IWAC 2016

Using Disciplinary Difference to Support WAC Faculty

Mary Lou Odom Kennesaw State University

modom3@kennesaw.edu

<u>FALL</u>

- one-day WAC workshop led by recognized WAC scholar
- 10 faculty "WAC Fellows" commit to developing/revising a course using WAC

<u>SPRING</u>

- Fellows teach WAC courses for the first time
- Fellows meet monthly as a group with WAC director

ASSESSMENT

- Fellows survey students in WAC classes
- Fellows write reflective reports

College of Humanities & Social Sciences

Writing Across the Curriculum

AT A GLANCE

CHSS WAC 2009-2015

BYTHE NUMBERS

70 faculty WAC Fellows

- 38 from Humanities
- 32 from Social Science

1659 students enrolled in WAC Fellows' initial [surveyed] WAC classes

75% of students indicate that writing

- helped them engage with course material
- helped them better learn course material

In contrast to humanities faculty, social science faculty tend to . . . 0 r

more readily identify ineffective current teaching practices

implement and assess WAC strategies in more measured ways

attempt more significant, transformative pedagogical changes

use strategies more identifiable as WAC than WID

write systematic and evidence-based rather than discursive reports

A social science approach can support WAC faculty by encouraging them to . . .

think in terms of an experiment or trial or testable thesis

consider their fields' threshold concepts

implement significant changes – selectively

use freewriting to engage with their WAC "experiment" throughout the semester