Department of English Written Exam: Field Statement Format  
*Effective Autumn 2018*

**Field Statement**

As the student synthesizes information from their reading lists, they may begin working on their field statement and syllabus. The field statement, to be written in consultation with committee members, should be 20-30 double-spaced pages (not including the bibliography) and must define:

- the student's field or fields of expertise,
- the student's methodology, and
- a research question.

The nature of the document that students produce will vary depending on their field and research interests. The field statement might proceed as a single discussion or as a series of related sections. The formal flexibility of the field statement should give exam committees some discretion over what their students produce while ensuring that there is a uniform purpose to the endeavor.

When the field statement and syllabus are finished, they are submitted to the English Graduate Advising Office for formal review by the committee.

**Syllabus**

A syllabus on one of the written exam areas is required as a component in the student’s preparation for the profession and to prompt thinking about texts not only in scholarly but also in pedagogical terms. The syllabus should be at least two to four pages and include a description of the course, course rationale, and reading list. The syllabus is to be turned in with the field statement.