NAME OF DEGREE PROGRAM(S): ENGLISH HONORS PROGRAM

EXPLAIN CHANGE(S) TO DEGREE PROGRAM:
1. Remove requirement of “three courses in literature or language before 1900, two of which must be in literature or language before 1800…”
2. Change required course grade in 679HA from B to at least B+ and required grade in 679HB from A to at least A-.
3. Change minimum University grade point average required for graduation with special honors from 3.00 to 3.33; change minimum major coursework grade point average required from 3.50 to 3.66.
4. Remove excess text.

Indicate pages in the Undergraduate Catalog where changes will be made.
Pages 307-308 of the Undergraduate Catalog, 2008-2010.

GIVE A DETAILED RATIONALE FOR CHANGE(S):
1. With proposed changes to English major requirement for 2010, this requirement becomes superfluous.
2. With the advent of plus/minus grading on the undergraduate level at UT-Austin, these grade requirement should change in order to reflect the established expectations for graduation with special honors in English.
3. Every student who graduated with special honors in English in 2008 and 2009 met these proposed standards; a number of students who were unable to complete required coursework for special honors did not. For prospective honors students, these grade point averages should reflect the level of scholarship needed for successful completion of the program. For special honors graduates, these grade point averages should reflect the true level of accomplishment.
4. In the interest of clarity and accuracy, additional text was excised and replaced with copy that mimics the language of similar honors programs (e.g., History).

SCOPE OF THE PROPOSED CHANGE(S):
Does this proposal impact other colleges/schools? If yes, then how?
no

Has the other college(s)/school(s) been informed of the proposed change? If so, please indicate their response.
Person communicated with: n/a
Date of Communication: n/a

Will this proposal change the number of required hours for degree completion? If yes, please explain.
no
Does this proposal involve changes to the core curriculum (42-hour core, signature courses, flags)? If yes, please explain.

no

COLLEGE/SCHOOL APPROVAL PROCESS:
(Circle yes or no)
Department: √ Yes No Date: 6/24/2009
College: Yes No Date:
Dean: Yes No Date:

Please include a draft of the catalog copy on an attached page. The draft should be based on the text of the current catalog available at http://www.utexas.edu/faculty/council/pages/catalog_chgs/catcopy.html.

CHANGES IN REQUIREMENTS FOR EARNING DEPARTMENTAL HONORS FOR THE BACHELOR OF ARTS DEGREE WITH A MAJOR IN ENGLISH IN THE COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS CHAPTER OF THE UNDERGRADUATE CATALOG, 2010-2012

On pages 307-308, under the heading ACADEMIC POLICIES AND PROCEDURES, in the HONORS subsection of the College of Liberal Arts chapter of the Undergraduate Catalog, 2008-2010, make the following changes:

English Honors Program

[The English Honors Program consists of special honors courses and individual study courses that are available to students accepted into the program. To be eligible for admission, the student must have completed Rhetoric and Writing 306 and English 316K, or their equivalents, and three additional semester hours of lower-division coursework in either English or rhetoric and writing; he or she must also have a University grade point average of at least 3.00 and a grade point average in English and rhetoric and writing of at least 3.50. Applicants are considered each fall and spring for the following long-session semester.] English majors who plan to seek special honors in English should apply for admission to the honors program prior to their junior year. Application forms and information about the program are available in the English Undergraduate Advising Office, Parlin Hall 114, and on the Department of English Web site, http://www.utexas.edu/cola/depts/english/.

The requirements for graduation with special honors are (1) completion of the requirements for a major in English, except that English 679HB is substituted for the [senior] research seminar; (2) completion of three or more upper-division English honors courses with grades of at least B; these courses may be counted toward the requirements of the major; two of these courses must be completed [before the semester in which the student takes English] prior to enrolling in 679HA; (3) three courses in literature or language before 1900, two of which must be in literature or language before 1800; these courses may be counted toward the requirements of the major; (4) English 679H, Honors Tutorial Course, with a grade of at least B+ in 679HA and a grade of A in 679HB, resulting in the presentation and defense of a thesis judged [Acceptable for] worthy of Honors; (5) a University grade point average of at least 3.00 and a grade point average of at least 3.50 in the coursework required for the major and for honors; and (6) completion in residence at the University of at least sixty semester hours of coursework counted toward the degree.