Donna Potts has submitted a request for a major curricular change. His/her email address is: dl.potts@wsu.edu.

**Requested change:** Revise or Drop Graduate Plan

**Degree:** English

**Title:** Literature

**Requested Effective Date:** Fall 2022

Revise plan requirement: Yes

**Dean:** Swindell, Samantha - Assoc Dean - CAS,

**Chair:** Potts, Donna – Chair – English,
Approve.

Your curricular change request to revise requirements has been forwarded to:

   Potts, Donna – Chair – English
   Swindell, Samantha - Assoc Dean - CAS

An email approval of the request from both parties is required. Once notification of approval is received from the Department, the request will be forwarded to the Catalog Subcommittee for initial review.

Status of curricular change requests are posted weekly on the curriculum and faculty senate website under tracking notes. Requests will not appear on the tracking notes until departmental approval has been received.

If you have any questions, please email wsu.curriculum@wsu.edu.

**Requested change:** Revise or Drop Graduate Plan

**Degree:** English

**Title:** Literature

**Requested Effective Date:** Fall 2022

Revise plan requirement: Yes
1. I approve this proposal in its current form.
Ending Period Requirements for the M.A. in Literature

Our TT faculty recently voted to end the period requirements for the M.A. in literature. While we value historical periods, it was very difficult for our M.A. students to complete five requirements in only two years, and it also denied them adequate opportunities to take many courses in postcolonial, African American, environmental studies, WGSS, Memoir, and other contemporary areas. With the addition of WGSS to our department, a preponderance of faculty who teach in the 20th and 21st centuries, and the increasing difficulty of finding faculty who can cover the earlier periods often enough for our graduate students to complete all five in two years, we felt that we should survey the faculty as to how to respond to these issues. The two most popular options were “three historical periods” and “no historical periods.” The majority of literature faculty voted for “no historical periods.” All faculty not in literature voted for “no historical periods.”

Impact on our faculty and other campuses: Our faculty, at WSUP as well as WSUV and WSUTC, who teach literature courses in previously required historical periods will continue to be included in our rotation of faculty who teach graduate seminars.

On page 12 of our graduate manual, found at the following link:

Under 3.1 Master of Arts in English, Emphasis in Literary Studies Program and Course Requirements (30-38 credit hours),

Delete the following:

• All candidates must take at least one graduate seminar in each of the following five categories:
  o Medieval literature up to roughly 1485
  o English literature from 1485 to 1600, including Shakespeare
  o Seventeenth- and eighteenth-century British or American literature
  o Nineteenth-century British or American literature
  o Twentieth-century British, American, or postcolonial literature

Both highly specialized and broadly focused courses may be used to satisfy these period requirements. Ambiguous cases should be resolved through discussion with the Director of Graduate Studies.