
Subject: RE: Writing Intensive Core Courses Plan
Date: Thursday, October 26, 2006 at 7:55:20 AM Mountain Daylight Time
From: Gregg Kvistad
To: Douglas Hesse, Bahman Ebrahimi
CC: Jennifer Karas

Thank you, Doug. This looks like a very good plan, and I am confident that the Core Curriculum Committee will move effectively and expeditiously to implement our Core writing curriculum. Thank you for your timeliness and attention.
Gregg

-----Original Message-----

From: Douglas Hesse
Sent: Wednesday, October 25, 2006 9:24 AM
To: Bahman Ebrahimi; Douglas Hesse
Cc: Jennifer Karas; Gregg Kvistad
Subject: Writing Intensive Core Courses Plan

Dear Bahman,

I've developed a plan for implementing the Writing Intensive Core Course requirement. I've attached it to this email but have also pasted the text in, below. As you'll see, I recommend that I meet with three members of the Core Curriculum Committee to develop the requirements. These should be faculty who have some interest in writing and who have been supportive of the Marsico initiative. As you can see, I've done much of the background work for this and will even bring a draft, so, I believe the work can proceed pretty smoothly and quickly. Let me know if this approach makes sense to you.

Thank you!

Doug

Plan for Creating Writing Intensive Core Courses

Doug Hesse, Director of Writing
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October 25, 2006

The University Writing Program adopted in 2005 requires that DU students complete at least one of their three Core Courses in a writing-intensive course, taught in small sections of 15 students. The campus added over 20 tenure-line positions in order to build capacity to support this initiative and the first-year seminars. Following are the steps I recommend to implement the requirement, along with dates and deadlines.

November-December 2006

Doug Hesse chairs a 3-member subcommittee of the Core Curriculum Committee whose charge it is to develop minimal requirements for a course to be labeled writing intensive. Hesse will bring a draft set of requirements to begin the process; this draft is based on a review of similar requirements at some 40 colleges and universities, many of them DU's comparison and aspirational schools.

January 2007

A call for writing intensive Core proposals goes out to the faculty. Doug Hesse will review the proposals and make recommendations for approval or revision to the Core Committee. The goal is to have several writing-intensive Core sections in place for the summer 2007 term and at least 20 sections for the 2007-08 academic year.

March 2007

- Writing Intensive courses are identified and faculty notified.
- Processes for designating WI in the course schedule and transcript are developed.
- Advisors are notified and descriptions of the requirement go into the Bulletin and any advising materials.

Spring 2007, June 2007, or August 2007

Faculty teaching Writing Intensive Courses participate in Seminar on Teaching Writing Intensive Courses, for which they are paid a stipend of \$1000. Participating in a seminar is a condition of teaching a Writing Intensive course. As part of the seminar, faculty will design writing assignments and activities for their courses as well as learn a little bit about current research and best practices in writing across the curriculum. Faculty will have a choice among three sequences: one held during the spring quarter will meet in four weekly sessions; the ones held in June and August will be held during four half-days.

Summer 2007

A few sections of Writing Intensive Courses are offered.

2007-2008 Academic Year

- At least 20 sections of Writing Intensive Courses are offered.
- 2008-09 Writing Intensive courses are identified, and faculty participate in Seminar on Teaching Writing Intensive Courses.

2008-2009 Academic Year

DU offers sufficient sections of writing intensive courses to meet student needs, probably at least 60.

Doug Hesse
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