

Motion presented to Faculty Senate 5/06/14
Revisions to the Guidelines and Learning Outcomes for the Gen Ed C requirement

Rationale

The UUCC wants to codify policy changes discussed by the UUCC in reaction to proposals for C designation. These changes emphasize the process of revision, require at least 20 pages of original writing, and clearly state that some forms of writing, such as discussion board posts, cannot count toward the 20 pages.

Revised Guidelines for Gen Ed C requirement

- C courses require at least 20 pages of expository writing.
- The course must include a longer paper of at least 7 pages or at least two papers of at least 5 pages.
- For these longer papers, a process of revision with instructor feedback (not just peer feedback) is mandatory. One paper of at least 5 pages must undergo a substantial revision process.
- At least 50% of the course grade must be based on writing.
- C courses should be limited to 25 students per class when taught without teaching assistants. Larger courses may be designated as C courses so long as they divide into regularly scheduled discussion sections in which composition and/or oral communication is emphasized. In such courses teaching assistants assigned to lead multiple discussion sections should be responsible for no more than 50 students in all.

Notes:

- *Discussion board posts, blog posts, lab notebooks, or journals, while encouraged as forms of writing, do not count toward the 20 pages.*
- *Revised pages don't count: if students write a 5-page draft and a 7-page final paper, only the 7 pages count toward the 20. If students rework a short paper into a longer paper, only the longer paper counts toward the 20 pages.*
- *The C requirement focuses on expository writing, not fiction, poetry, plays, etc.*
- *Team or group papers cannot fulfill the requirement for the C unless the instructor demonstrates that each student completes the requirements for the C and that each student's contribution is individually evaluated.*

Revised Learning Outcomes

Existing learning outcomes:

Students in C courses will demonstrate

- The ability to write effectively and coherently, in ways appropriate to the discipline and the level of the course.
- The ability to revise and improve their writing in both form and content.

Revised learning outcomes:

Students in C courses will

- Demonstrate understanding of course content through formal academic writing;
- Construct effective prose that demonstrates critical thinking and advances sound conclusions, appropriate to the course and discipline; and
- Demonstrate the ability to revise and improve their writing in both form and content.