

Writing Instruction in the Disciplines (WID) Council Final Report for 2021-2022

Members: LaFountain (Chair), Peterman (Vice Chair), Gardner (Recording Secretary), Bean, Chamberlin, Gates, Gilchrist (ex-officio), Gruver, Mossman (ex-officio), Stinnett

The WID Council accomplished two main tasks this year:

1. Implemented a new biannual rotational review of all WID courses throughout the University. Since the structure of this review is new, the details of it are outlined below:

- CAS WID courses will be reviewed in the Fall semester in even years, CBT courses in the Spring semester in odd years, COFAC courses in the Fall semester in odd years, and COEHS courses in the Spring semester in even years. The CAS review was completed this Fall 2021, and the CBT review was completed this Spring 2022.
- For the College up for review in a given semester, the Undergraduate Catalog is examined to list all WID courses for Departments/Schools in that College. The WID Council then sends the Chair/Director of each Department/School an email requesting them to select one instructor for each WID course offered, with the condition that the instructor is teaching, or has taught, that course in the current or previous academic year.
- The WID Council then sends a Google Form survey link to each instructor. This survey asks the instructor to respond to questions that amount to a self-assessment of how well their course meets the benchmarks set forth in the WID Guidelines. The instructor is also asked to upload their course syllabus, noting that the syllabus should clearly demonstrate how their course is meeting the WID Guidelines.
- Each WID Council member then takes some number of survey responses and accompanying syllabi, and examines the syllabi to see if indeed they clearly demonstrate how the course is meeting the WID Guidelines. Each WID Council member may recommend revisions for these syllabi, and the WID Council meets to discuss/clarify these suggested revisions.
- The WID Council then emails the instructor of any course syllabus requiring revisions, and requests them, with about a month to complete the revisions. The instructors return these to the WID Council, who meet to approve the revisions, or if necessary request further clarification. In the CAS review in Fall 2021 and the CBT review in Spring 2022, all instructors completed the requested revisions, and so all revised syllabi were approved.

2. Approved WID Designation Requests for:

CSTM/ET 320, Professional Preparation and Business Communication
HS/NUTR 408, Community Nutrition and Health Program
PETE/EDUC 439, Secondary Physical Education Methods

The WID Council also sent reminder emails to Chairs/Directors of any Departments/Schools which had WID course sections with enrollments over 25 in either the Fall 2021 or Spring 2022 semesters. There were only five such sections for the entire academic year.

Submitted by Doug LaFountain