

MINUTES OF THE WRITING COMPETENCY SUBCOMMITTEE
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO
5241 North Maple, M/S TA 43
Fresno, California 93740-8027

Office of the Academic Senate
Ext. 8-2743

September 1, 2017

Attending: V. Crisco (chair), M. Brady, J. Chen, D. Hart, E. Hughes, K. Machoian, R. Pun, J. Wahleithner

Visiting: T. McNamara

Ex-Officio: X. Fu

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 PM by chair Crisco in HML room 4164.

I. Agenda Approved, Minutes from 5/5 approved.

II. New Business

A. Writing Course Class Size

1. There have been some complaints about class sizes going over 25 in writing classes. Members acknowledged that there are some structural concerns that are being worked out at the department level.

B. BYU 315 Writing Course for Substitution

1. The committee reviewed the syllabus for this course. We found that there were several W course requirements from APM 216 that this course did not address: not clear if the word requirement is 5000 words, students have to resubmit their assignments for a fee, there is no process for receiving feedback, too many assignments. Additionally, we have online courses for students to take here at CSUF, and we should not be outsourcing W courses.

2. The committee unanimously approved taking away approval for BYU 315 course to meet W course requirements.

C. CM 122W Course Proposal

1. There was a concern about this course because there were a lot of problems with the course as a writing course. Dr. McNamara reported that this faculty member did not complete the W course process through the WAC program. The committee decided to let Chair Crisco contact the chair of this department to see if someone else could revise this course for approval.
2. The concerns the committee listed include: Only 2 out of 11 learning outcomes pertain to writing, none of the 10 ACCE student learning outcomes pertains to writing, the assignments are not clear, no assignment is more than 250 words, there is no rubric, there is no teaching of writing, there is no writing textbook, the course calendar is very vague, it is not clear what they do in workshops and there is only one, the catalogue description does not say enough about writing, it is not clear when feedback will be given, and there was not a lot of attention to genre and there was more attention to surface issues.

C. Lee 180W Course Proposal

1. The committee felt that this proposal was very strong. We only requested that the proposer add word count to the participation category. The committee approved this proposal with that minor change.

MSC to adjourn at 2:00 PM

Next Meeting: September 29, 2017, 1-2 in HAAK 4164