

Meeting of the University Writing Committee—Minutes

April 17, 2015

1:00-2:15pm

Members in Attendance: Kristin Bock, Alice Cheung, Kate Freedman, Herman Fong, Judy Goodenough, Travis Grandy (Minutes), Christiane Healey, Haivan Hoang, Dani Kodess, Deb McCutchen, Evan Ross, Michelle Trim

Called to order at 1:05pm

- I. **Review of the Minutes from March 13, 2015**
Approved with amendment
- II. **New Course Proposals**
 - a. **Sociology 392D The Social Demography of Sexuality: Sex, Lies & Statistics, JYW**
- III. **JYWP QQ Reviews**
 - a. [#1713 - Math 370 - Writing in Mathematics](#)
 - i. Discussion: Some questions about its status as a gen ed, overall a thorough class. There was a statement on the syllabus that was a bit unclear about which requirement that the class fulfills. It's quite clear that they give instructive feedback and foster writing in the discipline. We can focus on outreach for additional clarity. The committee discussed how to be consistent when asking departments for more information about page numbers and rationale.
 - ii. Decision: **Approval contingent** on asking for specific page count and rationale if it's below the minimum. Approved without objection.
 - b. [#1692 - Italian 303 - Writing on Language](#)
 - i. Discussion: Reviewers summarized their impressions of the proposal. It was unclear about the weighting of assignments, and unclear about drafts/feedback/and revision. The JYW Coordinator is trying to arrange a meeting with this department. The committee suggested supplying example syllabi and to put the professor in contact with CTFD.
 - ii. Decision: **Send back for revision** and the UWC will focus on Outreach. Clarity for grade weight, pre-reqs, and more information on peer feedback and revision.
 - c. [#1765 - Sociol 301 - Writing in Sociology](#)
 - i. Discussion: Currently Sociology offers upper level courses that they designate as JYW, but we asked them to specify which course numbers will be permanent. They've agreed to designate 301 will be offered and each section will be focused on different themes. The syllabi submitted were from different courses. Haivan forwarded questions from reviewers and the department responded with more information. The department also sent us a syllabus for 392D which is currently being taught right now, and it will be offered as a 301 section in the future. We also have a copy of the syllabus template for 301 which will be used for all future sections. The committee discussed parts of the syllabus, and course goals.
 - ii. Decision:
392D Approved for Spring 2015 approved without objection.
301 approved without objection.
 - d. [#1875 - History 594J \(History 450\) - Junior Year Writing](#)
 - i. Discussion: The course has a template with basic expectations and a lot of writing. Reviewers were unclear about the nature of the assignments and peer review. The second reviewer said that only one of the classes in the proposal mentioned peer review. The proposal does say that yes there is peer review, but the syllabus does not reflect this. The answers to the proposal were clear but there is a wide variety of versions of the course. The departmental document does not speak to all the

requirements including peer review and the CW requirement. The Faculty Senate has not yet

- ii. Decision: **Approved contingent** on department revising guidelines to include peer review, revision, guidebook, and teacher feedback.
- e. [#1876 - Theatre 397T - Contemporary Repertory: Women](#)
 - i. Discussion: Reviewers enthusiastically approved.
 - ii. Decision: **Approved without objection.**
- f. [#1853 - Linguist 391A - Writing for Linguistics](#)
 - i. Discussion: Reviewers would be curious to hear more about drafting and peer critique but overall the class seems to get at the methods and writing in the discipline.
 - ii. Decision: **Approved without objection.** The course needs a new course number.

Next meeting will be on 5/15 in Bartlett 316.