

English Session Notes

Disciplinary Segmental Leaders

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The morning session consisted of the English representatives reporting on what were their first-year English courses, descriptions and requirements (regarding the English Composition I and II areas). Some four-year representatives stated they need to look at the Community College English course descriptions before granting transfer credit. Also, granting credit could depend on what type of English major was being sought.

The discussion regarding transfer into the English (Literature) major ranged from the content of College Writing 1 and 2, placement testing and developmental writing across the system, and the selection of foundational courses for English majors.

At the end of the day, the following represents the general findings:

- College Writing 1 and 2 in the four-year institutions are focused on composition and research – preparing students to write in their specific disciplines; many of the community colleges' College Writing 2 or English Composition 2 focuses on literature. As a result, many of the community colleges will be reconsidering the College Writing 2 curriculum.
- The majority of the four-year institutions require College Writing 1 and 2 as prerequisites for literature electives. The majority of community colleges do not. However, to ensure that literature electives run, most community colleges stated that they do not plan to change the prerequisites.
- Many of the four year colleges believed that transfer students who have taken literature courses at the community college (such as World Literature and special topics courses) would be able to transfer two courses as 200-level literature electives. The remaining courses would likely be free electives.
- The five courses that will be considered foundational courses include the following:
 1. College Writing 1/English Composition 1
 2. College Writing 2/English Composition 2
 3. Literary Studies
 4. American Literature
 5. British Literature
- Because of the range of authors and works that could be taught in Literary Studies, American Literature and British Literature, the group decided that the consistency among courses should revolve around **course outcomes** rather than authors and works.
- Currently, Literary Studies is taught very differently across the four-year institutions. None of the community colleges offers Literary Studies. However, the curriculum of the current College Writing 2/English Composition 2 at some community colleges seems somewhat similar to Literary Studies. Community colleges will have to develop this course and offer it either as a required course in a Literature Concentration or a literature elective.
- American Literature is taught as either a one-semester or two-semester survey course at the four-year institutions. Community college students who take two semesters of American Literature and transfer to a four-year college that has a one-semester course will likely be given credit for one American Literature course and one 200-level literature elective.
- British Literature is taught as either a one-,two- or three-semester survey course at the four-year institutions. Community college students who take two semesters of British Literature and transfer to a four-year college that has a one-semester course will likely be given credit for one British Literature course and one 200-level literature elective. Not all community colleges currently offer British Literature and will have to develop this course.
- Colleges across the system offered to provide both syllabi and course outcomes to begin work needed to prepare for the Spring '16 meeting.
- Community College faculty are interested in convening to discuss developmental writing and reading programs.
- There were a few errors regarding literature course offerings in the chart provided.
- A discussion around courses included in Writing programs began, but the differences among institutions made gaining consensus difficult.