

Report of the Undergraduate Curriculum Review Committee
to Faculty Senate, Deans and Departments
Spring, 2014

The Curriculum Review Committee (CRC) reviewed syllabi representing 70 sections of undergraduate courses that have been approved as Integrated Writing (IW) in the major. Syllabi were provided by Joe Law, Coordinator of the University Writing Across the Campus program.

Syllabi were reviewed for the following courses: APS 3040, ART 3120, ART 3130, ART 3150, ART 3160, ATH 4000, ATH 4600, BME 4920, CEG 3320, CLS 3500, CS 4000, DAN 4920, EC 3190, ECE 3000, ECE 4000, ED 4590, EDS 4400, EDS 4460, ENG 3050, ENG 3060, ENG 4200, ENG 4300, ENG 4430, ENG 4560, ENG 4820, ENG 4830, HST 3000, HST 4000, HST 4050, HST 4150, HST 4210, HST 4220, HST 4300, HST 4400, HST 4700, HST 4800, HST 4830, HST 4900, MKT 4900, MP 2310, OL 4940, OL 4949, OL 4950, PLS 4440, PSY 3010, PSY 3730, PSY 3930, PSY 4130, PSY 4420, PSY 4610, PSY 4740, PSY 4940, SOC 3410, SOC 4000, TH 3730, URS 4990.

Two CRC members each independently reviewed 14 assigned syllabi and completed a scoring rubric. This report summarizes our findings for the questions posed.

1. Does the syllabus identify the course as Integrated Writing? (We also accepted the old terminology of "Writing Intensive".)
53% yes; 47% no
2. Does the syllabus contain the 4 current learning outcomes for Integrated Writing?
44% yes; 56% no
3. Does the required writing total 5000 words?
61% yes; 10% no; 29% could not determine
4. Do students get feedback on their writing and an opportunity to re-write?
59% yes; 7% no; 34% could not determine
5. Does writing count sufficiently toward the final grade such that students cannot pass the course if they don't successfully complete the writing assignments?
79% writing counts for at least 35% of the grade
16% cannot determine if writing accounts for at least 35% of the grade
4% writing appears to be worth less than 35% of the grade
1% syllabus states that students must complete the writing to pass the course

The committee was pleased to see that 79% of these IW courses are appropriately integrating writing into the course grade. Under the old "writing intensive" (WI) program, a separate grade was given for the writing portion of the course. Committee recommendations:

- Have department/program chairs work with faculty to ensure that program requirements for Integrated Writing in the major are being met and that students are being given appropriate information in their course syllabi
- Post a syllabus template and examples of syllabi that clearly provide IW information on appropriate WSU websites – new faculty can be directed to these sites when writing syllabi
- Encourage faculty to review their syllabi and make sure information is complete and up-to-date