ACADEMIC PLAN

**Department of English Language
College of Arts
King Faisal University**

**Spring semester
1430-2009**

1- <u>Introduction</u>

The new College of Arts, approved by the Ministry of Higher Education, presents a challenge and an opportunity. The challenge stems from the short time in which the new college and its departments have to present new academic plans and be ready to admit students to the new institution. The opportunity is in the potential for the new college and departments which can suggest new domains and update their courses to satisfy the requirements of quality teaching and research and to implement standards that take the program to academic accreditation.

The present proposal is designed to face the challenge and make use of the opportunity presented to faculty in all departments of English in the colleges of King Faisal University and the Department of Foreign languages in the College of Education.

2- Vision

To achieve distinction and to be a pioneer in English language and literature at local and regional levels.

3- Mission

To graduate competent creative individuals in the field of English language and literature, capable of enriching the debate between Arab-Islamic culture and English and Western cultures.

4- <u>Rationale and Background to the new academic plan</u>

The new plan is conceived of as a new emerging entity, and as such is not based on a previous plan. Still, the new plan has benefited from the vast experience of the Department of Foreign Language in the field of offering various programs including a B.A. and M.A. programs to local Saudi and Arab students. A number of basic considerations have played a part in the current plan:

1- There is a need for creating a balance between the two major domains of English language and English literature.

2- There is a need for meeting the increasing demand for majoring in English.

3- There is a need for modernizing and updating the knowledge domains and skills offered in various academic disciplines.

4- There is a need for a new (updated) curriculum based on a balance between the communicative use of the English language on the one hand, and knowledge of the main domains of language studies and English literature on the other.

5- There is a need for adopting new methodology in learning/teaching and new teaching materials.

6- There is a need for constructing new plans which are based on explicit standards which raise the quality of graduates and help in program accreditation.

7- There is an effort to prepare graduates for a career related to English language professions such as teaching English and translation.

5- Program objectives:

The plan derives its objectives from the general orientation and objectives of the College of Arts (Al-Ahsa). The objectives of the Department plan are:

1- To graduate highly qualified students in the fields of English language and literature who can adapt to the new challenges and changes of their future career.

2- To enrich the debate between local culture and English culture through positive learning and teaching.

3- To enrich the current debate about the other within English culture.

4- To prepare graduates who can successfully pursue higher studies and research.

5- To update the domains of language learning and expertise (including technology advances).

6- To update the approach to teaching and appreciating English literature.

7- To serve local community in the areas of teaching English, translation and Arabization.

6- Institutions and Commissions Consulted

The plan has made use of a number of institutions and bodies whose standards and experience have contributed to the plan and acted as guidance in certain cases. The domains in the specialization are widely acknowledged to include 1) language studies, 2) literature, and 3) translation. It is accepted by all the members of the profession of teaching foreign languages that non-native learners need to satisfy a certain level of language proficiency before taking specialization courses. The following institutions and standards have been consulted:

1- King Faisal University document entitled: *Requirements and Procedures for Undergraduate Academic Plans.*

2- King Faisal University document entitled: Academic course description.

3- The Saudi Commission for Academic Assessment and Accreditation.

4- The Department of English Language and Literature, College of Arts, King Saud University (personal communication).

5- College of Languages and Translation's academic plan (www.ksu.edu.sa retrieved 11.3.2009).

6- The Department of English Language and Literature, College of Arts, King Abdulaziz University (King Abdulaziz University, College of Arts, Academic Plan, see Appendix).

7- The Department of English, College of Arts and Science, The American University of Sharja (www.aus.edu.uae retrieved 3. 3. 2009).

8- The academic plan of the department of Chinese, Translation and Linguistics (www.cu.edu.hk retrieved 3. 3. 2009).

7- Procedures and stages of preparing the plan

The plan has benefitted from literature and experience of various bodies and institutions. These include the following:

1- K.F.U. Committee for Academic Plans for Arts and Community Service Programs.

2- Consultations with faculty members in the relevant academic departments

3- Visits and discussions with comparable academic departments.

4- Reviewing online resources.

5- workshops within KFU

6- Meetings with stakeholders and with Al-Ahsa Chamber of Commerce.

The plan went through a number of procedures and stages, which can be briefly reported here.

1- Decision on university and college requirements (12 + 40 credits).
2- Writing the vision, mission and objectives, using college vision, mission and objectives as guidelines, and using job market indicators.
3- A first draft of skills and domains in specialization:
    a. Skill and foundations courses
    b. Language and Linguistics
    c. Literature and literary criticism
    d. Translation
4- Discussion of first draft of skills and domains.
5- A second improved draft of skills and domains (including courses to cover each skill and domain).
6- department Approval of the draft proposal of plan.
7- Implementing corrections and improvements suggested by department.
8- Discussion of final draft by the committee.
9- Re-writing the plan with all corrections and amendments suggested and approved by committee.

8- Skills, Domains and competencies

The following table (pages 12-15) reports the skills and the domains with the credit hours needed to master each area, taking into consideration that the total number of credits for specialization is eighty credit hours (see page 16 below).

Rationale for including the skills and Domains

A- Foundations and Skills

The main objective here is to lay the foundation for specialization courses. The experience of the department in teaching English over the last four decades shows that school leavers cannot take English major without preparation. The skill and foundation courses are designed to fill this gap and prepare students to be active participants and capable learners in various areas of English language and literature.

Basically, skills and foundation courses focus on the four skills of listening comprehension, reading, structure and writing. In addition they include an advanced course in essay writing and another advanced course on "English Thought and Culture".

B- English Language
 The need for including language/Linguistics courses stems from the need to offer a plan which creates an equilibrium between language focus and literature focus in the curriculum. The equilibrium will serve as a support for appreciating courses in literature, in addition to the inherent significance of the areas covered in language studies. Moreover, career prospects make it an imperative to prepare students in state of the art applications of language and language-related areas.
This domain provides students with the knowledge of English language and the ability to analyze it at the level of Grammar, Phonology, Semantics, and Discourse. It is necessary for enabling learners to:
1- Master the areas and topics in English language and the methods of studying language.
2- Know the state of the art in computer applications in language studies
3- Have the skill to analyze, edit and describe the linguistic levels of English.
4- Master the methods and skills of self-improvement and self-development in English.

C- English Literature

The inclusion of literature courses meets the requirements of specializing in English Literature. The English Literature focus introduces students to the history of English Literature and various genres and periods of that literature. In addition, the suggested courses will provide the basis for literary criticism and comparative literature. This domain necessary for enabling learners to:

1- Master areas and topics covered in various courses.

2- Know the methods of studying literary genres.

3- Know the English culture in its literary context.

4- Understand English society and people.

D- Translation

This domain is necessary for its theoretical and practical implications. It is needed to introduce students to the recent advances in Translation Studies, in addition to the practical use of language in translation. The domain focuses on knowledge of the theory of translation and translation practice (Arabic-English and vise-a-versa), including Machine Translation.
It is necessary for enabling students to:

1- Know the theoretical issues in translation and their applications.

2- Translate a variety of text-types from Arabic into English and vice-a-versa.

3- Operate computer translation programs and assess their output.

E- Senior project

The senior project offers students a chance to be involved in the actual problems faced in research. It is also a chance for training and getting nearer to the atmosphere of producing tasks required under actual job conditions. The course takes the form of a supervised research project in Language, Translation, or Literature.
It is necessary for enabling students to:

1- Carry out research under supervision.

2- Design and implement research projects.

3- Use the methods, resources and instruments needed to complete a research project.

9- Teaching methods

The teaching methods have to adapt to the nature of the course being taught. Practical courses will invite more participation and application. But all instruction makes use of the available facilities in the class and the university computer facilities.

1- Theoretical course:

1- Lectures given by the teacher.

2- Teacher-prepared notes and handouts.

3- Structured class debates touching on the main topics covered in the course.

4- Students' presentations of assigned topics

5- Class Quizzes and assignments.

2- Practical courses:

1- Exercises from textbooks and teacher-made materials

2- Practical class demonstrations

3- Students' tasks (Class and out-of-class tasks).

4- Voice and articulation training.

5- Problem recognition and problem solving.

6- Class presentations and class debates.

3- Practical Translation

1- Practical training in written translation.

2- Oral/consecutive translation.

3- Demonstration and assessment of computer translation

4- Information Technology:

1- Powerpoint and visual aids.

2- Internet resources and Webcity.

3- Computer designed material and smart boards.

4- E-mail communication.

5- University electronic Online library.

10- Learning outcomes

The program outcomes are expected to be:

1- Able to work in two main areas of specialization offered in the program Language and translation.

2- Able to take a training program in Teaching English.

3- Ready to pursue higher studies in one of the main domains of the program: Language, Literature, or Translation.

4- Ready to pursue translation and English related careers in private and government sectors.

11- Career Prospects

The career prospect for program graduates centers around using English language and/or translation. The following are some possible careers.

1- Schools: private and government schools

    a. Teaching English

    b. Supervising teachers

    c. School administration

2-   Private Business and companies:

    a. Banks and financial institutions

    b. Travel agents and tourism

    c. Media (T.V. and Radio, Newspapers)

    d. Word processing and data management

    e. Internet-related jobs.

3- Secretarial and office employments

4- Free lance translators.

5- Self-employment.

College of Arts
Department of English Language
Academic Plan
Skills and Domains

Skills & Knowledge Domain	N.	Course	Credit Hours	Contact Hours	Total
Skills and Foundation		**A- Listening/Speaking**			
	1	Listening comprehension	2	4	4
	2	Listening and speaking	2	4	4
	3	Arts of speech	3	4	4
		B- Reading comprehension			
	4	Reading	2	4	4
	5	English Prose	2	2	2
	6	English Thought and culture	2	2	2
		C- Grammatical structure			
	7	Grammatical Structure	3	4	4
	8	Grammatical rules and systems	2	2	2
		D- Writing			
	9	Composition (1)	3	4	4
	10	Composition (2)	3	4	4
	11	Essay	2	2	2
		Total	**26**	**36**	**36**

Knowledge Domain	N.	Course	Credit Hours	Contact	Total
English Linguistics	12	Introduction to Linguistics	3	4	4
	13	Phonetics and Phonology	3	4	4
	14	Syntax and Morphology	2	2	2
	15	Semantics and Pragmatics	2	2	2
	16	Applied Linguistics	3	4	4
	17	Psycholinguistics	2	2	2
	18 19 20	Sociolinguistics (elective) Language planning (elective) Language variation (elective)	2	2	2
	21	Discourse Analysis	2	2	2
	22	Language and I. T.	2	2	2
Total in domain			**21**	**24**	**24**

Knowledge Domain	N.	Course	Credit. Hours	Contact	Total Hours
Translation	23	Translation Theory	2	2	2
	24	Translating text-types (Arabic-English, and vice-a-versa)	3	4	4
	25	Creative translation	2	2	2
	26 27 28	Machine Translation (elective) Simultaneous Translation (elective) Translating Terminology (elective)	2	2	2
Total in domain			**9**	**10**	**10**

Knowledge Domain	N.	Course	Credit Hours	Contact	Total Hours
English Literature		English literature of the Renaissance	3	4	4
		Seventeenth century English literature	2	2	2
		The Rise of the Novel	2	2	2
		The Modern Novel	2	2	2
		English Poetry from Romantics to Moderns	2	2	2
		Literary Criticism	3	4	4
		Intro. to American Literature	2	2	2
		Modern Drama	2	2	2
		The Short Story (elective) Children's literature (elective) Comparative literature (elective)	2	2	2
		Total in domain	**20**	**22**	**22**

Knowledge Domain	N.	Course	Credit Hours	Contact	Total Hours
Research Methods	41	Research Methodology & Design	2	2	2
	42	Graduation Project (Language, Literature or Translation)	2	4	4
		Total in domain	4	6	6
		Total of hours of program courses	**80**	**98**	**98**

Numbering code
Courses are numbered in accordance with the following system.

College No.	Department No.	Course No.
00	**03**	**110**

In course numbering, the first digit to the left indicates the year and level.

Number	Year	Level
100	**1**	**1**
		2
200	**2**	**3**
		4
300	**3**	**5**
		6
400	**4**	**7**
		8

The course number show the domain/field within the programme.

Numbers	General Domain/field	Domain/field
10-12	Skills & Foundation	**Listening/Speaking**
20-22		**Reading/Culture**
30-32		**Writing**
40-41		**Grammar/Structure**
50-60	Specialization	**Linguistics**
70-75		**Translation**
80-90		**Literature**
95-96	Research	**Research**

	Skills and domains	courses	Credit hours	Objectives served	Competencies aimed at
1	Foundations and Skills	11	26	1- To lay the foundation for specialized courses.	Establishing the foundation and skills for listening comprehension, reading, structure and writing.
2	English Language	11	21	This domain will enable the learner to: 1- Master the areas and topics in English language and the methods of studying language. 2- Know the state of the art computer applications in language studies 3- Have the skill to analyze, edit and describe the linguistic levels of English. 4- Master the methods and skills of self-improvement and self-development in English.	Knowledge of English language and its analysis at the level of Grammar, Phonology, Semantics, and Discourse.
3	Translation	6	9	This domain will enable the learner to: 1- Know the theoretical issues in translation and their applications. 2- Translate a variety of text-types from Arabic into English and vise-a-versa. 3- Operate computer translation programs and assess their output.	Knowledge of the theory of translation and translation practice (Arabic-English and vise-a-versa), including Machine Translation.
4	English Literature	11	20	This domain will enable the learner to: 1- Master areas and topic covered in various courses. 2- Know the methods of studying literary genres. 3- Know the English culture in its literary context. 4- Understand English society and people.	Knowledge of the history of English Literature, its period and various genres.
5	Research Methodology & Graduation Project	2	4	This project will enable the learner to: 1- Carry out research under supervision. 2- Design and implement research projects. 3- Use the methods, resources and instruments needed to complete a research project.	A supervised research project in Language, Translation, or Literature.
	Total	**41**	**80**		