

Proposal to Create  
School of Writing, Language, and Literature

constituted of the Department of English and the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures  
in the College of Humanities and Behavioral Sciences

**Purpose:**

The School of Writing, Language, and Literature seeks to focus the energies and synergies available through the shared teaching, scholarship, and service already in place in the existing Departments.

**Rationale:**

Both departments routinely engage in pedagogic and scholarly work encompassing the study of writing, language, and literature. Both departments are in the midst of significant re-organization efforts connected to Radford's complete revision of the general education curriculum, and a formal connection between the two will help both departments prepare general education curricula and REAL-aligned minors to attract new enrollments at all levels. Both departments are engaged in discussions about the importance of foreign language learning—whether in traditional language experiences or literature-in-translation classes or cultural studies—as an important and essential element in any Bachelor of Arts program of study. Both departments seek to develop multiple offerings to attract students across the University to traditional liberal arts curricula, whether as majors or as part of a coherent program of study in a professional preparatory program or a STEM-related field.

**Administration:**

With a new School organizational plan, the Departments of English and Foreign Languages will no longer require separate Chair positions, but will instead be administered under the Director's Office with two Associate Director positions. The existing Administrative Assistants of the English Department and the Foreign Languages Department will assume responsibility as Administrative Assistants to the Director as well.

**Budget:**

The proposed formation of a School of Writing, Language, and Literature will require no additional funding and will instead result in cost savings through the reduction of stipends attached to Chair positions in both departments.

**Timeline:**

The initial steps do not involve immediate creation of the new School, but do involve some measures of shared administration through the end of the 23-24 academic year.

**Spring 2024**

Catalog entries and website updates developed

**January—May 2024**

Director and Associate Directors coordinate administrative duties and roles and responsibilities

**August 10, 2024**

The roles of Director, Associate Directors, and Administrative Assistants become contractually valid and payable. Chair positions for English and FORL end.

**Collaborative Initiatives to Create Efficiencies Within the School**

- Curricular Initiatives re. REAL, Writing-, & Literature-based Courses for Languages Taught in Translation
- Promoting the B.A., Foundational Courses, and Writing-Intensive Courses
- Secondary Teaching Licensure