



the death is a Tragely + So the to his family and the cost of the state of the ly brings stame to aparette of mon-violen which he marched and befind new otrength of discumination, pace

Writing-Enriched Curricula: Changing Faculty Approaches to Writing Instruction

Writing Across the Curriculum: WAC

Writing in the Disciplines: WID

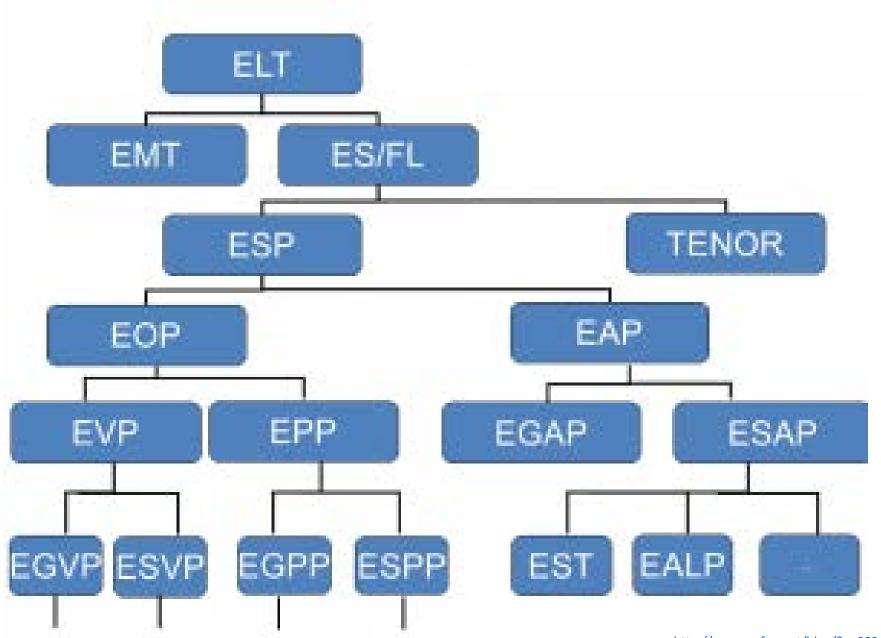
Writing-Enriched Curriculum: WEC

ELT: CUHK

May 27, 2019

Pamela Flash, University of Minnesota

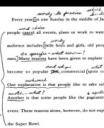
flash@umn.edu / http://wec.umn.edu













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Gn Growinglup parents teach their kids "two wrongs do not equal a less Growingur Gn lesson is ta lesson is taught to inform children that doing a wrong deed back to son lesson is taught to lesson is ta is not right. Native Americans today face criticism for the fact that the hav is not right. Native s not righ have casin have easings on their reservations. Critics of the easings believe that the have casinos on the gov have casin governme government is the one trying to make "two wrongs into a right." First tole government is the governmer takes the la takes the land from the Native American people and now they want to allo takes the la takes the land from allowing c allowing casinos to be built on reservations. Some Americans are jeale of s allowing casinos to allowing c all of some of of some of the Native American casinos and this jealousness has led to WOODS of some of the Nati of some of WOODCHOICE all of the d WOODCHOIC WOODS all of the controversy about casinos, one thing is certain that the Native all of the controver wer all of the d were unjustly treated during the early establishment of settlers. Having were unjus No were unjus were unjustly treate occuracy North Am North American continent before 1600, today Native Americans live of North Am North American co spr spread out spread out across the United States. These reservations do not amount the spread out spread out across ti Whatda the land th What do you the land they had before the settlers came. The wovernment of do you mean what do you mean here the land th the land they had b continue to do you continue to allow Native American reservations to provide casinos to the the continue to continue to allow N they are be they are beneficial to both parties as is evident by providing job opport adv they are beneficial they are be advantage advantages, and rebuild the Native American culture. advantages, and rel advantage



"I'm a scientist. I teach science; it's not my job to teach writing."

"These students should know how to write before they get to my class."

"Supporting effective writing sounds fine...but not in <u>my</u> class. I have way too many students!"

"I'm an engineer. I teach engineering; it's not my job to teach writing."

"These students should know how to write before they get to my class."

"Supporting effective writing sounds fine...but not in my class. I have way too many students!"



"I'm a historian. I teach history; it's not my job to teach writing."

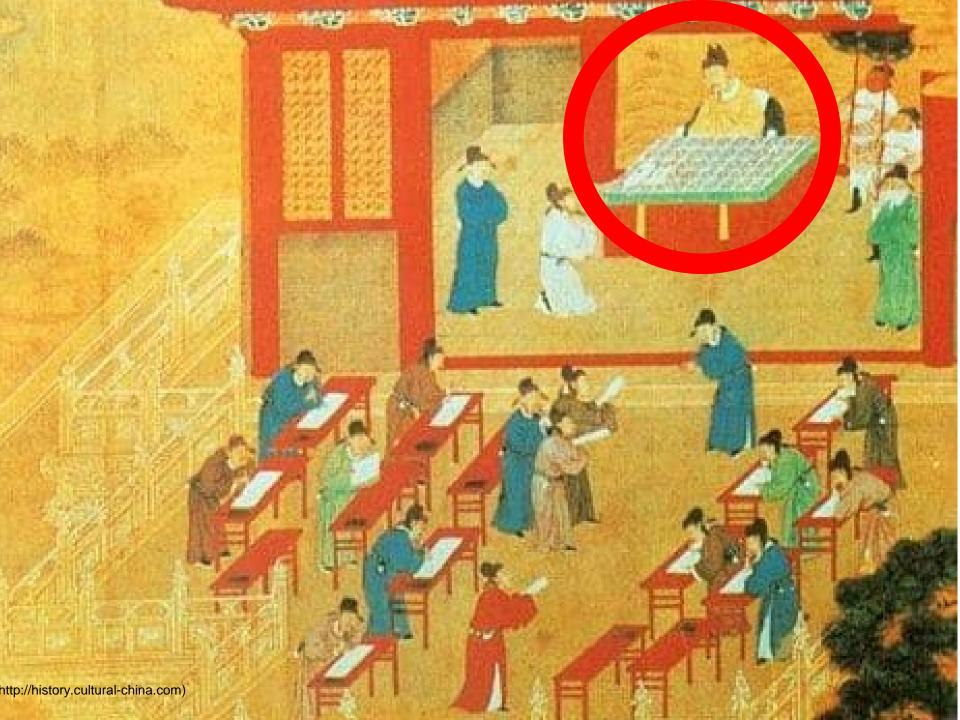
"These students should know how to write before they get to my class."

"Supporting effective writing sounds fine...but not in my class. I have way too many students!"





 $\underline{https://www.tes.com/lessons/av1N3iH9D26hQQ/copy-of-roman-achievements}$



WRITING ACROSS THE CURRICULUM (WAC)

- 1. Writing is an expression of thinking and a tool to learning.
- 2. Writing involves choosing among an array of modes or forms, only some of which involve words.
- 3. Writing abilities are continually developed rather than mastered.
- 4. Writing instruction (teaching with writing) is a shared responsibility across all academic disciplines.
- 5. Those who infuse writing instruction into their teaching require ongoing, partnered support.



Culture

- . Homogenous culture
- . Uniformity of pottery through
- . Period of economic prosperity
- Agriculture: principle crops in barley and wheat

Why did the Mycena





- . Theorized drought match drou
- Studies on pollen grains in sur for drier olimate
- . Laok palaeoolimatio records an
- Analyses of lake sediments from reatly correlated to the Medite

airrerence



)llapse



transactions of the time

Internal Unrest



WRITING ACROSS THE CURRICULUM (WAC)

writing support

- consultations
- support materials

graduation requirements

- first-year writing
- writing-intensive courses
- senior project

instructional support

- workshops
- discussions
- consultations
- materials





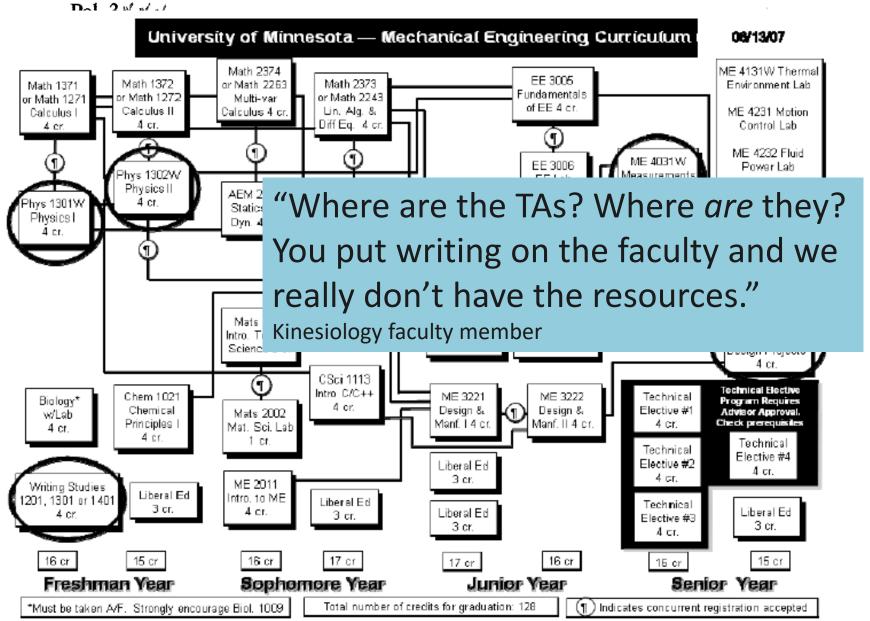


Threats to sustained programmatic vitality in WAC



- Faculty resistance
- Focus on individual courses (rather than curricular systems)
- The "myth of transience" (Russell 2002)
- The "danger of innovations set adrift" (White 1990)
- Administrators charged with cutting costs
- Lack of direct assessment

2001-2006: University of Minnesota focus group findings



should slow down or even abandon efforts to foster global democratization. Robert Kaplan, in

 Narrow definitions of academic writing roadblocks of 3 sorts

The supposition that language, genres, grammar, or

discourse are

Systemic

Course-based vs. curriculum-based focus

Uneven compliance with WI requirements

Inadequate funding for TA support

Conceptual

Narrow definitions of academic writing; assumptions of genre stability

Constrained conception of writing instruction

Perception of writing and content as discrete instructional areas

Attitudinal

Resistance to course or curricular "add-ons"

Disappointment with writing

Pedagogical uncertainty

Poappointailent War wraing

Perception of writing and content as discrete instructional areas

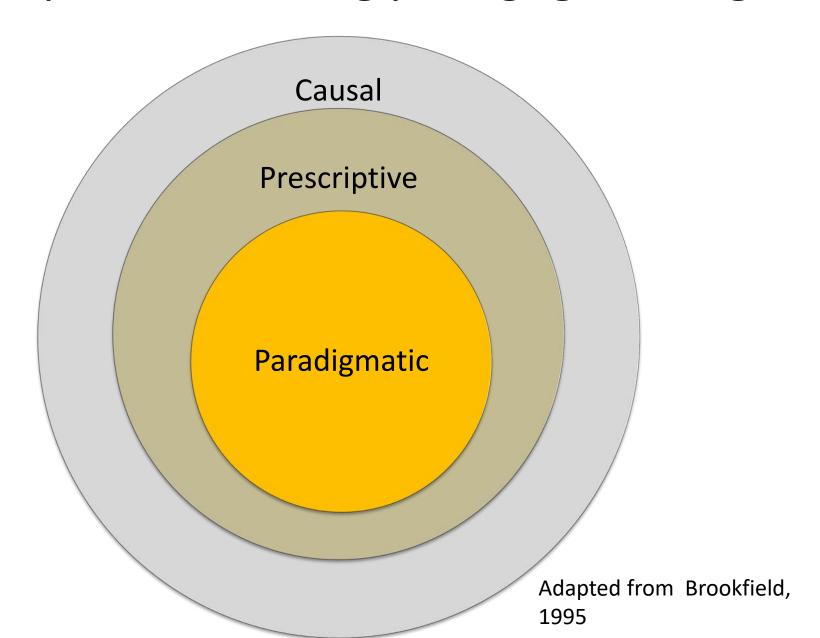


"I'm a scientist. I teach science; it's not my job to teach writing."

"These students should know how to write before they get to my class."

"Supporting effective writing sounds fine...but not in <u>my</u> class. I have way too many students!"

Assumptions affecting pedagogic change





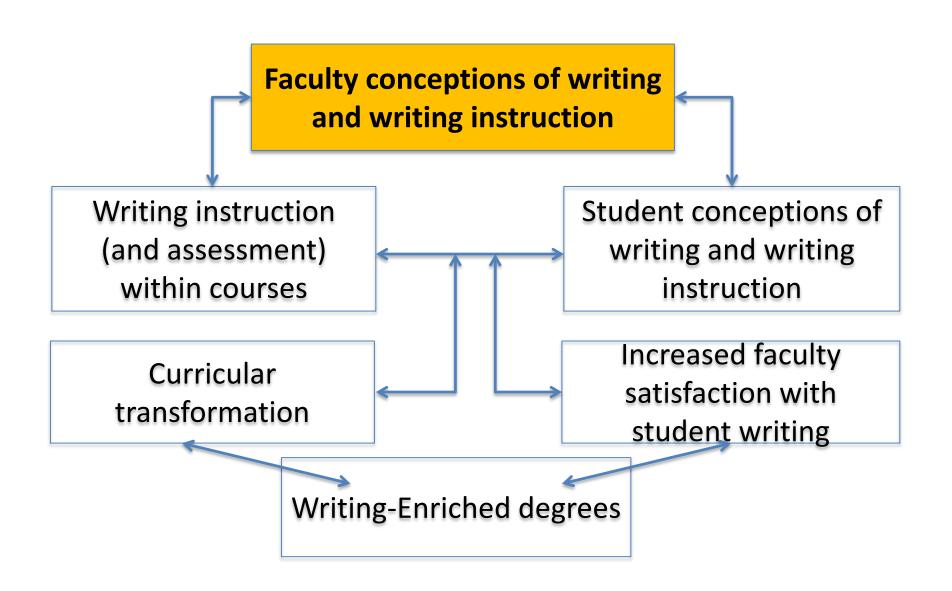
2006

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

Answers:

- Put change in the hands of unit faculty
- Engage faculty in an ongoing process of unearthing, interrogating, implementing, and assessing disciplinespecific writing values, practices and expectations
- Offer long-term customized partnership and support

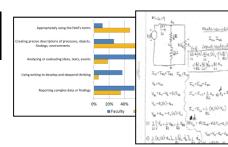
WEC



UNDERGRADUATE WRITING PLANS

SECTION I: WRITING CHARACTERISTICS

Meeting #1



SECTION II: WRITING ABILITIES?

SECTION III: CURRICULAR SEQUENCING? Meeting #2



SECTION IV: ASSESSMENT?

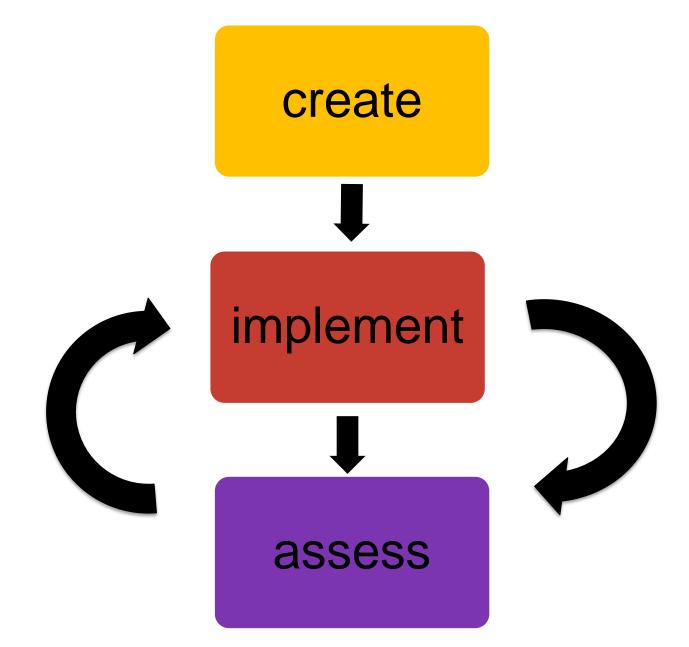
Meeting #3



SECTION V: SUPPORT?

Meeting #4

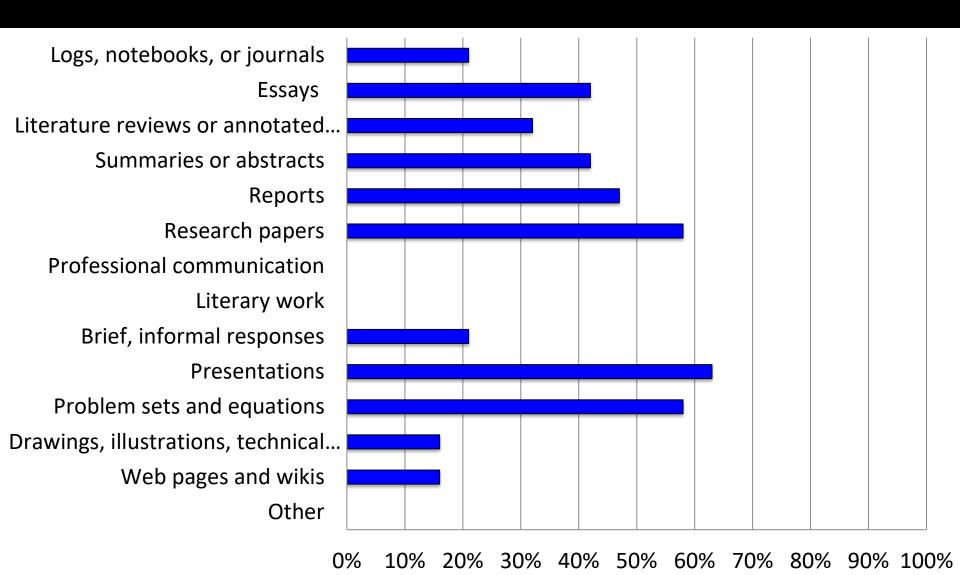




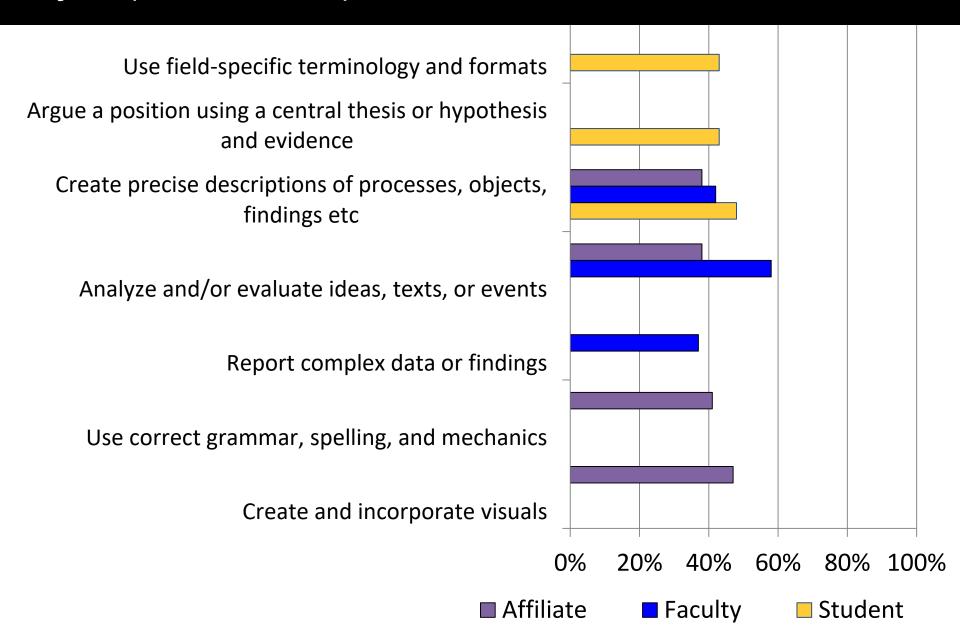
WEC Locus: academic departments



Which of the following writing assignments have you incorporated in any of the academic major courses that you have taught within the past year? (Earth Science)



Which three writing abilities are most important in this major? (Earth Science)



Pursue a focused and feasible research question (Geography)

Examine empirical data using qualitative and quantitative methodologies and/or theoretical lenses (Sociology)

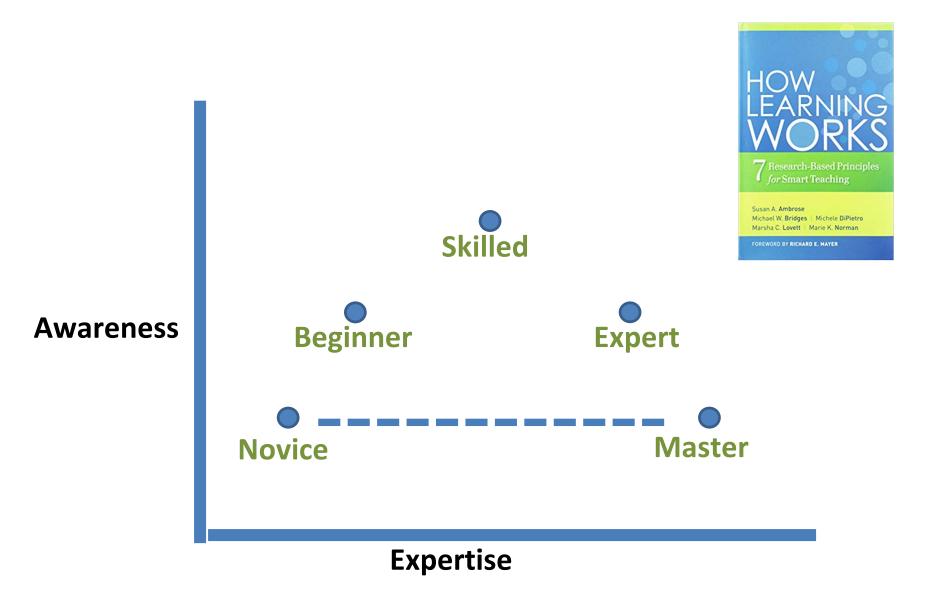
Report unanticipated or contradictory findings (Physics)

Scrutinize texts for gaps in theoretical application (Literature)

Explicate the logic (Philosophy)

Analyze

Contextualize the art object by explicating its geographic, historic, cultural, and economic circumstances (Art History)





https://eradica.wordpress.com/2014/04/19/jumping-the-gap/

Department of Ecology, Evolution, and Behavior: M1

- SH: One thing we haven't talked about is **objectivity**—the opposite of expressing feelings, which we didn't select as one of the abilities we value, but I think that is meaningful because we want the opposite of that; that's what we strive for.
- SL: And it is one of the things I certainly respond most vitriolicly to when I get something to read and it's all about "I did this..." and "I thought this..."
- SH... ugh...it makes your skin crawl. [1:41:50]
- PF: So how would you describe this? Because if you say "objective," no one really knows what that means, do they?
- SL: They don't? Why don't they?
- SH: Remove the writer out of it... They often say "Shaw et al. said this" and the emphasis is on Shaw et al. rather than the result or the finding...
- PF: So, you want them to deemphasize the scientists and focus on the science, but... do students in your courses run the danger of accepting the science they report as Truth?
- SH: Well, I think the difference is **replicability**; that, uh, if someone else came along and did the exact same study that so and so described that they did they should have gotten the exact same results. So I see scientific writing as not so egotistical...it's **contributive**.
- JC: That's a bunch of crap. You're mixing undergraduate and graduate writing. Replicable yes, contributive no...

EARTH SCIENCES

Prof A: Well, it should be clear! We want them to be able to explain in words the meaning of data and figures....really, to make them understandable to a reader who does not have the data or figures.

Prof B: They... should, uh... summarize and *synthesize* observations, data, and information in abstracts or executive summaries. But first in visuals...

Prof C: Right...they...should know how to represent concepts and findings...design and create figures, graphs, and diagrams

From criteria menu:

complete captions.

The text...

Explains the meaning of data and figures so that they are understandable to someone who does not have the data or figures.

Communicates information, data, and concepts in figures, graphs, and/or diagrams clearly with

Communicates information, data, and concepts in figures, graphs, and/or diagrams clearly without extraneous or <u>distracting</u> elements.

Writing? Content?

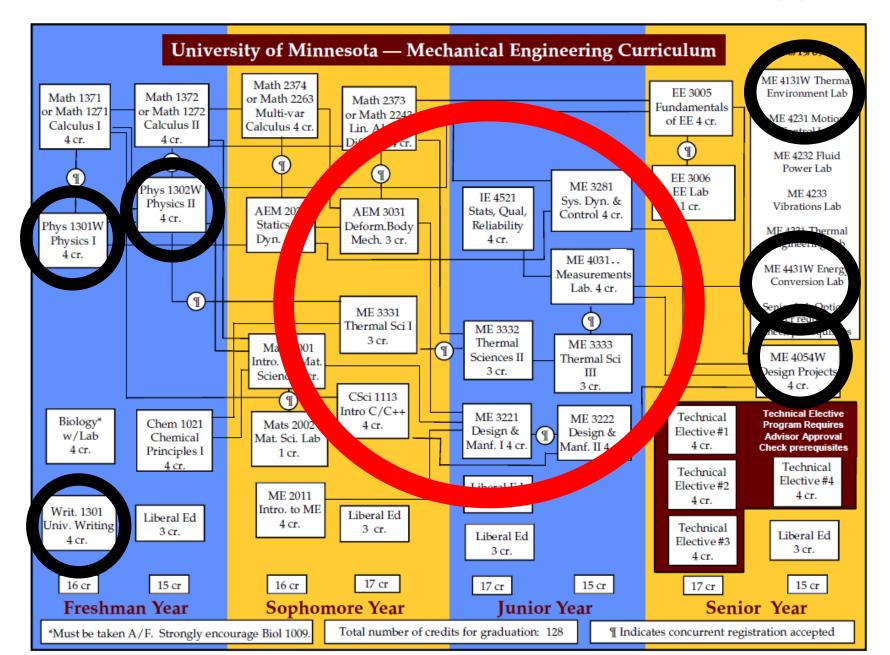


https://news.yale.edu/2017/04/24/yale-s-newest-stem-labs-teaching-takes-bold-step-forward

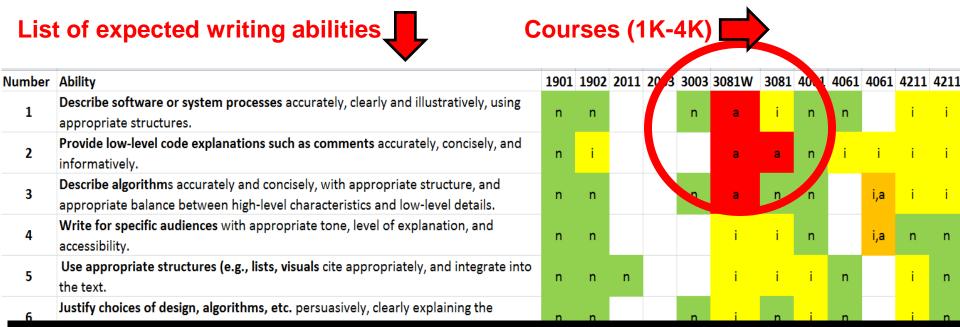
"Wait...Is this writing abilities, or is this about how to do the science? I think we're messing this up a little bit here...I mean we think science is important but writing about it is a different thing."

"But, X, we make them write about the science...we're the ones!"



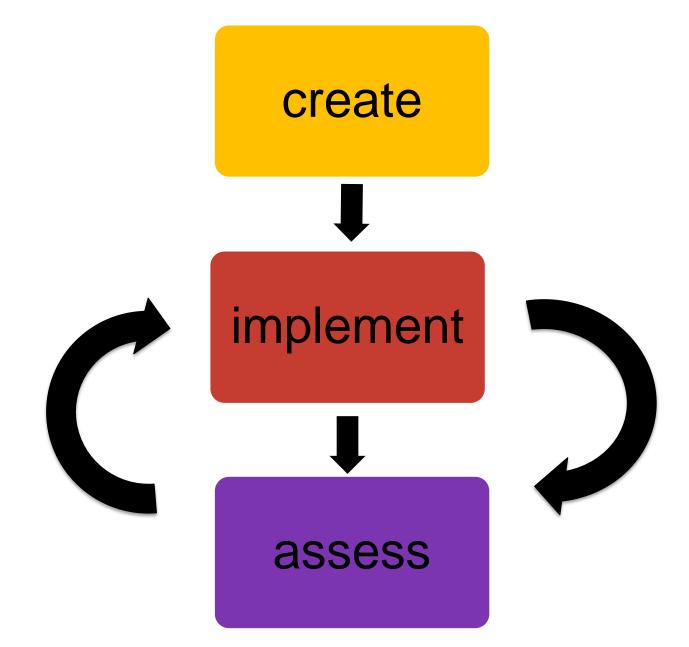


Computer Science pre-WEC curriculum



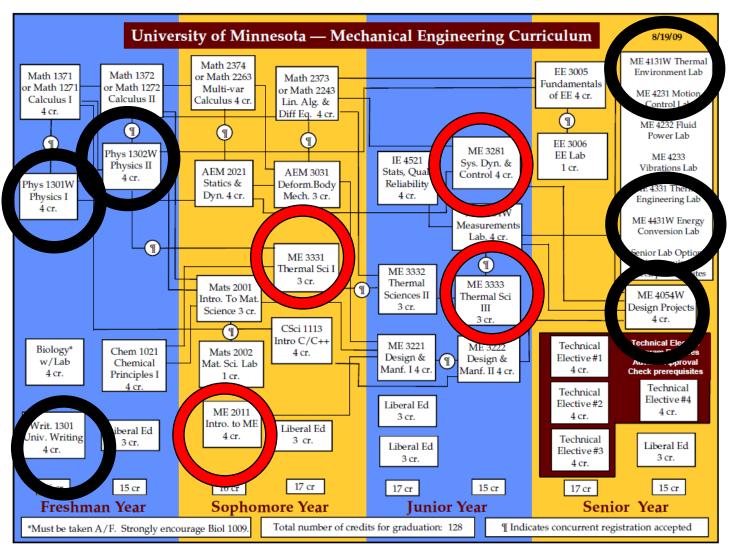
"Writing <u>transfer</u> is the phenomenon in which new and unfamiliar writing tasks are approached through the application, remixing, or integration of previous knowledge, skills, strategies, and dispositions."

(Elon statement 2013)



Implementation case study #1





MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

Student Writing Guide





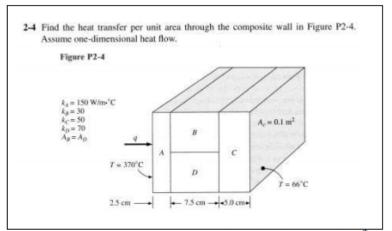
This guide will show you how to write a problem set.

1. Before you begin

If you understand the purpose of your writing before you begin, your problem set will turn out better. This section describes background information and the purpose of a problem set.

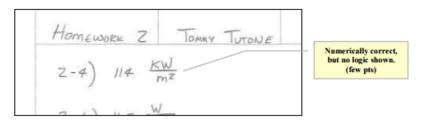
1.1 Why this is important

You will come across problems such as the following very often in your mechanical engineering coursework:



Source: Holman, J. (2010). Heat Transfer 10th Edition

However, the very worst answer you can submit to a homework problem is:



The reason is that the grader doesn't care what your answer to the problem is. Instead, the grader wants to know the logical thought process you used to get there.

In engineering practice, problems are seldom as simple and straightforward as an engineering textbook. However, if we can verify the **logic and assumptions** you use to deduce a textbook answer, we can grow your professional skills.

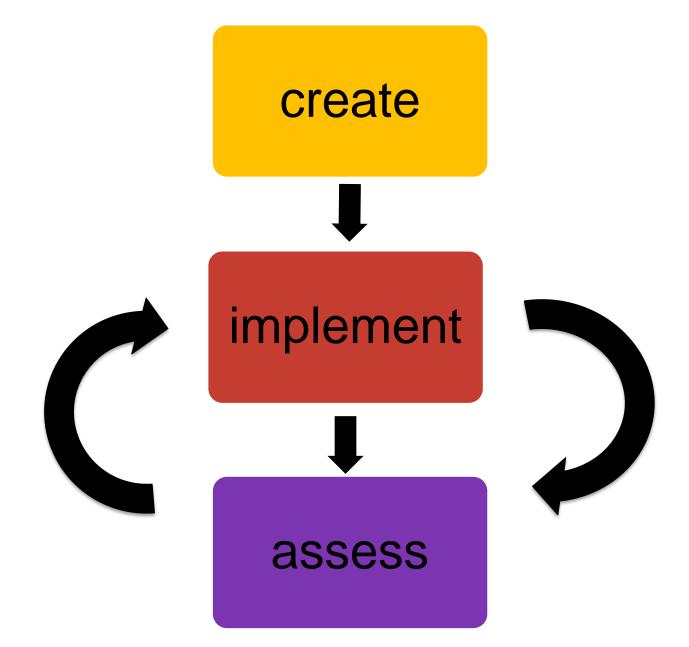
Ecology, Evolution, and Behavior

5-minute revision workshop

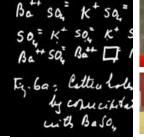
The issue of potential impact on species richness under potential climate change conditions has largely been examined in alpine regions (Moen et al. St St 2008). Furthermore, a paper examined potential outcomes of species St richness in Europe (Thuiller et al. 2006). However, the boreal forest of WI North America is also receiving attention in modeling distribution of tree St species (McKenney et al. 2007). In addition, vegetation changes were St modeled for northern Alaska in relation to climate change conditions St (Euskirchen et al. 2009).

- What's the problem?
- Why?
- 3. Suggested revisions?





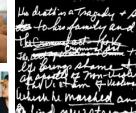
ASSESSING WEC: RATING















1. Expected Writing Abilities are translated into rat

Criteria for Ratings. 2011. CBS.

- 2. Iterative rating se which 3 raters (2) target unit) rate c papers/projects a generated criteria
- 3. Rating results (ar comments) are pr who are asked for reactions/observa

Writing Plan Abilities **PROPOSED Criteria for Rating** Communicate information in a Communicates a scientific narrative manner that is overt and logical. that is direct, with an overt and transparent logic. 2. Communicate information in a manner that is precise and concise. 3. Present and interpret data in context. Synthesize ideas in new ways. synthesis of evidence. 5. Analyze and interpret published Critiques reasoning, data, and/or work, gauging the efficacy of methodology of published work. evidence. 6. Identify significant gaps in Demonstrates an organization that scientific knowledge and develop moves from an articulation of the research questions to address target question or problem to procedure, data, conclusions, and those gaps. back to target problem.





#	Criteria: The text	2013	2016
1	Synthesizes information and ideas from multiple or disparate sources.	.59	.81
2	Consistently uses language appropriate for scientific audiences.	.53	.73
3	Describes what is seen (in the field and/or lab), read (in an article, book, and/or website), or heard (in class, lab, and/or the field) so that the observations and information is understandable to someone who was not present.	.58	.57
4	Explains the meaning of data and figures so that they are understandable to someone who does not have the data or figures.	.32	.54
5	Answers a question or makes a point using <u>logically</u> <u>sequenced sentences</u> .	.71	.77

0= insufficient; 1= sufficient

Threats to sustained programmatic vitality in WAC



- Faculty resistance
- Focus on individual courses (rather than curricular systems)
- The "myth of transience" (Russell 2002)
- The "danger of innovations set adrift" (White 1990)
- Administrators charged with cutting costs
- Lack of direct assessment

Evidence of sustainable change...



- Faculty methods, perceptions, and confidence (transcripts, surveys, interviews, assignment analysis)
- Explicit instruction and authentic assessment (Writing Plans, annual Liaison survey)
- Course-based vs. curriculum-based integration (Writing Plans)
- Rate at which student writing is meeting faculty expectations (Triennial rating)
- Rate at which student writers report engagement with productive writing practices (Student Engagement in Research Universities (SERU)

Writing-Enriched Curriculum?

A faculty-driven model designed to support the curricular integration of relevant writing and writing instruction and to increase the rate at which student writing meets local faculty expectations.

These ends are achieved through the ongoing, creation, implementation, and assessment of undergraduate Writing Plans

WRITING-ENRICHED CURRICULA

- 1. Writing is an expression of thinking and a tool to learning.
- 2. Writing involves choosing among an array of modes or forms, only some of which involve words.
- 3. Writing abilities are continually developed rather than mastered .
- 4. Writing instruction (teaching with writing) is a shared responsibility across all academic disciplines.
- 5. Those who infuse writing instruction into their teaching require ongoing, partnered support.
- 6. Unchallenged, tacit-level conceptions of writing and writing instruction inform the ways that writing is incorporated in courses and curricula
- 7. Systemic, curricular incorporation of writing is most meaningfully achieved when those who teach are provided multiple opportunities to articulate, interrogate, and communicate their assumptions and expectations.

Elective

WEC: critical attributes / methods

Faculty-driven (department-located)

- Writing and writing instruction are <u>locally defined</u>
- Conceptual change drives pedagogic and systemic change

Curriculumfocused

• Writing is discussed in <u>curricular context</u>

Data-driven

• <u>Locally collected, locally-owned data</u> are brought to each meeting for <u>interpretation and discussion</u>

Slow-paced (sustained)

- Writing Plan evolves over three editions in a decade (+)
- Plans are context relevant and build toward self-sustainability

Supported

- Liaisons paid stipend
- Plans are granted implementation funds
- WAC consultant serves as unit-dedicated <u>long-term partner</u>

Perpetuallyassessed • <u>Multiple modes of unit-specific and programmatic assessment</u> focus on instruction, writing, Writing Plans, WEC, methodology...

Question

What aspects of the WEC model would / would not work well in your teaching context? Why?

EXTRAs



What effect is creating, implementing, and assessing a Writing Plan having on writing instruction in WEC units?

Direct: assignment analysis Indirect:

- Writing Plans
- Meeting transcriptions
- Curricular mapping
- Annual Liaison survey/focus groups

What impact is WEC having on student writing?

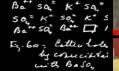
Direct: Triennial rating of student

writing

Indirect: Annual U-Wide surveys

How successful is the WEC model for creating faculty-authored Writing Plans?

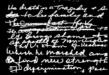
Direct: Board approval of Writing Plans Indirect: Annual Liaison survey/focus groups Application for WEC enrollment









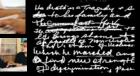


ASSESSMENT: Impact

Question	Indices	Timing / Audience
What are students writing? Where? What does instruction look like? Where?	Sample collectionStakeholder surveyCurricular matrices	baseline / faculty Year 10 / faculty







ASSESSMENT: Impact

Question	Indices	Timing / Audience
What are students writing? Where? What does instruction look like? Where?	Sample collectionStakeholder surveyCurricular matrices	baseline / faculty Year 10 / faculty
What effect is creating, implementing, and assessing a Writing Plan having on writing instruction in WEC departments?	 Writing Plans (100) Meeting transcriptions SERU Focus groups (faculty) Customized assessment 	Year 1, 2, 5, 10 / faculty + CWB Year 1 / faculty Biennial / Provost's Office Episodic / WAC team Variable / faculty



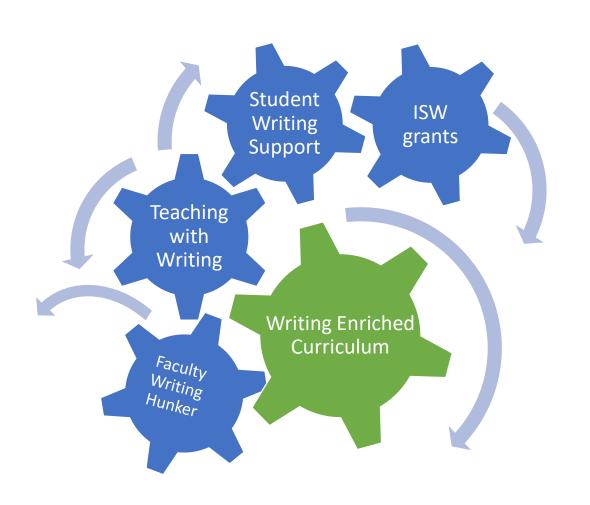
ASSESSMENT: Impact

Question	Indices	Timing / Audience
What are students writing? Where? What does instruction look like? Where?	Sample collectionStakeholder surveyCurricular matrices	baseline / faculty Year 10 / faculty
What effect is creating, implementing, and assessing a Writing Plan having on writing instruction in WEC	 Writing Plans (100) Meeting transcriptions SERU Focus groups (faculty) 	Year 1, 2, 5, 10 / faculty + CWB Year 1 / faculty Biennial / Provost's Office Episodic / WAC team
departments?	Customized assessment	Variable / faculty
What impact is WEC having on student writing?	Rating of student writingSERUWriting Plans	Triennial / faculty Biennial / Provost's Office Year 1, 2, 5, 10 / faculty + CWB



ASSESSMENT: Model

Question	Indices	Timing / audience
How successful is the WEC model for creating faculty-authored Writing Plans?	 Writing Plan approval Liaison surveys Focus groups (faculty) Applications 	Monthly / Departments Annual / WAC team Episodic / WAC team Annual /WAC team





WRITING-ENRICHED CURRICULUM PROGRAM



Departments & Programs: 61

Majors: 97

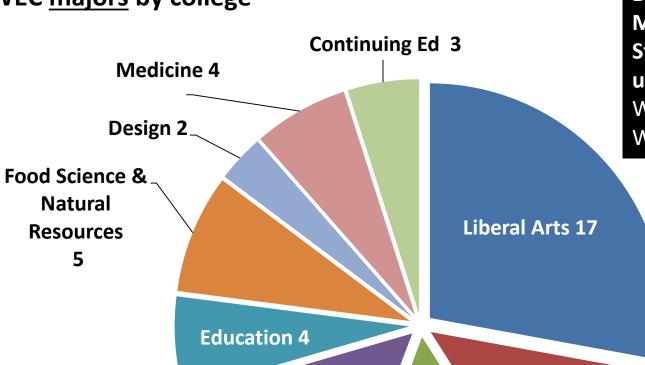
Students enrolled in WEC

units: 17,244

WEC surveys: 9000 completed

Writing Plans approved: 105





Science & Engineering

Business \

Biological

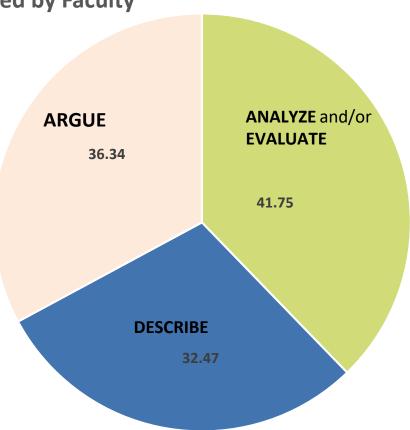
Sciences 8

Mgmt

9

WEC Survey: 2013-2017: 18 WEC departments across five colleges Top 3 of 16 writing abilities

Writing Abilities Expected by Faculty



- Analyze and/or evaluate ideas, texts, and events
- Create precise descriptions of processes, objects, findings, evironments, etc.
- Argue a position using a central thesis or hypothesis and evidence



tangible rewards

FISCAL SUPPORT

- Professional development funds for Faculty Liaison
- Funds supporting approved implementation activity

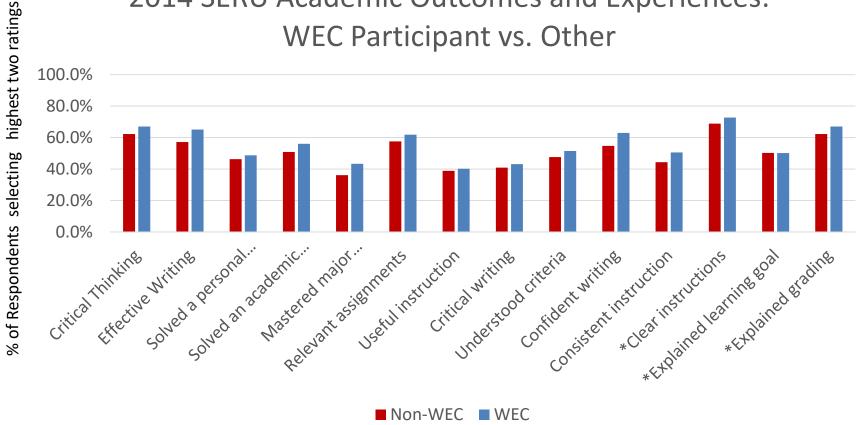
ASSESSMENT DATA

- Thorough baseline survey data (three populations)
- Comprehensive, de-identified student writing samples (and sample instructional materials) from three courses
- Curricular maps
- Longitudinal rating data
- Other (as undertaken by units)

INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT

- Workshops, consultations, material development (as designated in Plan)
- Student writing samples (and sample instructional materials) from three courses

2014 SERU Academic Outcomes and Experiences: WEC Participant vs. Other



WHAT ABILITIES DO WE NEED TO WRITE EFFECTIVELY IN THEATRE?

Conduct research

- Recognize the different definitions, values, and processes of research pertinent to different dimensions of our discipline, and develop appropriate research strategies to support your work.
 - For textual research it is important to
 - Develop familiarity and comfort with library resources
 - Learn to distinguish between primary and secondary sources
 - Assess the reliability and value of web-based resources
 - Effectively document your sources
 - For observational or practical research it is critical to
 - Cultivate the habit of mark-making in verbal or graphic form
 - Develop a practice of recording thoughts, images, and ideas as a response to environment and everyday experience, and as a record of creative process
 - This habitual practice may take the form of free-writing, stream of consciousness writing, doodling, note-taking, sketching, collecting, etc.
 - For organizational research we must
 - Collect information and organize it in a user-friendly and efficient manner
 - Anticipate questions that may arise, and be prepared to answer them
- Develop methods of integrating your research into your creative work

Unlock and explore the imagination

- Go beyond your first instinct, what you think is 'right', and/or what is literal
- Take risks, be willing to make mistakes and get messy
- Keep open and develop multiple options

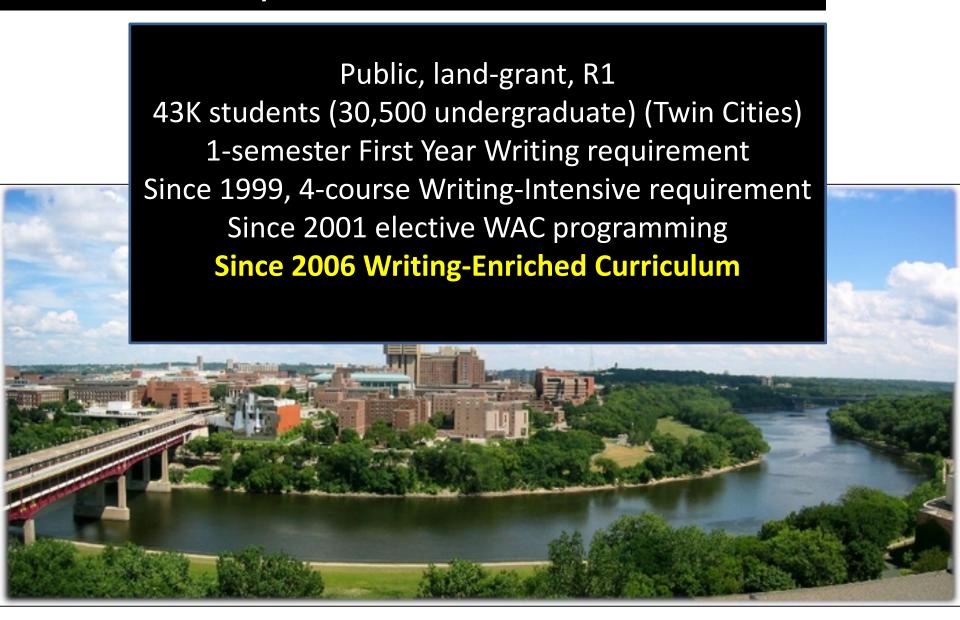
Create descriptions of performance, design components, and/or dramatic texts

Craft datailed expective and closely observed descriptions of others' artistic work as well as

Selected group of theoretical concepts/research studies that help us understand the WEC model's design/success

WEC approach	Flash. P. (2016) Anson, C. Carter, M. (1991)
Sustainable educational initiatives	Fullan, M. (2004, 2015) Henderson, C. Beach, A. Finkelstein, N. (2011) Cox, Galin, and Melzer (2018)
Teaching for transfer	Yancey, K.B Taczak,K., Robertson. L. (2015) Nowacek, R. (2011)
Threshold concepts	Lave and Wenger (1991) Adler-Kassner L. and Wardle, E. (2015)
Activity theory	Engstrom, T. (1987) LeonT'ev. A (1981) Russell, D. (1995)
Authentic writing assessment	Broad, B.(2003) Huot, B. (2002) Adler-Kassner and O'Neil (2010)
Learning	Committee on Developments in the Science of Learning (1999, 2018)

University of Minnesota, Twin Cities



ANTHROPOLOGY

ANTIMOTOLOGI													
	Correlating writing abilities with explicit instruction	Course 1	Course 2	Course 3	Course 4	Course 5	Course 6	Course 7	Course 8	Course 9	Course 10	Course 11	Course 12
Writing-Enriched Curriculum Abilities	Articulate specific, relevant, and compelling research questions and themes that are appropriately scaled to the assignment												
	Weave analyses of direct, specific data into a coherent text that directly addresses the thesis/research question			Ī									
	3. Convey observations in specific, accurate, and rich detail												
	4. Contrast and synthesize multiple lines of evidence												
	5. Situate writing within the broader questions and themes of the discipline												
	6. Formulate and express independent ideas that deeply interrogate the literature												
	7. Draw specific conclusions based on a thorough assessment of the strengths and limitations of evidence and alternate interpretations												
	8. Recognize the impact of assumptions and biases						8 0						
	9. Engage ambiguity and uncertainty												
135	i ,			- N		8		90				(i) (ii)	- 1



Faculty-identified writing abilities that (a) challenge students and (b) are currently addressed with explicit instruction



Faculty-identified writing abilities that (a) challenge students and (b) are not currently addressed with explicit instruction