

Faculty Senate Curriculum Committee

APPROVAL FORM

Rev: 5/82

(R)

Proposal Title: General Education Requirements for English Majors

Sponsor(s): Dr. Edward L. Wolfe Dept.: English

Check one: Course Specialization Concentration Achievement Certificate
General Education Requirements Minor Change Major Program
(please name: deletion or credit/title/catalog change)

Certification Program Undergraduate Graduate Credit Hours

Step 1 (Department)
 Approved 11/14/83
date
 Not Approved
J. C. Huber
Dept. CC Chairperson
 Reviewed 11/14/83
date
Edward L. Wolfe
Chairperson, Dept.

Step 2 (Receipt)
SCC# 200701
Proposal Received 3/21/84
date
Shirley G. O'Day
Chairperson, SCC

Step 3 (Division CC)
Reviewed 4/5/84
date
 Approved
 Not Approved
Comments:
Shirley G. O'Day
Chairperson, Div. Curr. Comm.

Step 4 (Academic Dean)
Reviewed 4/27/84
date

Comments:
Shirley G. O'Day
Signature, Dean of Division

Step 5 (SCC)
Open Hearing Date: 4/27/84 Approved by Senate Curriculum Committee 5/11/84 (date)
 Returned to sponsor(s) for the following reasons:
pet in Ad-Hoc - Exception in Communication Area request.
Exception granted

Step 6 (Faculty Senate)
Presented to Faculty Senate (date): 5/11/84 Approved Not Approved
Notification to Vice-President Academic Affairs (date): 5/11/84
Shirley G. O'Day
Signature: SCC Chairperson

Step 7 (Vice-President for Academic Affairs)

C.B. DESIGN
Course received 5/15/84 (date)

C.B. DESIGN
Course approved Yes No

If no, reasons are as follows:

Student credit hours NA

Faculty load hours NA

Equalized credit hours NA

Official copy and approval sheet filed _____ (date)

Signature _____
(Vice-President for Academic Affairs)

Registrar

Approved course description received _____ (date)

Hegis Taxonomy and Course Number assigned _____

Signature _____
(Registrar) _____ (Date)

Notification forwarded: Senate Curriculum Committee Chairperson, Department Chairperson(s),
Academic Dean(s), Registrar, Sponsor(s)



State of New Jersey
GLASSBORO STATE COLLEGE
GLASSBORO, NEW JERSEY 08028

DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY / ANTHROPOLOGY

May 9, 1984

Report of the Ad Hoc Committee to the Curriculum Committee

The ad hoc committee recommends that a waiver be granted to the English Department in the case of its proposed major because of the nature of that major. Since written communication is essentially the nature of the major itself, the ad hoc committee feels that taking Communications 101 and/or 102, in addition to Expository Writing, would be redundant. It would be possible, under the proposal, for English majors to count one departmental course, Expository Writing, as part of the general education requirement.

A second alternative to be considered might be the substitution of three extra, undesignated credits from the other general education banks, should the committee feel that this proposed waiver violates accepted past principles.



State of New Jersey
 GLASSBORO STATE COLLEGE
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DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

May 8, 1984

*Shelley
 Peter W. M...
 Z*

Professors Chester Zimolzak
 and Lois Winand, Sub-Committee
 Senate Curriculum Committee
 Glassboro State College

Dear Chet and Lois:

I wish to explain in a more permanent way why the English Department has requested that Expository Writing be approved as a required course for English majors. It will be used to satisfy three semester hours of the required six semester hours in "Communications (Written and Spoken)" in the new General Education Program.

Although I still believe that our request does not violate the intention of our General Education regulations, I can understand the concern of the Senate Curriculum Committee. Reasonable regulations are hard to construct and even harder to administer. Surely, Garrett Hardin was right when he observed, "You can never do one thing." Perhaps no fixed system, no matter how well intentioned or how well constructed, can comfortably accommodate untidy, intricate reality. I have vigorously defended the new General Education Program and those supporting guidelines that enhance distribution and inhibit over-specialization. Yet I must confess that I always assumed the guidelines that preclude a student from taking a course in his own discipline for general education credit would not be applied in the Communications Area. I assumed this not merely because of the limited number of courses available in this area, but because of the distinctive nature of the area, and the particular importance that is correctly placed upon it. Moreover, as became apparent in our discussion last Thursday, all of us find ourselves on the horns of a dilemma, and some kind of waiver or accommodation must be improvised to resolve it.

As we all recognize, the Communications Area, unlike the other areas of General Education, is deliberately and severely limited by course, discipline and department, as well as by programmatic objective. The Science and Mathematic area is rather broadly "designed to provide understanding of and the ability to apply the scientific method and basic scientific and mathematic concepts." There are now 24 courses in this area, representing, apparently, eleven disciplines and offered by six departments. Therefore, a mathematics major, for example, has a choice of some 17 courses, in ten disciplines and five departments to satisfy his Science and Mathematics requirements for General Education. The Social and Behavioral Sciences Area is, not surprisingly,

Approved to Humanities, Soc. Sci., etc. with much and choice of 17 courses

more broadly concerned and includes more courses, more disciplines, and more departments. The History, Humanities and Language Area is larger still. Even the Arts Area includes 22 courses, representing, apparently eight disciplines, and offered by five departments.

Only in the Communications Area do we require students to take work in the two components identified "written/spoken." Only in this area do we have only two disciplines, writing (1501) and speech (1506), only six courses, and offered by only three departments. This area is clearly and deliberately the most restricted area of study in the General Education Program and it is so restricted because of the distinctive nature of the programmatic objective of "Communication (Written/Spoken)."

If we can divide all discourse into form and content, at least for analysis, then we could say that courses in the Communications Area, which are "designed to promote mastery in the use of the English language--written and spoken," are primarily and distinctively concerned with "use" or with form rather than content or matter. Although we must write and speak about something, the courses in the Communications Area concentrate on the writing and the speaking, not on the something. Almost all the other areas of General Education concentrate on content: on calculus, or biology, on history or literature, on music or art, and not on the forms and organizing devices for writing and speaking about such things.


The main content of English, as an academic discipline, is the English language (1505) and the literature (1502) written in or translated into the English language. But English teachers and English majors are expected to be especially competent writers, and more time, therefore, must be devoted to studying the forms and devices of discourse than in most other disciplines. It seems only reasonable, therefore, that English majors, like all other majors, be required to take a course in writing.

If, however, courses are properly designated by correct HEGIS numbers, all writing courses must carry 1500 numbers. This, then is our dilemma. Expository Writing was conceived as a course for a class of students with a somewhat greater sensitivity toward language, somewhat greater interest in language, somewhat greater verbal facility, and a greater desire to write effectively than are supposed to be common among students generally. It is a course that is clearly beneficial for most English majors and other students who share their heightened interest in language and writing. If they will continue to be required to take a writing course, and I strongly believe they should be, then Expository Writing is the most appropriate course.

The guideline that requires all students to take a writing course directly conflicts with the guideline that precludes students from taking a course in his own discipline for General Education credit only if you broadly interpret our discipline as letters (1500). If you interpret our discipline as language (1505) and literature (1502), then English majors can take Expository Writing (1501) in an allied discipline. This, I believe, is the justification for permitting geography majors (2205) to take, say, political science courses (2207) for general education credit, or for permitting physics majors (1902) to take chemistry courses (1905) for general education credit.

I certainly hope that some fair accommodation can be worked out.

Sincerely,


Edward L. Wolfe
Chairman



State of New Jersey

GLASSBORO STATE COLLEGE
GLASSBORO, NEW JERSEY 08028

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

March 15, 1984

Dr. Shirley O'Day
Chairperson, Senate Curriculum Committee
Glassboro State College
Glassboro, New Jersey

Dear Shirley:

I write to request that the Senate Curriculum Committee approve the English Department's inclusion of Expository Writing as a required course for English majors as part of their "Communications (Written/Spoken)" General Education requirement.

Although this may seem a violation of the intention of the General Education guidelines, I do not believe it is. Students are generally prohibited from taking courses in their major department for General Education credit in order to enhance distribution (work in many disciplines) and to inhibit over-specialization.

Only three courses in writing are presently approved to fulfill the General Education requirement in "Communications (Written/Spoken)." Two of these courses are offered by the Communications Department and one is offered by the English Department. I understand that the Communications Department has requested an exception which will allow its majors to use Communications 101 and 102 as designated requirements in General Education, and the English Department requests a similar exception which will allow its majors to use Expository Writing as a designated requirement in General Education.

I would call to your attention that many colleges (Rutgers, University of Pennsylvania, et al) that have distribution requirements to prevent over specialization do exclude freshman composition courses or similar writing courses from being counted as English major courses.

Sincerely,

Edward L. Wolfe
Chairman

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH
CURRICULAR CHANGE
GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS FOR ENGLISH MAJORS

I. Details

A. Changes in pattern from the previous General Education Requirements to the present General Education Requirements.

B. The changes were approved by the department November 14, 1983.

II. Rationale

A. To comply with changes in the General Education requirements of the college.

B. To use the opportunities provided by the new General Education model to enrich our major.

III. Changes from Old Pattern

"Banks."	Old Pattern	S.H.
Competencies	Intermediate Algebra	3
	Expository Writing	3
	Health & Physical Education	3
Fine Arts	<u>Any two courses*</u>	6
Behavioral Sciences	<u>Any two courses*</u>	6
Language and Communications	<u>Any two courses*</u>	6
Mathematics and Science	<u>Any two courses*</u>	6
Humanities	<u>Any two courses*</u>	6
Electives	<u>Any three courses*</u>	9
Total		48

*Approved for General Education in this bank

IV. Changes to New Pattern

"Banks"	New Pattern	S.H.
Communications (Written/Spoken)	Expository Writing	3
	<u>Any other course*</u>	3
Science and Mathematics	<u>Any four ^{approved Gen Ed.} courses*</u>	12

Social and Behavioral Sciences	Any six courses* _____ _____ _____ _____	18
History, Humanities and Languages	Western Civilization to 1660	3
	Western Civilization Since 1660	3
	Any other four courses*	12
	_____ _____ _____	
Arts	Art History Survey I or II	
	General Music History or Music Appreciation	3
	Any other course*	3

Total		60

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