Literature Syllabi Revision

Meeting Minutes- 09/23/13

In Attendance: Prof. Marty Ambrose, Dr. Thomas Wayne, and Dr. Scott Ortolano

**Meeting Agenda:** Develop a strategy for revising and updating literature syllabi so that they are in accordance with state standards and provide the highest possible educational experience to students.

**Syllabi Being Revised:** AML 2010, AML 2020, ENL 2012, ENL 2022, LIT 2090, LIT 2110, and LIT 2120

* Ensuring Courses comply with State Course Numbering System
  + Professor Ambrose provided copies of current literature syllabi as well as course outlines from the Florida Department of Education’s Statewide Course Numbering System (and delicious coffee).
    - Comparing the state standards to our current courses, the committee decided that our course descriptions and general course information needed to be updated across the board.
      * Out of the current courses, the course information for ENL 2012 and ENL 2022 were seen as the most effective, and the committee agreed to use these as models when revising the other syllabi.
      * The committee also agreed to look at similar courses at other state colleges for guidance when making these changes
        + Prof. Ambrose suggested St. Petersburg College and Valencia Community College.
* The committee noted that the course prerequisites needed to specify that students have received a C or better in ENC 1101. This specification is absent on some syllabi.
* The committee began to compile a list of general objectives for literature courses to be finalized at the following meeting. These guidelines will serve as a means of guiding our revisions.
* The committee agreed to evaluate Learning Outcomes, Assessments, and General Education Competencies for all syllabi.
  + The committee will use Edison State College’s rubrics for the competencies to determine whether or not to add or strike a competency from portions of this section as well as to determine changes to assessment criteria.
  + The committee has generally agreed to strike the learning outcome related to ensuring that “students will demonstrate the ability to manipulate or interpret numeric information” from literature syllabi. This decision will be reevaluated at the following meeting.
* The committee concluded the meeting by discussing possible ways of increasing student interest in literature courses.
  + Suggestions ranged from adding or reinstating a Gordon Rule requirement for the courses, to seeking advice from the Humanities Department about how to have specific courses fulfill more of the general education requirements, to creating more hybrid and online courses.
    - Prof. Ambrose pointed out that the hybrid and online courses made at a higher rate and this would be an effective means of increasing enrollment in a low-risk/high-reward capacity.
      * The committee agreed that this would be the easiest path to follow and will recommend that the courses, particularly Contemporary Literature, be offered online when possible.
        + The committee agrees that this recommendation will be made to increase the general life of the department and not to displace ground courses.
        + To make sure all of the courses can be offered online, the committee has agreed that literature syllabi cannot impose requirements that might inhibit someone from teaching a course online.
* Having established these general guidelines, the committee divided the syllabi for revision in the following way:
  + Prof. Marty Ambrose- ENL 2012 and ENL 2022
  + Dr. Thomas Wayne- LIT 2110 and LIT 2120
  + Dr. Scott Ortolano- AML 2010, AML 2020, and LIT 2090
* The committee members will revise the syllabi assigned to them and meet to discuss their revisions on Friday, October 11th at noon.

Notes prepared by Dr. Scott Ortolano