Learning Goals for the PhD in English

Core Skills
1. Close reading of literary and nonliterary texts with attention to their formal features.
2. Ability to contextualize texts and arguments within (a) relevant literary histories and movements, (b) relevant world cultures, and/or (c) the social and political situations in which they were written or read.
3. Expertise in writing and research—including clear, convincing arguments, appropriate voice, and stylistic range.
4. Expertise in teaching.

Knowledge
5. Understanding of a range of literary texts and criticism across different racial, ethnic, cultural, geographical, historical, generic traditions in the English-speaking world.
5. Understanding of the history of the discipline of English and the development of major schools of criticism and theory.

Social Justice
6. An understanding of literature's relationship to questions of social justice.