Goals for the English Major (what we want our students to know and be able to do by the time they finish the major):

Goal I. Discusses her own work productively with others, including faculty, classroom peers, and the larger intellectual community at Bryn Mawr and beyond.

Possible outcomes:

i. Performs incisive oral analysis.
ii. Demonstrates active and reflective listening.
iii. Incorporates feedback from peers and professors.

Goal II. Writes thoughtfully and persuasively about a topic of her choosing in literary, cultural, and/or media studies.

Possible outcomes:

i. Demonstrates appropriate use of secondary sources.
ii. Demonstrates an ability to generate and address a critical question and interpret textual evidence to support that question.
iii. Explains the significance of her interpretation in a relevant historical, cultural, or aesthetic context.

Goal III. Identifies, applies and critically engages with multiple strategies for studying, reading, and writing about literature and other media.

Possible outcomes:

i. Engages with literary criticism as a constellation of diverse practices.
ii. Demonstrates an awareness of the mutually imbricated nature of the social, political, cultural, contemplative, ethical, and aesthetic frameworks in which these practices occur.
iii. Self-consciously deploys critical methodologies in the service of putting forth an argument.
iv. Demonstrates familiarity with narratives of literary history.
v. Demonstrates an awareness of the constructedness of literary canons and the ways they can both enable literary study and restrict its scope.

Goal IV. Thinks critically, creatively, and independently about literary and media studies.

Possible outcomes:

i. Demonstrates intellectual risk-taking that commingles the critical and the creative.
ii. Engages with multiple arenas of production, from text to social text.
iii. Displays methodological flexibility and resourcefulness in engaging with primary texts and with established narratives of literary history and canon formation.

NOTE: Items in bold were the focus of assessment project.