

MINUTES OF THE WRITING COMPETENCY SUBCOMMITTEE  
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO  
5200 N. Barton Ave., M/S ML 34  
Fresno, California 93740-8014  
Ext. 8-2743

February 11, 2016

Attending: V. Crisco (chair), D. Austin, M. Brady, A. Dinscore, D. Hart,  
J. Wahleithner

Ex-Officio: X. Fu

Visiting: M. Jendian, Chair, Department of Sociology

Missing: J. Chen, E. Hughes, T. Wein

The meeting was called to order at 12:30PM by chair Crisco in HML room 4164.

I. Minutes and Agenda Approved

II. Old Business

A. WAC/WID Proposal: the committee reviewed a proposal to be sent to the Provost for a WAC/WID program, as a response to needs expressed by students for more support for their writing development. The committee unanimously approved the proposal with only one chapter: to include a WAC budget for speakers, faculty learning communities, and the creation of an online toolkit, as examples.

III. New Business

A. Soc 130W course proposal: The committee reviewed the course proposal and provided several comments to the proposers:

1. Good: different types of writing and lots of reflection integrated
2. Good: specific instructions on how to write the rhetorical précis
3. Course goals don't reflect learning to write
4. Course calendar should reflect more emphasis on the teaching of writing.
5. Only one assignment has multiple drafts and there needs to be at least two assignments with multiple drafts
6. A concern was raised about when feedback is given: feedback should be given so that students can apply it to that assignment (not given at the end to justify a grade). Students get feedback on all of their assignments so the committee suggested one way to insure the use of feedback is to incorporate a reflection where students think about how to move forward using that feedback for the next assignment.

B. Soc 130SW course proposal: This course was very similar to the Soc 130W course, so many of the comments given to the other course apply to this one as well. The committee suggested:

7. Make *A Guide to Writing Sociology Papers* a required text for this course.
8. Course goals don't reflect learning to write
9. Course calendar should reflect more emphasis on the teaching of writing.
10. Only one assignment has multiple drafts and there needs to be at least two assignments with multiple drafts
11. How many assignments were multiple drafts? Just one
12. A concern was raised about when feedback is given: feedback should be given so that students can apply it to that assignment (not given at the end to justify a grade). Students get feedback on all of their assignments so the committee suggested one way to insure the use of feedback is to incorporate a reflection where students think about how to move forward using that feedback for the next assignment.

MSC to adjourn at 1:20PM

Next Meeting: March 7th, 2016 from 1-2 in HML 4164