

**Literature Field Test
Results**

**Data Narrative
Academic Year 2014-2015**

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I. In spring of 2015, 6 graduating seniors, Literature and Literature- English Education majors, were assessed by ETS using a standardized Major Field Test, Literature in English.

II. The demographics of the tested group are as follows:

- a. **Male:** 17% **Female:** 83%
- b. **White:** 100% **Other:** 0%
- c. **Transfer students:**
 Yes: 17% No: 83%
- d. **English as best language**
 Yes: 83% No: 17%
- e. **Undergraduate GPA**
 3.5-4.0: 50% 3.00-3.49: 33% 2.50-2.99: 17%
- f. **Major Field GPA:**
 3.5-4.0: 50% 3.00-3.49: 50%
- g. **Education Planned:**
 50% plan to pursue an MA
 17% plan to pursue a Ph.D
 33% plan to complete BA
 0% Undecided

III. The assessment was divided into four categories, with each category further divided into subcategories as noted in Section VII.

- a. Literature 1900 and Earlier
- b. Literature 1901 and Later
- c. Literary Analysis
- d. Literary History and Identification

IV. The **total test scores**, noting percentiles for students are as follows:

Percentile Score on Entire Exam	Number of Students in Percentile
95-99%	1
90-94%	
85-89%	1
80-84%	
75-79%	
70-74%	
65-69%	2
60-64%	
55-59%	1
10-14%	1

- V. The **raw scores**, based on a possible score of 200, for the total exam are noted below. The **scaled score mean** for the total test is **167**.
 In **2014**, PLNU's scaled score was **174**
 The scaled score mean of all schools tested **2005-2010** was **154.7%**.

Raw Scores
184
175
161
161
158
132

- VI. The scaled score mean for each of the **past five years** for each class of **literature majors** is listed in the table below.

Year	Scaled Score
2015	162
2014	174
2013	153
2012	170
2011	174
2010	164

- VII. The percentiles for each of the test subcategories are noted below.
 a. **Literature 1900 and earlier:** The *mean score* in this subcategory is **59%**. In **2013**, it was **51%**. The scaled score mean of all schools tested **2005-2010** was **54.3%**.

Percentile Score	Number of Students in Rank
85-89%	1
70-74%	1
65-69%	0
55-59%	0
50-54%	2
25-29%	2

- b. **Literature 1901 and later:** The *mean score* in this subcategory is **71%**. In **2013**, the mean was **57%**. The scaled score mean of all schools tested **2005-2010** was **54.5%**.

Percentile Score	Number of Students in Rank
95-99%	
90-94%	
75-79%	2
70-74%	1
65-69%	1
60-64%	1
40-44%	1

- c. **Literary Analysis:** The *mean score* in this subcategory is **57%**. In **2013**, it was **47%**. The **scaled score mean of all schools tested 2005-2010 was 54.6%**.

Percentile Score	Number of Students in Rank
90-94%	
80-84%	1
75-79%	
65-69%	1
55-59%	1
50-54%	2
25-29%	1

- d. **Literary History and Identification**

The *mean score* in this subcategory is **71%**. In **2013**, it was **63%**. The **scaled score mean of all schools tested 2005-2010 was 53.9%**.

Percentile Score	Number of Students in Rank
90-94%	1
85-89%	
80-84%	1
75-79%	1
70-74%	
65-69%	1
60-64%	1
35-39%	1

VIII. Each subcategory was formed from the eight original subcategories. Noted below, by year, are the PLNU students' **mean percent correct** within each of these categories. The other score noted is the **national mean percent correct** for the years 2005-2010:

Subcategory	PLNU 2015	PLNU 2014	PLNU 2013	PLNU 2012	PLNU 2011	PLNU 2010	PLNU 2009	National 2005-2010
British Literature pre-1660	53	70	47	66	66	60	65	50.8
British Literature 1660-1900	42	56	43	52	68	60	63	46.2
American Literature to 1900	62	63	47	61	74	66	70	59.9
British and American Literature 1901-1945	60	71	52	58	66	57	64	52.1
Literature in English since 1945	62	70	55	75	75	62	74	61.7
Literary History	63	66	57	63	63	53	55	45.6
Identification	54	56	47	54	63	55	60	47.1
Literary Theory	44	64	42	58	69	64	62	48.4

IX. Scores are noted below by concentration: Literature (LTLT) and Lit-English Education (LTEE)

LTLT Majors Finding	Total Score	Subscore 1 <i>Lit 1900 & Earlier</i>	Subscore 2 <i>Lit 1901 later</i>	Subscore 3 <i>Lit Analysis</i>	Subscore 4 <i>Lit Hist/ID</i>
1	175	71	79	69	84
3	161	53	76	59	63
4	158	53	69	54	66
LTEE Majors Finding	Total Score	Subscore 1 <i>Lit 1900 & Earlier</i>	Subscore 2 <i>Lit 1901 later</i>	Subscore 3 <i>Lit Analysis</i>	Subscore 4 <i>Lit Hist/ID</i>
2	132	28	43	27	38
5	161	61	61	51	79
6	184	88	71	81	94

X. **Criteria of Success**

The **performance target** we established for our literature majors was a score of **five points above the National Mean of all schools tested 2005-2010** in each subcategory of the field test.

2014 Results: graduating literature majors met or exceeded this target in all but one of the subcategories in the major field test assessment for the 2014-2015 academic year. The only unmet subcategory was *American Literature to 1900*.

Subcategory	National Mean (2005-2010)	Literature Program Performance Target	PLNU 2014 Scores	Success Rate
British Literature pre-1660	50.8	56	70	met +14.2
British Literature 1660-1900	46.2	51	56	met +4.8
American Literature to 1900	59.9	65	63	<i>not met -0.10</i>
British and American Literature 1901-1945	52.1	57	71	met +13.9
Literature in English since 1945	61.7	67	70	met +3.3
Literary History	45.6	51	66	met +15.4
Identification	47.1	52	56	met +3.9
Literary Theory	48.4	53	64	met +10.6

2015 Results: graduating literature majors met or exceeded this target in three of the eight subcategories only.

Subcategory	National Mean (2005-2010)	Literature Program Performance Target	PLNU 2015 Scores	Success Rate
British Literature pre-1660	50.8	56	53	<i>not met -3</i>
British Literature 1660-1900	46.2	51	42	<i>not met -9</i>
American Literature to 1900	59.9	65	62	<i>not met -3</i>
British and American Literature 1901-1945	52.1	57	60	met +3
Literature in English since 1945	61.7	67	62	<i>not met -5</i>
Literary History	45.6	51	63	met +12
Identification	47.1	52	54	met +2
Literary Theory	48.4	53	44	<i>not met -9</i>

Closing the Assessment Loop: Our 2015 graduates did not meet as many of the performance targets as our 2014 graduates did. It might be of some interest

- to examine the number of courses in our current program that line up with each of these subcategories
- to determine how many of the courses that line up with the subcategories our 2015 graduates actually took
- to consider possible changes in which courses we require and which are elective
- to revisit whether or not we have set an appropriate performance target