

Writing Across the Curriculum Committee Minutes

April 12, 2021

3:00pm

Teams Videoconference

IN ATTENDANCE:

Facilitator: Lisa Ellison (Committee Chair)

Regular Members: Jeanette Avery, Danny Ellis, Ann Mannie, Jen-Scott Mobley, Clark Nall, Heather Ries

Ex-officio Members: Marina Alexander, Michelle Eble, Kristen Gregory, Tracy Morse, Wendy Sharer

Others in Attendance: Rachel Baker, Guest: Heather Vance-Chalcraft

I. Call to order

II. Approval of minutes from March 8, 2021

Motion to approve: Avery; 2nd Mobley. All approved.

III. New business

a. BIOL 3010 WI proposal (Chalcraft | Avery, Eble)

BIOL 3010 (Science Communication) was created when the BA Biology program was developed last Fall to provide BA students with good writing and communication skills. The plan is to teach this course as WI beginning this Fall as a requirement for the BA in Biology major. The purpose of the course is to teach science students how to construct ideas, support them with evidence, and present them in a variety of formats including informal writing, posters for conferences, and scientific papers. A component of the course is service learning, and students will be paired with community partners to create a written product such as an industry newsletter or lesson plans or activities for STEM students, with final writing products potentially used by the community organizations. Other writing assignments (annotated bibliography and scientific research paper) will use existing scientific data sets and primary sources to support a claim based on evidence. Semester coursework will be compiled into a final writing portfolio. Eble asked about Reflections which will be an aspect of assignments. Avery suggested selecting one specific assignment to target for upload into Portfolium for program assessment, and also recommended incorporating peer review into assignments. Mannie and others asked about the course cap of 30 students and suggested keeping the cap to 25 and adding sections if there is additional student interest. Sharer asked for confirmation that Engl 2201 is a prerequisite for the course.

Motion to approve WI designation pending suggested recommendations: Avery; 2nd Mannie. All approved.

IV. Ongoing business

a. 2201 co/pre-requisite update (Ellison)

Discussion on this topic is complete. Ellison will work to develop materials designed to encourage adding ENGL 2201 as a co/prerequisite for 3000 and prerequisite for 4000 level WI courses.

b. WI Transfer Guidelines Subcommittee Update (Banks, Eble, Ellis, Gregory) – Discussion on this topic will be continued next year.

V. Notifications of curricular changes

- a. removal of WI designation from MRCH 4883 - Merchandising.
- b. removal of WI designation from CLAS 2220 & CLAS 2230 - Classics.

VI. Announcements

- a. 2020-2021 Annual Report is due May 15th. VP Ellis will draft the report.
- b. Targeted units will be informed about 2021-2022 WI review (Allied Health, Business, Education, Nursing, Engineering & Technology) with the goal of completing review by December.
- c. Writing Foundations (Morse)
Fall enrollment for ENGL 2201 is good, with 50 more seats opened. ENGL 1100 will begin filling during registration by upcoming Freshmen, with potential need to open more seats and hire additional faculty.
- d. Honors College (Ellis)
The goal for HC enrollment is 200 students with ~180 enrolled to date. HC diversity is increasing.

VII. Any other business

Ellison offered thanks for service by members, acknowledging those rotating off the committee this year-end.

VIII. Meeting Adjourned at 3:35 pm.

Next meeting: August, 2021, TBA

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Mannie; April 12, 2021