

## **Annual Report on the First Year Composition Program, 2016 - 2017**

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The First-year Composition Committee (FYCC) met three times during the 2016 - 2017 academic year. Members of the committee included: Christy Desmet (Chair), Deborah Miller, Paula Rawlins, Joshua Wade, Christopher Alexander, Teresa Saxton, Nancee Reeves, Elizabeth Davis, Spenser Simrill, Nicole Camastra, Robby Nadler and Sara Steger.

### **I. COURSE DEMOGRAPHICS:**

During the 2016-2017 academic year the First-year Composition Program taught the following number of sections and students (broken down into Total, ESOL, Online, Learning Community, Honors, and Special Topics sections of English 1101, 1102, 1102E, and 1103).

#### **TOTAL SECTIONS**

	<b>ENGL 1101</b>	<b>ENGL 1102</b>	<b>ENGL 1103</b>	<b>ENGL 1102E</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Sum 2016 (20 max)	1	5	0	2	8
Fall 2016 (22 max)	61	82	10	0	153
Spring 2017 (20 max)	19	66	13	0	98

<b>TOTAL</b>	81	153	23	2	259

**ESOL Sections (limited to 15 students)**

	<b>ENGL 1101</b>	<b>ENGL 1102</b>	<b>ENGL 1103</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Summer 2016	0	0	0	0
Fall 2016	1	2	0	3
Spring 2017	2	0	2	4
<b>TOTAL</b>	3	2	2	7

**Fall:** Teachers were: Danielle Bray (ENGL1101) and Signe Wegener (1102)

**Spring:** Teachers were: Danielle Bray (ENGL1101) and Signe Wegener (1103).

**Learning Communities Fall 2016 Sections (limited to 20 students each)**

	<b>ENGL 1101 and 1102, combined</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Fall 2016	7	7
<b>TOTAL</b>	7	7

Learning Communities are combined sections of ENGL1101 and ENGL1102 or ENGL1103 offered only during Fall semester. Students who attend these sections take three classes together throughout the semester. The total number of these sections was 7. They were taught by: Spencer Simrill (Health); Nathan Camp (Law); Nathan Camp (Slavery); Jon Dawson (Global); Cynthia Pengilly (Digital Technologies); Kristen Gleason (Food); and Christopher Alexander (Capitalism).

Learning Communities sections of FYC have a maximum of 20 students taught during fall semester only, although most sections are smaller because some (indeed, perhaps, an increasing number) of students in each LC place out of English Composition altogether.

**Honors First-year Composition Sections (limited to 15 students)**

	<b>ENGL 1050H</b>	<b>ENGL 1060H</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Summer 2016	0	0	0
Fall 2016	3	3	6
Spring 2017	3	2	5

<b>TOTAL</b>	6	5	11
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### Special Topics Sections of FYC

**Summer 2016:** No special topic courses were taught during the summer session.

**Fall 2016:** There were 9 sections taught in the fall, and they are as follows: Teresa Saxton (2016 Presidential Election - 3); Mary Ann O’Neal-Ingle (Southern Writers); Dorothy Todd (Shakespeare – 2); Gale Thompson (Memory & Narrative – 2); and Kacie Hittel (*The New Yorker* – 1).

**Spring 2017:** There were 12 sections taught in the spring, and they are as follows: Stephen Brooks (FYC experiment – 4); Elizabeth V-Hammock (War – 3); Christopher Alexander (Boredom – 2); Dorothy Todd (Shakespeare – 1); and Holly Fling (Gothic Writing – 2).

### TOTALS

From the above totals, the breakdown of specialized FYC courses (ESOL, Online, Learning Community, Service Learning, and Special Topic courses are as follows):

- The total number of ESOL sections (ENGL1101, ENGL 1102 & ENGL1103) of First-year Composition was 7; the total number of students was 105.
- The total number of First-year Composition Learning Community sections (combination of ENGL1101/1102/1103) was 7; the total number of students is highly difficult to calculate because these courses were under enrolled to start – however, at least 68 students took seats in LC 2016 - 2017.

- The total number of First-year Composition Special Topics courses was 21; the total number of students was 462.
- The total number of Online courses was 2. The total number of students was 45.
- The total number of sections of Honors First-year Composition was 11; the total number of students was 165.

#### **Breakdown of total students included in 2016-2017**

	<b>ENGL1101</b>	<b>ENGL1102</b>	<b>ENGL1103</b>	<b>ENGL1102E</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Summer 2016	20	100	0	45	165
Fall 2016	1342	1804	220	0	3366
Spring 2017	418	1452	286	0	2156
<b>TOTAL</b>	1780	3356	506	45	5687

FYC classes had 15-22 students per class. The total number of FYC sections, including the Honors sections, taught during 2016-2017 was 270, with a total number of students for the year being 5852.

## **II. TEACHER DEMOGRAPHICS**

During the 2016 - 2017 school year, the teaching staff consisted of 8 (plus Jaydn DeWald, who assisted Dr. Miller's ENGL 1102E) teachers during summer 2016; 74 teachers during Fall 2016; and 64 teachers during Spring 2017. The number of FYC sections taught throughout the year was 358 (these numbers do not include TA units assigned to the Writing Center, Computer Support, or for teaching sophomore sections, creative writing and upper-division classes).

### III. PROGRAM DEVELOPMENTS

#### 1. Administration and Program Supervision

##### A. Emma and FYC Digital Learning Labs

1. **Fall 2016:** Dr. Sara Steger, Assistant Director of FYC, was in charge of the computer-assisted classrooms now called the FYC Digital Learning Labs, and Ben Fuqua served as Lab Coordinator. Emma Support and Development was provided by Jon Dawson, Kacee Hittel, Barry Shelton, and Laura Weaver. Anna Forrester, Henna Messina, and Amy Quinn provided support as Flex Staff, serving both in the labs and in the writing center.

2. **Spring 2017:** Dr. Sara Steger, Assistant Director of FYC, was in charge of the FYC Digital Learning Labs, and Ben Fuqua served as Lab Coordinator. Emma Support and Development was provided by Jon Dawson, Tareva Johnson, Paula Rawlins, Barry Shelton, and Laura Weaver. Anna Forrester, Sarah Mayo, and Amy Quist provided support as Flex Staff, serving both in the labs and in the writing center.

3. **Emma Support:** During the 2016-2017 school year, Emma Support personnel developed help videos for students and multimodal help documentation for instructors; the latter highlighted best practices for the Emma toolsets' affordances. We also conducted a survey of FYC instructors about their use of markup tags, and we used the feedback to create a new default markup set that features examples of grammatical and syntactical issues and emphasizes tips for how to revise. Instructors piloted the new markup sets during the Summer 2017 semester. Park 118, the walk-in support lab, had about 650 visits from students during the 2016-2017 school year. Instructors made approximately 175 requests to reserve the instructional labs (Park 117 and Park 119), and many of those requests were for multiple days and course periods.

4. **Emma Development:** The Emma Development team worked on the Emma code to make improvements, including:

- the beginning stages of a more intuitive course and module creation interface
- bug fixes to rectify an issue with how pdfs were displaying
- revising the code to fix an issue with how Microsoft Edge or Explorer handles insert notes and markup (essentially making Emma browser agnostic)
- creating the ability to "toggle" which markup sets are defaults.

## **B. Writing Center:**

1. **Fall 2016:** Robby Nadler was the Assistant Director of the Writing Center. His assisting consultants during this semester were: Christa Rampley, Maria Chappel, Claire Cronin, Sara Marshall, Sarah Mayo, Henna Messina, Amy Quist, Paula Rawins (flex), Diane Courtier, Anna Forester, and Travis Dular.
2. **Spring 2017:** Robby Nadler was the Administrator of the Writing Center. His assisting consultants during this semester were: Stephen Brooks, Diane Courtier, Tareva Johnson, Cynthia Pengilly, Raffaella Wilson, Larry Seale, Sarah Turula, Kim Waters, and Lance Wilder.

*The Writing Center now submits a separate Annual Report.*

## **2. Curricular Development**

**Apprentices:** In 2016-2017, the FYC Program trained a total of 12 apprentices and 3 interns: 4 (Summer 2016); 4 (Fall 2016) and 3 (Spring 2017). The 3 internships were during Spring 2017.

**3. Assessment:** In AY 1998-99, the FYC Program was asked by then-VPAA Jim Fletcher to study the department's placement procedures for First-year Composition. This study was ongoing.

We tracked the number of students who receive C-'s, D's and F's and the reasons for their performance; we also tracked the numbers and reasons for student W's and WF's.

With the disappearance of IMS and the advent of Banner, it is unfortunately no longer possible to track this data. These following figures are not conclusive, as TA/Instructors/Lecturers do not turn in the sheets sent to them to record this information to send back to Park Hall Room 128 and many of the students drop on their own before midpoint.

#### **Fall 2016**

**W: 35          F: 21          C-/D: 3**

#### **Spring 2017**

**W: 14          F: 15          C-/D: 3**

### **IV. Student Awards**

#### **1. Donald E. Barnett Essay Awards 2016-2017**

##### **ENGL 1101**

Student: Christian Schoeberl

Teacher: Spenser Simrill

##### **ENGL 1101**

Student: Jasmin Johnson

Teacher: Teresa Saxton

##### **ENGL 1102/1103**

Student: Ashley Kehoe

Teacher: Sara Mayo

#### **2. Michael G. Moran ePortfolio Awards 2016 - 2017**

**ENGL1101**

Student: Danielle Pattee

Teacher: Renee Buesking

**ENGL1102/1103**

Student: Carter Hart

Teacher: Sarah Turula

**3. Teaching Assistant Awards and Activities**

For the period of 2016-2017 the following Teaching Assistants were nominated by the Department for the Outstanding Teaching Assistant Awards given by the Office of the Center for Teaching and Learning: Tareva Johnson, Lainie Pomerleau, Gale Thompson, Alex Edwards, Paula Rawlins, and Henna Messina.

Robby Nadler was nominated for the Excellence in Teaching Award for 2016 – 2017 but did not win it.