English Major with Research Intensive English (RIE) Concentration Revised March 2017 - effective Academic Year 2017-2018.

submitted for approval at the end of the *first* semester of the year-long study. When the proposal is accepted, the student enrolls in ENGL 4990 through this faculty mentor and will work closely and regularly with the mentor over the course of the second semester to produce the project.

There are three options for RIE Senior Honors Projects:

- Critical Option: For the critical option, students are asked to craft a critically-informed yet distinctive scholarly essay of substantial length and/or or digital equivalent (25-30 pages). Demonstrating but also building on the reading, writing, discussion, and research skills cultivated over the duration of the student's participation in the RIE concentration, critical projects must display original scholarly research beyond the immediate primary texts under study and must engage with appropriate secondary works (represented in a substantial final bibliography). Ideally, this project should grow out of work begun in RIE seminars or other English courses the student has taken. The purpose of this project is to give students an opportunity to work in an independent environment and produce a polished, dynamic piece of critical writing that may be submitted for publication or serve as part of an application for graduate school.
- Creative Option: For the creative option, students undertake a creative project that comprises a work of fiction or poetry (15-25 pages) as well as a craft essay (10-15 pages) that may serve as a preface or afterword. Creative projects should assemble, extend, and revise the student's own creative work; they should demonstrate an advanced awareness of craft and technique, and they should implicitly reflect a historical understanding of the mode and genre in which the student is working. The craft essay should feature argumentative prose and its focus should be the creative work's critical context—that is, the literary, historical, thematic, and/or formal milieu from which the creative work draws and with which it is in conversation. Serving as a substantial research component, the craft essay must include citations plus a full bibliography citing a dozen or more

## RIE Concentration: Two Pathways to Completion

