

Yumi Janairo Roth

k. nelson

Mapping Waves, Bridging Shifts: Disciplinary Faculty Take on Whole Curricula

IWAC June 13, 2014

Pamela Flash | WAC

Julia Robinson | Architecture

Leslie Schiff | College of Biological Sciences

Lisa Miller Industrial & Systems Engineering,

University of Minnesota, Twin Cities

2006: we need to evolve our approach to WAC...

- Prolonged perception of writing and content as discrete instructional areas
- Course-based vs. curriculum-based integration of writing/writing instruction
- Amplified questions about central administration's fiscal support for writing instruction
- Uneven compliance with WI requirements / course recertification waylaid
- Disappointment in student writing

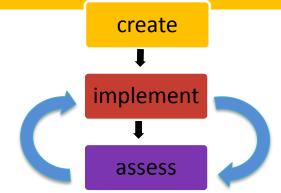


WRITING-ENRICHED CURRICULUM

2006 Question: How can we ensure an intentional and sustainable infusion of relevant writing instruction into diverse undergraduate curricula?

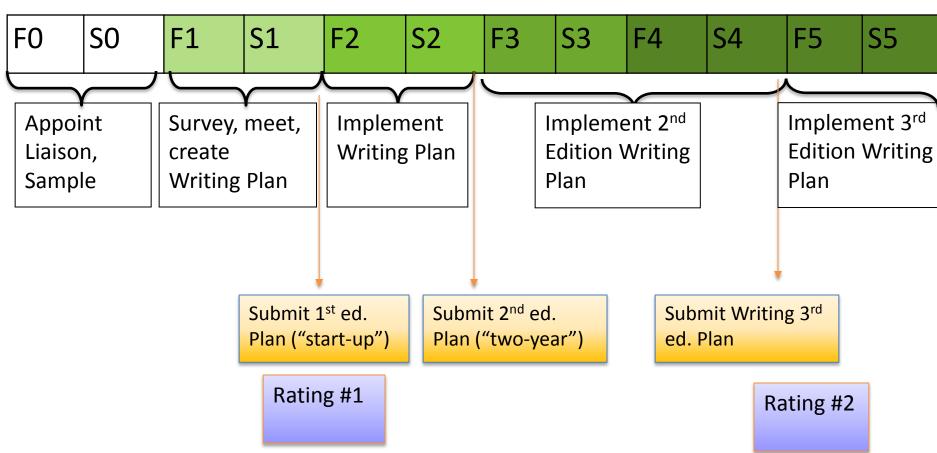
Answer: By putting change in the hands of unit faculty. By engaging faculty in a process of unearthing, interrogating, implementing, and assessing discipline-specific writing values, practices and expectations

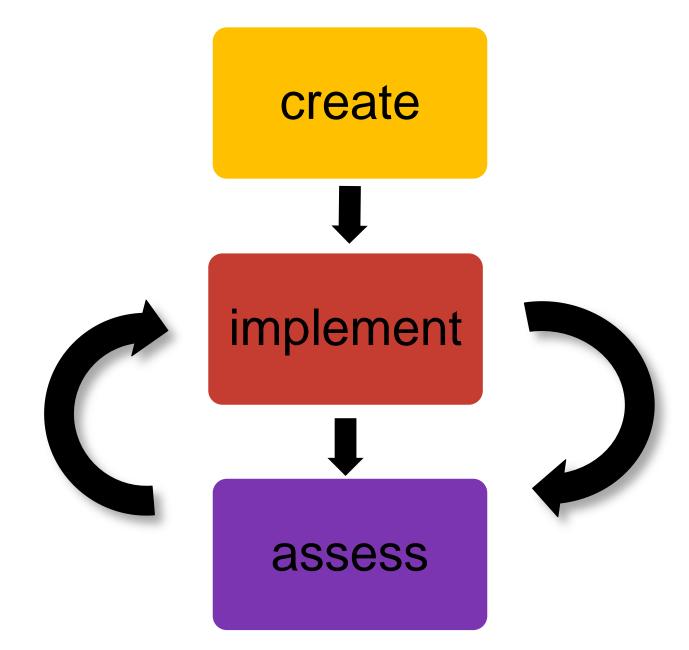
UNDERGRADUATE WRITING PLANS



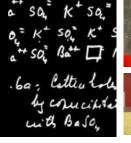








Create Writing Plan









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Meeting #1

SECTION II: WRITING ABILITIES?

Analyzing or evaluating ideas, both, events

Using surting to develop and deepend thinking

Reporting complex data or findings.

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SECTION III: CURRICULAR SEQUENCING?

Meeting #2



SECTION IV: ASSESSMENT?

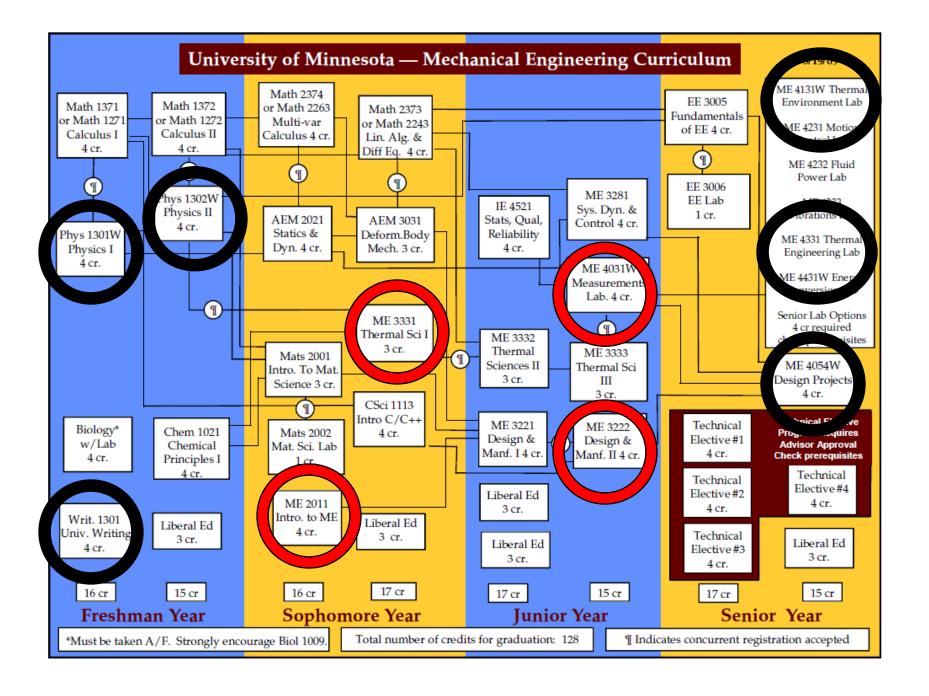
Meeting #3



SECTION V: SUPPORT?

Meeting #4

SECTION VI: PROCESS?



Art History

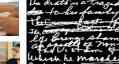


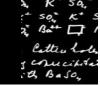


















WRIT1201, 1301, 1401: First-Year Writing

ArtH1001: Introduction to Art History

ArtH1002W: Why Art Matters

OR

ArtH1004W: Introduction to Asian Art

OR

ARTH1921W: Introduction to Film Study

ArtH3205: Intro to Aztec, Maya, and Inka Art ArtH3208: Mexico on My Mind

ArtH3014W: Art of India

ArtH3015: Art of Islam ArtH3017: Islamic Culture

ArtH3401: Art Now

ArtH3434: Art & the Environment ArtH3464: Art Since 1945

ArtH3152: Art & Archaeology of Ancient Greece

ArtH3162: Roman Art & Archaeology

ArtH3172: Greek and Roman Art & Archaeology

ArtH3182: Art & Archaeology of Ancient Egypt & Western Asia

ArtH3302: Print Culture in Early Modern Europe

ArtH3315: Age of Curiosity: Art & Knowledge in Europe, 1500-1800

ArtH3013: Introduction to East Asian Art ArtH3020W: Buddhist Art & Culture

ArtH3005: American Art

ArtH3577: Photo Nation: Photography in America

ArtH3311: Baroque Art in 17th Century Europe ArtH3312: 18th Century: Rococo to Revolution

ArtH3335: Baroque Rome

ArtH3655: African-American Cinema

ArtH3921W: Art of the Film

ArtH3012: 19th and 20th Century Art

ArtH3484: Art of Picasso & the Modern Movement

ArtH3422: Off the Wall: History of Graphic Arts in Europe & America

ArtH3494: East/West, West/East

ArtH5325: Art of the Aztec Empire

ArtH5801: Spoken Word & Painted Texts in the Americas

ArtH5802: Art of the Inka and their Ancestors

ArtH5775: Formation of Indian Art: 2500 BCE to 300 CE ArtH5776: Redefining Tradition: Indian Art, 400 to 1300 ArtH5777: Diversity of Traditions: Indian Art, 1200 to Present

ArtH5781: Age of Empire: Mughals, Safavids, and Ottomans

ArtH5785: Art of Islamic Iran

ArtH5411: Gender & Sexuality in Art Since 1863

ArtH5413: Alternative Media: Video, Performance, Digital Art

ArtH5417: Twentieth Century Theory & Criticism

ArtH5466: Contemporary Art

ArtH5113: Heritage After Iraq & Afghanistan

ArtH5115: Hellenistic & Iranian Asia

ArtH5192: Persia & the Ancient Iranian World

ArtH5786: Theorizing City & Space in the Mediterranean & W. Asia

ArtH5787: Visual Cultures in Contact... Ancient & Medieval Worlds

ArtH5301: Visual Culture of the Atlantic World ArtH5302: Print Culture in Early Modern Europe

ArtH5765: Early Chinese Art ArtH5766: Chinese Painting

ArtH5565: American Art in the Gilded Age

ArtH5575: Boom to Bust: American Art 1920s-1930s

ArtH5577: Art of the Harlem Renaissance

ArtH5335: Baroque Rome

ArtH5655: African American Cinema

ArtH5422: Off the Wall: History of Graphic Arts in Europe & America

ArtH5454: Design Reform in the Era of Art Nouveau

ArtH5484: Art of Picasso & the Modern Movement

ArtH5422: Off the Wall: History of Graphic Arts in Europe & America

ArtH5494: East/ West, West/ East

ARTH 3971W Major Project

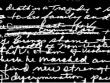
Computer Science









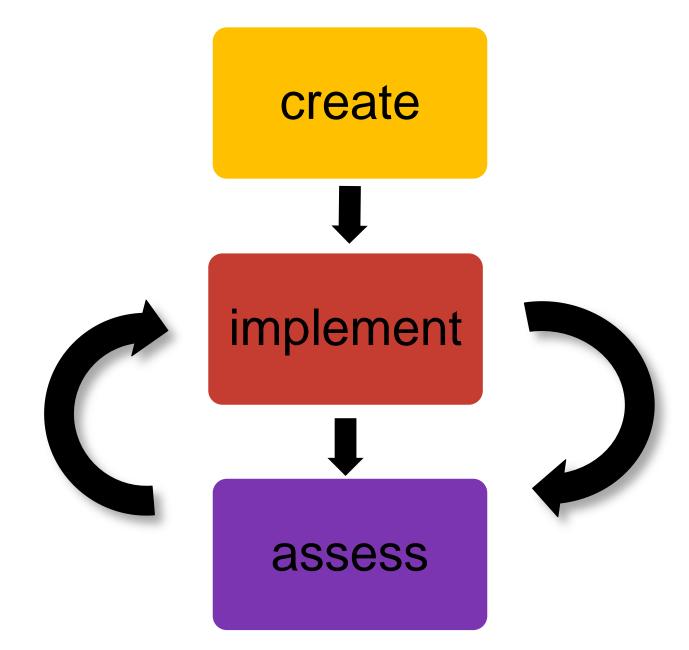


List of expected writing abilities

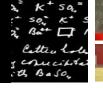


Courses (1K-4K)

							,						
Number	Ability	1901	1902	2011	20 ′ 3	3003	3081W	3081	40 1	4061	4061	4211	4211
1	Describe software or system processes accurately, clearly and illustratively, using appropriate structures.	n	n			n	а	i	n	n		i	i
2	Provide low-level code explanations such as comments accurately, concisely, and informatively.	n	i				а	а	n	i	i	i	i
3	Describe algorithm s accurately and concisely, with appropriate structure, and appropriate balance between high-level characteristics and low-level details.	n	n			n	а	n	n		i,a	i	i
4	Write for specific audiences with appropriate tone, level of explanation, and accessibility.	n	n				i	i	n		i,a	n	n
5	Use appropriate structures (e.g., lists, visuals cite appropriately, and integrate into the text.	n	n	n			i	i	i	n		i	n
6	Justify choices of design, algorithms, etc. persuasively, clearly explaining the reasons for the choice, any important alternatives, tradeoffs, etc.	n	n			n	i	n	i	n		i	n
7	Compare and contrast alternative solutions clearly, accurately, and insightfully, with appropriate level of detail and appropriate structure, diagrams, etc.	n				n	i	i	n			i	n
8	Present high-level (theoretical or technical) analysis clearly, accurately, insightfully, providing a high-level summary that focuses on the most important aspects of the problem or system.		n		n		i	i	n		i, a	i	n
9	Present low-level analysis or proofs rigorously, precisely, and accurate, with appropriate structure, flow of ideas, and careful attention to details.			i	n		a	i	n			i	
10	Document/clearly articulate content accurately and concisely with an appropriate balance between high-level and low-level ideas, and appropriate structures.	n				n	i	i	n		i	i	n
11	Authentically reflect individuality though writing that shows the writer's unique background, perspective, etc.						i	n	n		i, a	i	



Ecology, Evolution, & Behavior







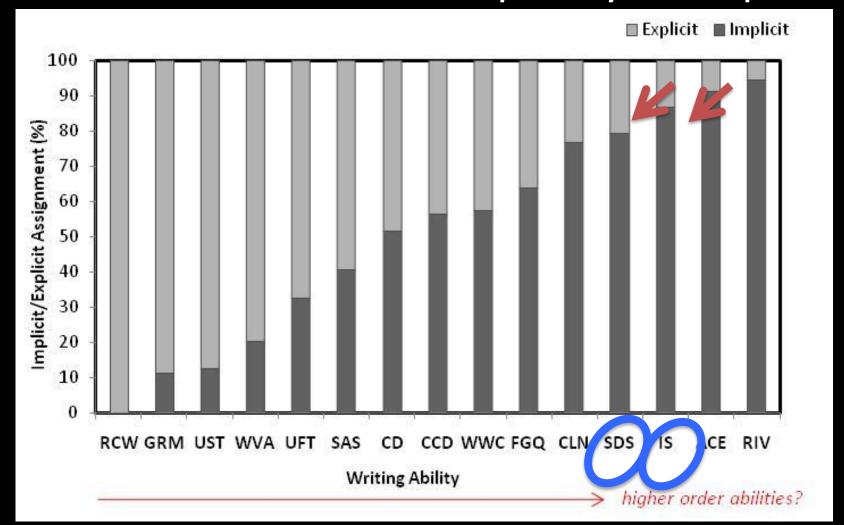




Writing assignments by course level

Assignment Genres		3000 LEVEL									4000 LEVEL							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	%	1	2	3	4	5	6	%			
Worksheet/Problem Set	X			X	X			43%	X	X	X		X	X	83%			
Informal Paper, 1-3 pg	X	X	X	X	X	Х	X	100%		Х			X		33%			
Formal Paper, 1-3 pg	Х	X			X			43%				X			17%			
Formal Paper 4-10 pg		X	X	X		X		57%		X			Х	Х	50%			
Individual Presentation	Х	X						29%							0%			
Group Presentation	Х		X				Х	43%				X		Х	33%			
Peer Review						X	Х	29%					Х	Х	33%			
Critical Reading ?s								0%	X			X	X		50%			

Abilities communicated implicitly vs. explicitly



SDS= synthesizing disparate sources

IS=interrogating sources

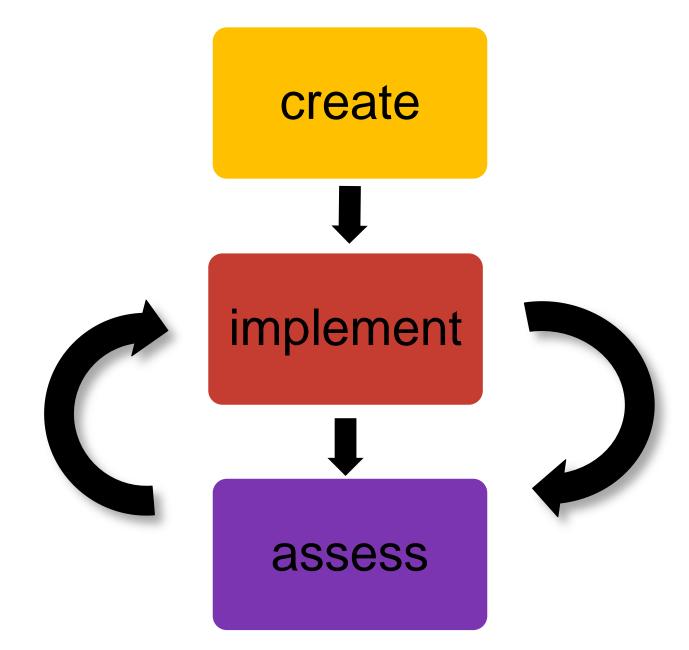
RCW = results centered writing GRM = grammatically accurate writing ACE = analyze for cause and effect RIV = recognize the importance of variability

Interrogating Sources

- In-class activity on how to read a scientific paper
- Take home assignment + discussion critically reading a paper
- Multiple suggestions on discussions of papers for a range of students and goals

Synthesizing Sources

- Finding relevant literature
- Keeping track of key sources and conclusions
- Constructing an argument using multiple sources
- Synthesis workshop



A humanities department

Rating upper-division writing of graduating majors

August 2012

#	Criteria	2010 N=7	2012 N=9	2012 raters only	2012 writing specialist only
1	Demonstrates an understanding of the importance of historical context.	0.67	0.81	0.74	1.00
2	Explains the context of historical events through the use of primary sources.*	0.68	0.64	0.63	0.63
3	Demonstrates an awareness of the particular nature, value, limitations, and incompleteness of historical sources.	0.29	0.53	0.59	0.38
4	Formulates and expresses viable historical research questions and hypotheses.	0.71	0.58	0.59	0.50
5	Engages in critical analysis of interpretive problems.	0.38	0.47	0.44	0.63
	Engages in persuasive analysis of interpretive problems	.65	x	x	x
6	Makes a persuasive and logically organized argument that is supported by the evidence.	0.67	0.55	0.48	0.71
7	Articulates this argument in a thesis statement.	0.70	0.63	0.54	0.88
8	Explains the broader significance of the topic.	0.57	0.49	0.58	0.25
9	Identifies and summarizes some of the main arguments, evidence, and historiographical context of a scholarly work related to the question.	0.33	0.47	0.52	0.25
10	Communicates ideas in compelling and accessible prose.	0.80	0.75	0.74	0.75
11	Cites evidence accurately to support argument.	0.57	0.56	0.52	0.75
12	Uses a consistent citation style.	0.90	0.83	0.81	0.88
13	Writing is grammatically and mechanically correct.	x	0.75	0.74	0.75

After discussing rating results, faculty chose to restructure capstone project course sequence.

Based on these findings, the Undergraduate Studies Committee was charged with developing a strategy to improve the efficacy of the capstone project. The eventual outcome was a proposal to replace the 3959 – 4961 sequence with a new single-semester capstone course, the 4010 W Research Seminar (see Appendix III). Rather than the "open format" of the previous Major Paper, 4010 seminars are envisioned as small (20 students max), faculty-led "closed content" seminars, in which students are introduced to advanced research practices within the context of a theme chosen by the faculty instructor and drawn from her/his area of expertise. While each student in these courses will still be expected to develop an original research project based on her/his own interests, and to produce an original research paper of 20-30 pages at the conclusion of the semester, it is hoped that this "closed" format will help address some of the shortcomings of the 3959 – 4961 sequence.

Intentionally-sequenced infusions of discipline-relevant writing instruction are unlikely to occur automatically in undergraduate curricula

but...

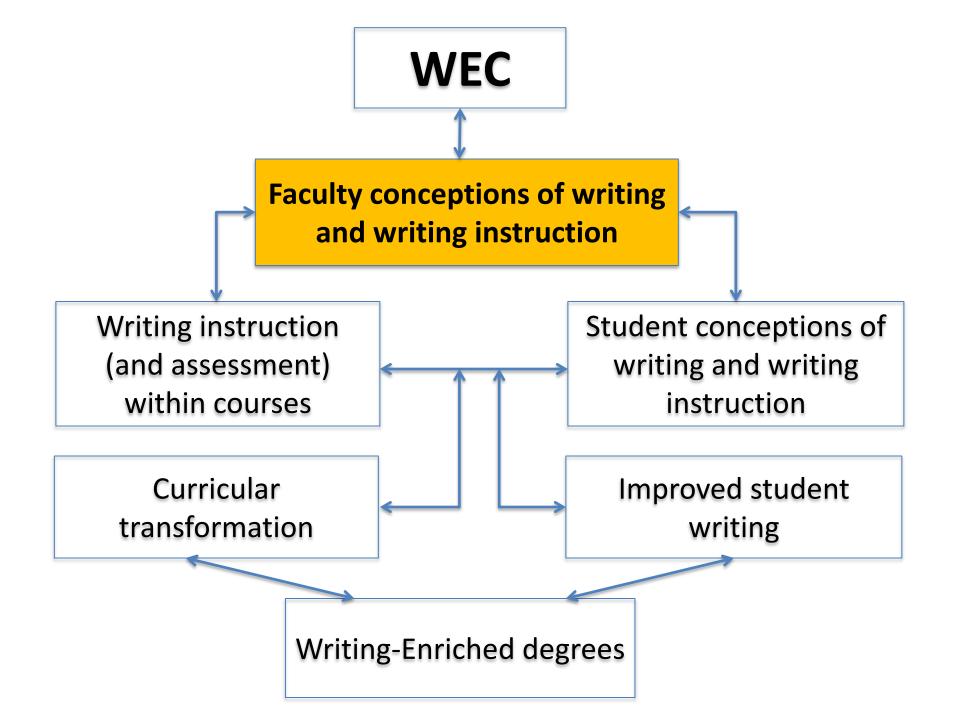
Engaging departmental faculty groups in data-driven discussions of writing-related assumptions and curriculum-wide writing instruction can...

--reduce burden on individual courses

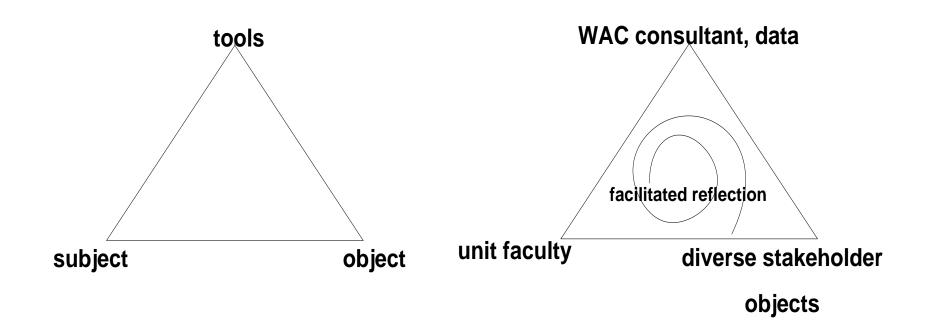
--increase attention to curricular implications of writing instruction

...which can increase students' ability to transfer relevant understanding between courses...

while at the same time increasing faculty willingness to "own" relevant writing instruction



WEC's spin on Activity Theory



Activity Theory: Vygotsky/Engeström

WEC adaptation

WEC in Architecture

For Session:

Mapping Waves, Bridging Shifts: Disciplinary Faculty Take on Whole Curricula

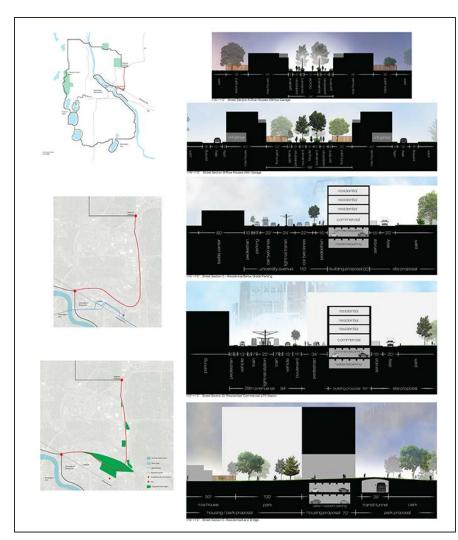
Shifting Currents, Making Waves- 12th International Writing Across the Curriculum Conference,
June 12-14, 2014, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis

Julia W Robinson, WEC Liaison, Professor, School of Architecture

What is Writing in Architecture?

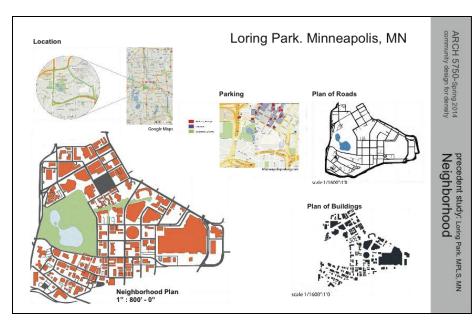
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CONCEPT BOARD FOR DESIGN PROJECT



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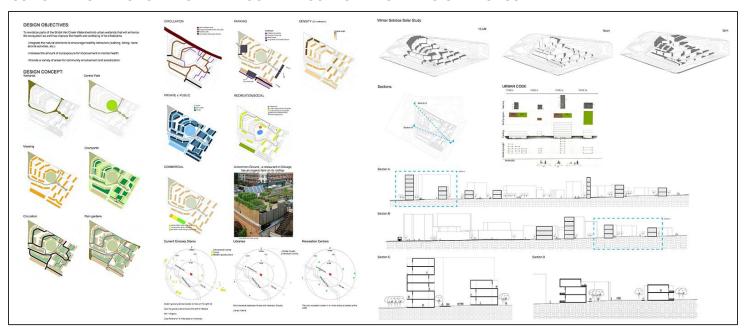
STUDY OF URBAN PRECEDENT FOR A DESIGN PROJECT



What is Writing in Architecture?

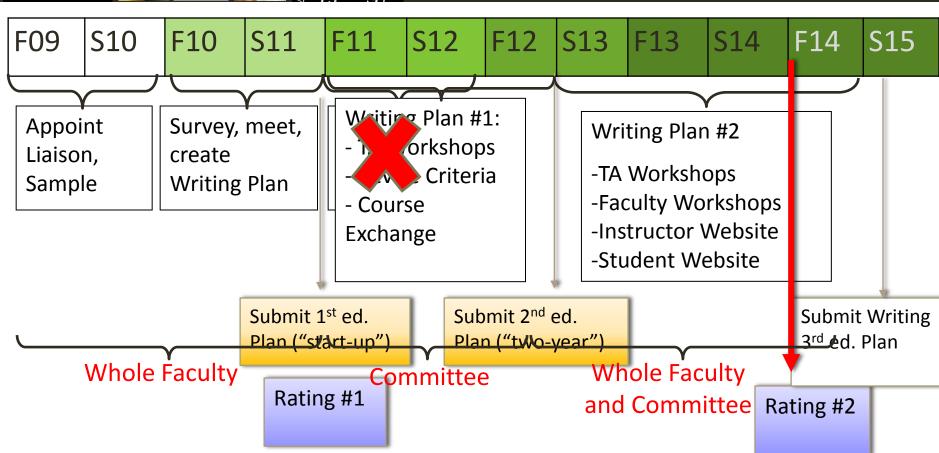
- Architectural design as argument (supporting a particular approach)
- Architectural argument is both visual and verbal
- Argument involves
 - Thesis identification
 - Description of the situation
 - Analysis of critical factors
 - Interpretation and conclusion/ design

CONCEPT BOARD SHOWING THE ARGUMENT SUPPORTING A DESIGN PROPOSAL

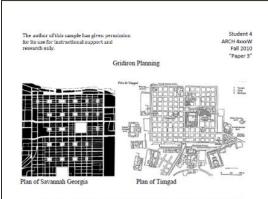




ARCHITECTURE WEC TIMELINE

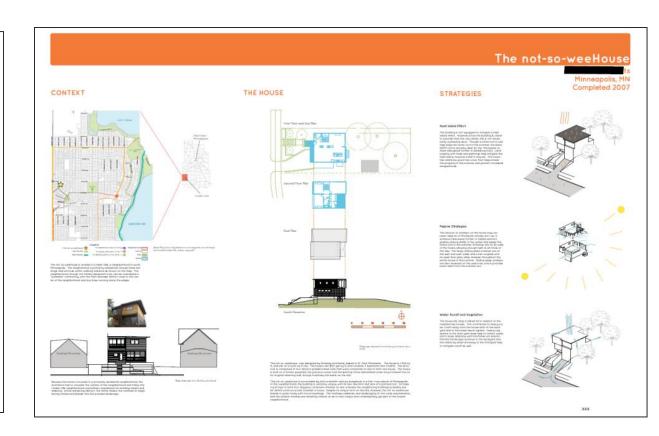


Rating of Papers and Boards



One method of city planning is a strict gridiron plan. This method starts with a square that is divided up in to organized sections. The organized squares can be situated next to other organized squares to create an organized form for creating a city. When looking at this type of planning we see this in early towns like Timgad and nearly fifteen centuries later in Savannah Georgia. These two towns almost function as bookends to a similar idea. Between these bookends we see a lot of discussion as to where the idea of gridiron planning is derived. Regardless of the discourse Timgad and Savannah share many important similarities.

Timgad was started as a colony in North Africa. It was part of the Roman Empire founded around 100 A.D. by Emperor Trajan. The town was a planned community and was created for soldiers of the Roman Army. The land was divided in to squares and each square had lots with a structure amount of lots its referred to as a strict gridino plan.



Old & New Architecture WEC Criteria

Architecture Writing Enriched Curriculum (WEC) Writing Criteria, March 2012

1	Describes designs and/ or ideas about designs to establish basis for subsequent analysis and or interpretation.
2	Addresses ideas and/or designs in an "analytic way" by taking into account multiple perspectives and acknowledging subjectivity of ideas and/or potential biases of information.
3	Forwards an interpretive position about design and/or ideas about design.
4	Describes and/or documents design process beginning with a statement of design's intent.
5	Describes design process in a way that makes design logic (i.e., perceived intent, choices) explicit to others.
6	In presenting evidence, discriminates between scholarly arguments and unsubstantiated claims.
7	Critiques reasoning, method, or logic.
8	Identifies hierarchies and patterns of and within precedents.
9	Persuasively addresses target audience by using language and style suited to those readers' concerns and backgrounds.
10	Documents sources using consistent citation formats so that readers can locate original materials.
11	Interprets and contextualizes references, ideas, environments and/or influences such that reader can answer the question. "Why should we care about this?"
12	Articulates question(s) that are of reasonable scope for the current project (i.e. they are adequately addressed)
13	Elaborates on "Why did they (other designers) do what they did?" and/or "Why did you (the student) do what you did?"
14	Conveys fresh insights into existing architectural debates, issues and problems.
15	Uses visual materials that strengthen and support written arguments by effectively demonstrating and explaining features of design or concept.

Architecture Writing Enriched Curriculum (WEC) Revised Writing & Communication Criteria, April 2013

Critieria Targeted for Improvement I Bold (1, 6, 10 & 13)

Forming a topic	1.	Forms a thesis or proposition as a statement that is open to investigation and debate
	2.	Generates, refines, and reforms questions related to the thesis or proposition
Description	3.	Searches broadly to locate sources that contain information relevant to the thesis or proposition
	4.	Identifies evidence accurately and thoroughly - whether verbal or visual
	5.	Evaluates, organizes, and assembles visual and verbal evidence into a hierarchy that explains their relative significance
Analysis and Interpretation	6.	Constructs arguments that are substantiated with appropriate evidence
	7.	Leverages multiple perspectives to support complex arguments
	8.	Engages visual materials and verbal arguments in a dialogue that recognizes the autonomy of both lines of inquiry
	9.	Draws inferences from the argument(s) that lead to synthesis
Conclusion	10.	Concludes with a summary or interpretation of the argument that develops, promotes, or advances the original thesis
	11.	Discovers new ideas through the process of writing
Mechanics	12.	Uses language and style to persuasively address the target audience
	13.	Documents verbal and visual sources using consistent citation formats so that readers can locate original materials

Course Presentation and Exchange







Course Presentation and Exchange



- Shared Experience
- Organized by semester
- Learned about all courses in relation to one's own & to curriculum
- Saw relation between verbal and visual
- Gained buy-in

WEC in the College of Biological Sciences

June 2014

Leslie Schiff, WEC Liaison

CBS by the numbers

- 7 academic majors
 - Biology
 - Ecology, Evolution and Behavior



- Biochemistry, Molecular Biology and Biophysics
- Genetics, Cell biology and Development
- Plant Biology
- Microbiology (Medical School)
- Neuroscience (Medical School)
- Students: Freshman class of 510
- Faculty
 - 143 CBS faculty
 - ~40 faculty Microbiology and Neuroscience
 - Faculty in related and clinical disciplines who mentor directed research projects

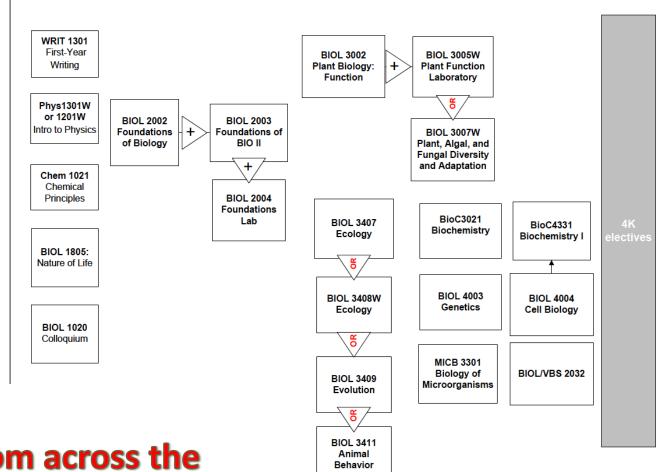
Curriculum map

CBS typically required courses in the majors

4794W

Directed

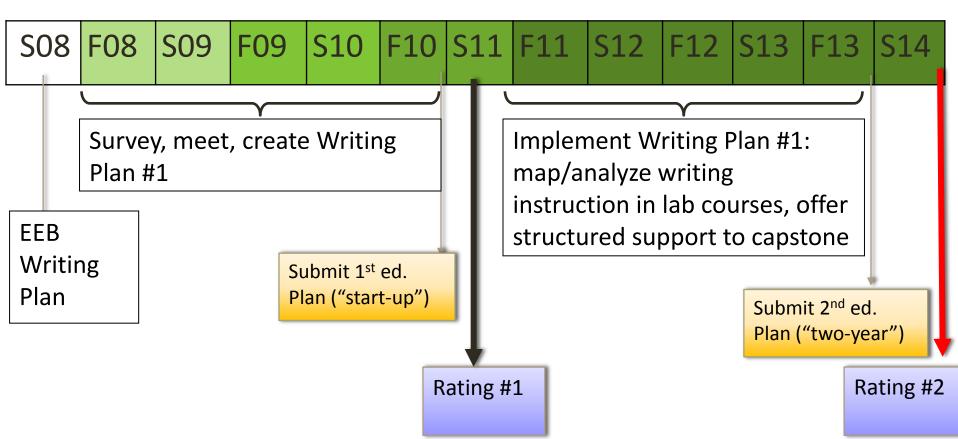
Research



- Vertical
- Draws from across the biological sub-disciplines



THE CBS WEC TIMELINE



Writing in Biology

I think Lab Notebook

Posters Presentations



The Effects of Agmatine on Inflammation and Nitric Oxide Production during Pseudomonas aeruginosa Lung Infections

Protocol

1. Sample lysis

C.

Effec Syste

poly

virio repre

virio

1. Preparation of lysate from cell culture

- Place the cell culture dish in ice and w
- Aspirate the PBS, then add ice-cold lys 60 mm dish / 75 cm² flask).
- Scrape adherent cells off the dish usin cooled microcentrifuge tube.
- 4. Maintain constant agitation for 30 minu
- 5. Spin at 16,000 x g for 20 minutes in a 4
- Gently remove the tube from the centril discard the pellet.

Agriculture will be devastating to the human race. NEUREXIN-1 Meximal-1 software cognitive and advantage growing fifth line, encouraging growing and these foreign the cognitive and advantage growing and these foreign the cognitive and advantage growing and these foreign the cognitive and advantage growing and these foreign the cognitive and the cogni

Thesis

Alexandra Schick

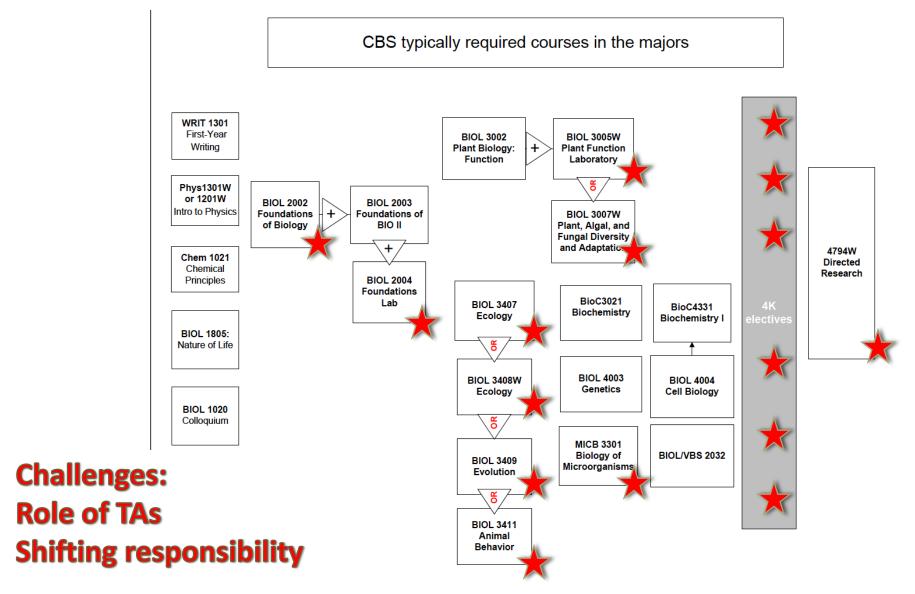
Dr. Bryan Williams Lab

University of Minnesota, Twin Cities

Department of Medicine-Pulmonary, Allergy, and Critical Care Division

Submitted to the College of Biological Sciences
and the University Honors Program
University of Minnesota
In partial fulfillment of the requirements
For the degree
Bachelor of Science
(summa cum laude)

Lab classes traditionally offer most opportunities for writing—target for our 1^{st} plan



One of the major goals of the first writing plan-collect data!

To understand how we are currently communicating goals and expectations around scientific writing in CBS laboratory courses

To give faculty a comprehensive picture of writing instruction in CBS laboratory courses

Where do students have the opportunities to develop specific writing abilities?

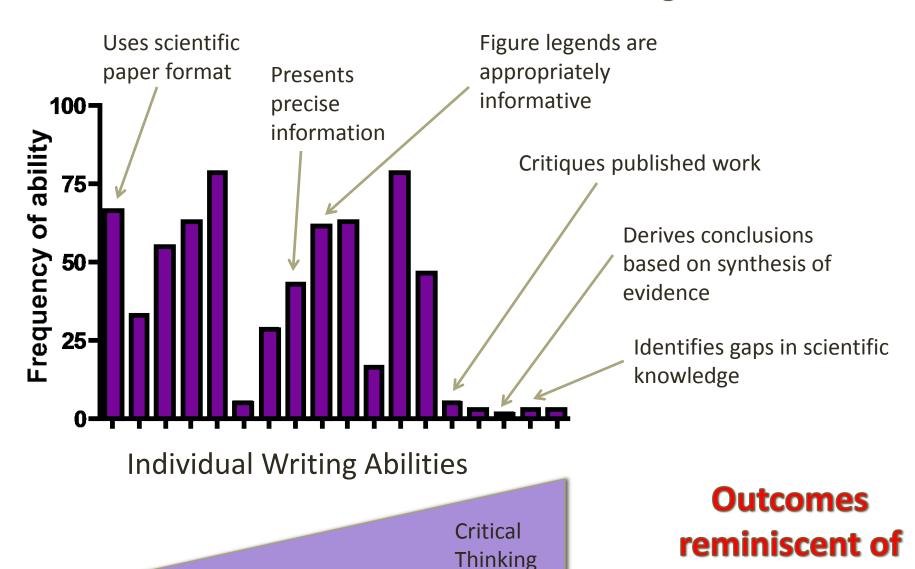
Translated writing abilities into 3-letter codes

Analyzed lab report artifacts for presence or absence of each code (assigned)

Compiled frequency of codes into "data"

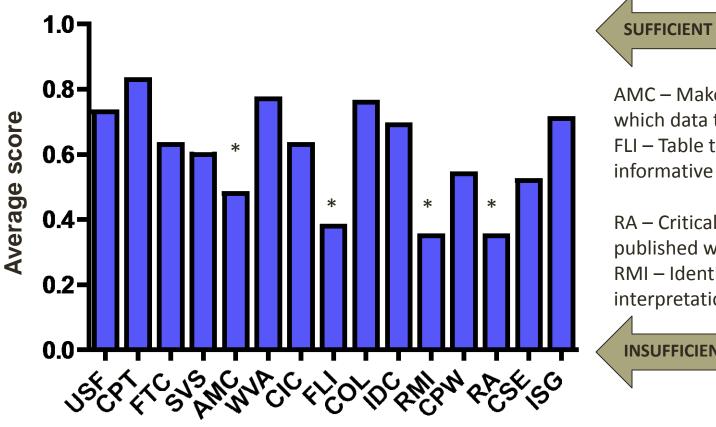
What kind of 'instruction' are students receiving in printed materials?

Instruction towards CBS desired writing abilities



EEB analysis

Capstone Rating of Writing: Average scores for Writing Abilities/Criteria



AMC – Makes choices about which data to present visually FLI – Table titles and legends are

RA – Critical analysis of published work RMI – Identifies alternatives to interpretation and approach

INSUFFICIENT

^{* =} abilities that were most frequently implicit in lab courses

Sample comments from raters

Strengths of Student Writing

Strong synthesis
Strong on interpretation of sources
Clear establishment of gaps of knowledge

Weaknesses of Student Writing

Little to no critical analysis of published work Data representation:

They didn't seem to know how data should look; Should look at published papers Figures were poor; legends were, at times, useless Under-evaluated data: fact upon fact upon fact

BUY-IN: This kind of teaching could only be done by faculty within the discipline

What next? Data-driven evolution: 2nd ed. writing plan

Tools (rubrics, TA-training, 5-minute workshops)

 Improve authenticity of data-related writing in the Foundations of Biology laboratory courses



- Don't ask students to write typical lab report sections if they are likely to simply re-iterate materials in the lab manual (materials and methods)
- Focus more methodically on particular lab report sections
- Use authentic literature as a model and promote CRITICAL READING
- Leverage student writing samples

WEC in Industrial & Systems Engineering

June 2014 Lisa Miller, WEC Liaison

ISyE Department Profile

Engineering Industrial Engineering Business

ISyE Department and Undergraduate degree established in Fall 2012:

- New faculty:
 - 4 Professors (2 on leave)
 - 1 Associate Professor (me)
 - 5 Assistant Professors
- New curriculum:
 - Only 1 class previously taught
- New students:
 - First class will graduate Spring, 2015 (12 students)
 - Quickly growing (50+ students in class of 2016)

What is Writing in Industrial & Systems Engineering?

- Directed at technical or business audience
- Define problem, develop model, describe solution approach, and justify recommended actions
- Incorporates visual representations of data, models, and insights

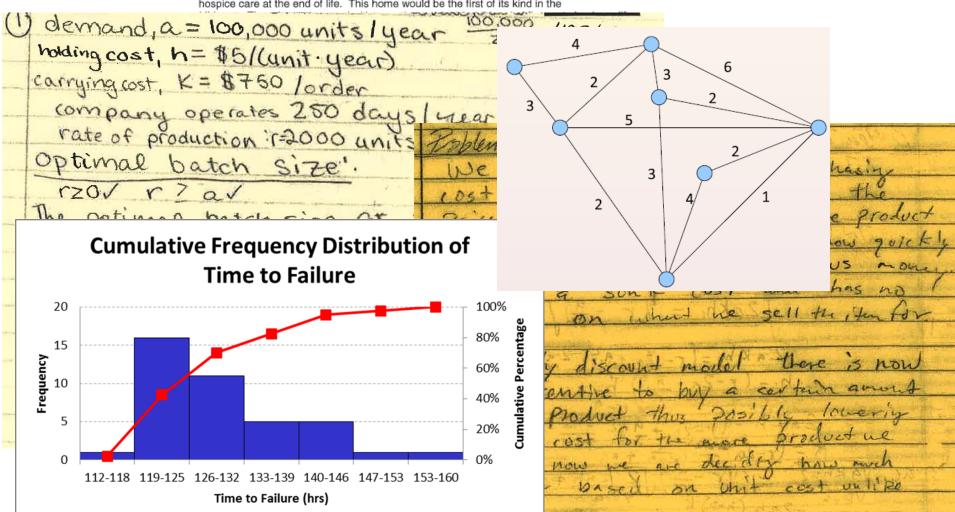
Statement of Work

Writi

Problem/Opportunity & Proposed Solution

Opportunity

Children's Lighthouse of Minnesota is a nonprofit organization dedicated to building an independent home to provide short respite breaks for families of children with life-limiting conditions, and an option beyond the hospital or home environment for compassionate hospice care at the end of life. This home would be the first of its kind in the









How do we adjust the WEC process for a new program?

- Opportunity to embed writing instruction into initial curriculum and course design
- No students to survey or samples to assess

- Survey (no students!)
- Meet, create Writing Plan

Challenges:

- Minimal teaching experience
- Quiet discussions

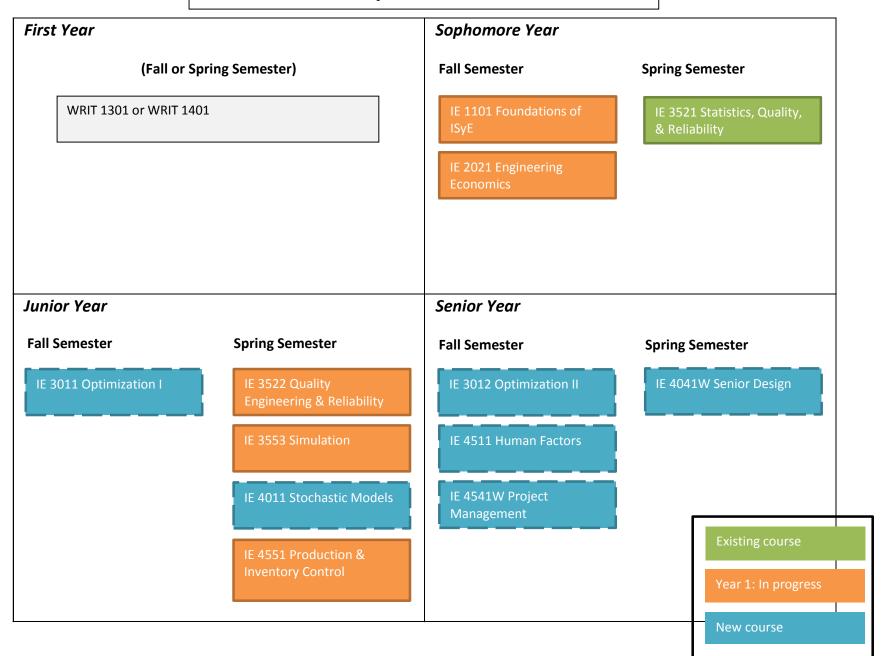
Benefits:

- Early discussion of curriculum among faculty
- Writing top-of-mind in course development
- Improved faculty cohesion

Next month:

Submit 1st ed. Plan

Industrial and Systems Engineering Major Curriculum



ISyE Curriclum Mapping Worksheet

Name:	_Lisa Miller	Course Number and Title:	_IE 4041 – Senior Design					
How will faculty introduce and/or develop these abilities in the ISyE undergraduate curriculum?								

ISYE Writing Ability (With what writing abilities should ISYE majors graduate?)	Mark the writing abilities you plan to address in this course (X)	For those abilities that you checked, jot down the writing activities/writing assignments you already use/could use in the course (reports, problem sets, professional communication, PowerPoint, posters, etc.)	Identify the level of ability with which you expect students to enter this course: Circle Novice (N), Intermediate (I), or Advanced (A)			
1. Describe mathematical model in words			N	I	А	
2. Write mathematical model in standard forms			N	I	А	
Describe the steps of an algorithm in a clear, concise manner	х	Within project report – both early drafts and final draft	N Advanced	I	А	
4. Explain and justify insights and conclusions of complex analyses to non-technical audiences	х	Show examples (good and bad) in class Demonstrate in project report and project presentation.	N Intermed	l iate	Α	
5. Synthesize and summarize key points	х	Demonstrate in project summary and project presentation.	N intermed	l iate	А	
6. Create clear, impactful oral presentations with visual aids (e.g. PowerPoint)	х	Show examples (good and bad) in class Demonstrate in project presentations – both progress updates and final presentation. Feedback will be given between updates & final.	N Intermed	l iate	А	
 7. Write project documentation intended for a technical audience a. Mathematical model descriptions b. Algorithm description c. Mathematical solution d. Other necessary technical details 	x	Project reports to be reviewed by mentor/faculty.	N Advanced	J.	А	

ISyE Curriclum Map

			ISyE Courses									
Industrial and Systems Engineering Writing-Enriched Curriculum Matrix		Fall (Soph.)		(Soph.	Fall (Jr.)	Spr (Jr.)		Fall (Sr.)		Spr (Sr.)		
		IE 1101 - Foundations of Industrial and Systems Engineering	IE 2021 - Engineering Economics	IE 3521 - Statistics, Quality and Reliability	IE 3011 - Optimization I	IE 3553 - Simulation	IE 4011 - Stochastic Models	IE 4551 - Production & Inventory Control	IE 3012 - Optimization II	IE 4541 - Project Management	IE 4041 - Senior Design	
	1. Describe mathematical model in words											
	2. Write mathematical model in standard forms											
	3. Describe the steps of an algorithm in a clear, concise manner											
	4. Explain and justify insights and conclusions of											
	complex analyses to non-technical audiences											
Writing-Enriched Curriculum Qualities	5. Synthesize and summarize key points											
	6. Create clear, impactful oral presentations with visual aids (e.g. PowerPoint)											
	7. Write project documentation intended for a technical audience											
	a) Mathematical model descriptions											
	b) Algorithm description											
	c) Mathematical solution											
ı.E	d) Other necessary technical details											
hed C	8. Write project documentation intended for a non-technical audience											
ng-Enrich	a) Description of problem b) Description of modeling and solution approaches for non-technical audience											
Į.Ę	c) Summary of conclusion, insights, and recommended actions											
	Represent self professionally, both in written and oral forms											
	10. Appropriately integrate visual aids (graphs, networks, charts, tables, flow charts) into project documentation											
	Communicate among a project team using web- based collaborative tools											
	12. Create team-written documents											
	13. Write according to faculty-approved style											
	guidelines											
										=		

WEC in African American & African Studies

June 2014
Walt Jacobs, WEC Liaison



AA&AS faculty = diverse

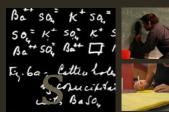
- 10 faculty/full-time instructors: literary scholars, language scholars, historians, sociologists, a developmental economist, and a novelist
- Strong allegiances to traditional disciplinary-based approaches

AA&AS majors = mighty but small (and *late*)

- 5-7 majors graduate annually
- 50% declare major in senior year

AA&AS curriculum = beyond flat: concave

- No-prereqs
- Majors and non-majors in all classes except senior seminar)
- 5 concentration areas (majors can take courses from any)
- Required senior capstone class (25+ page research paper)

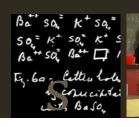








What challenges emerged as the AA&AS faculty engaged in discussions about integrating writing into their curriculum?









You're the WEC consultant: What would you do?

Consult with one or two colleagues (after introducing yourself): 4 minutes

Up next: what actually happened.



African American & African Studies TOOLKIT 1

From the AA&AS writing plan:

Our writing plan is centered on a "toolkit" of

- diagnostic assignments that
 - a. reveal where the students in each class are in terms of our articulated writing abilities
 - b. assess/identify to what extent student performance is matching the department's articulated writing abilities
- procedures that instructors could use to address gaps.

Principles

- widely and explicitly **sharing writing expectations** with students
- employing devices to become more intentional in writing instruction
- thereby creating efficiencies based on the instructor's goals for the course.
- using a **class-by-class approach** fits with the department's philosophy of meeting students where they are.
- 17 diagnostic/improvement procedures initially developed by a grad RA.
- More info: http://aaas.umn.edu/ugrad/writingplan.html



African American & African Studies TOOLKIT 2

Writing Author-Centered Summaries

What is this tool? This tool presents an approach to practicing analytical voice and teaching students how to smoothly integrate textual sources into student writing.

Why might you find this tool useful? Students often fall into the temptation of masking their own voices with that of experts in the field. This tool allows students to practice how to smoothly integrate their own voice with the voices of experts in the field. It also veers them away from plot summary. This tool can be a useful part of a preparing a response or position paper, annotated bibliography, writing a concise statement of the main idea, or establishing the context of an argument. Read one (1) of the following texts by W.E.B. Du Bois: Norton AA: "A Litany of Atlanta," "Song of the Smoke," and "Two Novels."

Prompt: Write a five-sentence author-centered summary on the text you selected. Your audience for this assignment is a peer who has not read the essay. Tell your audience what the author is *doing* in the text. Be sure to use author tags whenever relevant (e.g. "DuBois *argues*," "Angelou *describes*" "Louis Gates *observes*, etc.)

Evaluation: Check system