not designated a fusion course, you may petition the RCP faculty to allow the course to meet one of your fusion requirements. Petitions will be considered on a rolling basis. You need to email your full petition to: jlwingard@uh.edu. To be considered, a petition must include:
 - i. A brief statement that explains how the theory texts in the course are germane to the discipline of Rhetoric and Composition.
 - ii. The course syllabus and reading list showing a mix of theory and literary texts.

- III. **Literature Courses (9 units)**– Each student in the RCP concentration must take a total of three literature courses. A literature course is a course that focuses primarily on literary texts, although many literary courses do emphasize particular theoretical and/or critical lenses through which to read literary texts. Any course from any time period, genre, or critical emphasis will count toward your literary requirement as long as the course engages with literary texts. There are an abundant number of literature courses offered each semester.
 - a. **Folklore** – Folklore courses are considered literature courses for RCP students. Even if the course readings are not primarily based in literature, folklore is seen as a long-standing literary tradition.

- IV. **Elective Courses – (9 units)** – Each student in the RCP concentration must take a total of three elective courses. This requirement can be fulfilled with any graduate course in any department within the university. Most students fulfill this requirement within the English department through linguistics, literature, or RCP courses or by developing ENGL 7398: Special Problems courses with individual faculty focused on a specific area of interest within the discipline of Rhetoric and Composition.