## Using Disciplinary Difference to Support WAC Faculty

## IWAC 2016

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- one-day WAC workshop led by recognized WAC scholar
- 10 faculty "WAC Fellows" commit to developing/revising a course using WAC


## SPRING

- Fellows teach WAC courses for the first time
- Fellows meet monthly as a group with WAC director


## ASSESSMENT

- Fellows survey students in WAC classes
- Fellows write reflective reports


## 70 faculty WAC Fellows

- 38 from Humanities
- 32 from Social Science


## CHSS <br> WAC <br> 2009-2015

BYTHE
NUMBERS
1659 students enrolled in WAC Fellows' initial [surveyed] WAC classes
$75 \%$ of students indicate that writing

- helped them engage with course material
- helped them better learn course material

In contrast to humanities faculty, social science faculty tend to . . .
more readily identify ineffective current teaching practices
implement and assess WAC strategies in more measured ways
attempt more significant, transformative pedagogical changes
use strategies more identifiable as WAC than WID
write systematic and evidence-based rather than discursive reports

A social
science
approach
can support
WAC
faculty by
encouraging
them
to...
think in terms of an experiment or trial or testable thesis
consider their fields' threshold concepts
implement significant changes selectively
use freewriting to engage with their WAC "experiment" throughout the semester

