

Program Review Year 2010 – 2011

Name of Program:

LIBERAL ARTS: WRITING OPTION

Program Review Team Members

Name

Title

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DATE: ____ February 2011 _____

SECTION SIX: SUMMARY

I. CONCLUSIONS: PROGRAM STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES

A. List and describe the program's major strengths, based on information obtained in the Program Review. Cite evidence for each identified strength.

AREA OF STRENGTH	EVIDENCE
Courses taught by dedicated full-time faculty.	See Section Four. Almost all of the courses in the program are taught by experienced full-time faculty.
Program graduation rate	See pages seven and eight. The data suggests that students in the program graduate and/or successfully transfer at a rate higher than the college average.
Wide flexible variety of courses available to students early in their programs.	See Section Three: Curriculum

B. List and describe the program’s weaknesses or areas in which improvement is desirable, based on information obtained in the Program Review. Cite evidence for each identified weakness or area for improvement.

WEAKNESS OR AREA FOR IMPROVEMENT	EVIDENCE
Lack of program coordinator assigned to oversee program and advise students.	See page six.
Lack of formal coordination between this program and the Communication Arts Programs.	See pages six and eleven.
Low minority enrollment.	See page eight.
Many courses in the curriculum offered infrequently, or, in some cases, not at all.	See pages six and eleven.
Lack of course and program reviews in the past; need for course audit to determine course content and student needs.	See page eleven.
Lack of budget	See pages twelve and thirteen.

II. ACTION PLAN

For each identified weakness or area in which improvement is desirable, submit an Action Plan. (When designing the Action Plan, a suggested plan would include the elements of Process Management using a Plan-Do-Study-Act (PDSA) cycle.) (Note: Add as many of the following tables as necessary.)

Problem	Improvement Activity	Person Responsible	Date of Activity	Findings
Lack of program coordinator	Find a way to come up with a program coordinator for the program		Fall 2011	
<p>Analysis: If the program continues, it must have a faculty member dedicated to the success of the students and the program. (See Lack of formal coordination between this program and the Communication Arts Programs below)</p>				

Problem	Improvement Activity	Person Responsible	Date of Activity	Findings
Lack of formal coordination between this program and the Communication Arts Programs.	Find a program coordinator who will then explore the possibilities of combining or coordinating these programs.	See problem above (Lack of Program Coordinator)	Fall 2011	
<p>Analysis: The Liberal Arts: Writing Program shares many of its courses and faculty with the Liberal Arts: Journalism/Communication option. Since many professional writers “live” and work within communication fields, and since many of the Writing Options’ courses are also part of the Journalism/Communication Option, there might be a way of rolling this program into the communication option, strengthening both programs and opportunities for our students.</p>				

Problem	Improvement Activity	Person Responsible	Date of Activity	Findings
Low minority enrollment.	Find ways to offer courses that are more attractive to minority students.	See problem above (Lack of Program Coordinator)	Fall 2011	

Analysis:
 If you want students to take a course or enroll in a program, you have to offer courses attractive to the students. This requires that you have a dedicated program coordinator who has the time and resources to work on this problem. Perhaps, in conjunction with the Journalism/Communication Program faculty, the college could strategically offer courses common to both programs in Lawrence, with the proper support from the college, especially advising and enrollment management.

Problem	Improvement Activity	Person Responsible	Date of Activity	Findings
Many courses in the curriculum offered infrequently, or, in some cases, not at all.	Find ways to offer more classes at times and places that work for students.	See problem above (Lack of Program Coordinator)	Ongoing.	

Analysis:
 For the first time in recent history (the last 5+ years), the program has offered ENG117 Screenwriting. In the past, it was assumed by some that offering this course at a time when under enrolled courses are not running was sheer folly for the course would not enroll. The course, when offered this Spring, was overenrolled with a waiting list. Similarly, in conjunction with the Engineering Science program, the college will again begin to offer ENG103, technical writing. This course will be required by that program. The program review team believes that there are many opportunities to offer its courses, including online, that have not been fully explored.

Problem	Improvement Activity	Person Responsible	Date of Activity	Findings
Lack of course and program reviews in the past; need for course audit.	It's what we're doing now.	See problem above (Lack of Program Coordinator)	AY2010-2011	
<p>Analysis: The program needs some dedicated TLC, which will hopefully begin with this program review.</p>				

Problem	Improvement Activity	Person Responsible	Date of Activity	Findings
Lack of budget				