

Annual Report on the First-year Composition Program, 2011-2012

Christy Desmet (Director of First-year Composition)
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Allison Lenhardt (Assistant Director)
Beth Beggs, (Assistant Director of UGA Writing Centers)
Jane Barroso (Administrative Assistant to the Director)

The First-year Composition Committee (FYCC) met twice during the 2011-12 academic year. During this time, its members were Christy Desmet, Director of First-year Composition (Chair); Deborah Miller, Associate Director, FYC; Allison Lenhardt, Assistant Director, FYC; Beth Beggs, Assistant Director, UGA Writing Centers; Chris Alexander, Elizabeth Davis, Joshua King, Rosemary Luttrell, Don McCreary, Megan Stoner Morgan, Laura Weaver, and John Weatherford.

I. COURSE DEMOGRAPHICS:

During the 2011-12 academic year the First-year Composition Program taught the following number of sections and students (broken down into Total, ESOL, Online, Learning Community, Honors, Freshman College, and Special Topics sections of English 1101, 1102, and 1102M.

TOTAL SECTIONS (22 student maximum)

	ENGL 1101	ENGL 1102	ENGL 1102M	TOTAL
Summer 2011	2	3	1	6
Fall 2011	84	62	24	170
Spring 2012	17	71	28	116
TOTAL	103	136	53	292

From the above totals, the following sections are broken down as follows:

ESOL Sections (limited to 15 students)

	ENGL 1101	ENGL 1102	ENGL 1102M	TOTAL
Summer 2011	0	0	0	0
Fall 2011	2	0	2	4
Spring 2012	1	0	3	4
TOTAL	3	0	5	8

Fall: Teachers were: Paulina Bounds (2/ENGL1101); Signe Wegener (2/ENGL102M)

Spring: Teachers were: Paulina Bounds (2/ENGL1102M); Signe Wegener (1/ENGL1101)

ON-LINE Sections (limited to 15 students)

No online sections of FYC online were offered during AY 2011-2012.

Learning Communities Fall 2011 Sections (limited to 20 students each)

	ENGL 1101 and 1102/1102M, combined	TOTAL
Fall 2011	8	8
TOTAL	8	8

Learning Communities are combined sections of ENGL1101 and ENGL1102 or ENGL1102M offered only during Fall semester. Students who attend these sections take all of their classes together throughout the semester. The total number of these sections was 8. They were taught by: Nathan Camp (2 - F/C Science and Business); Mary Anne O'Neal (Global Engagement); Nick Crawford (Pre-Law); Ben Hudson (Life Sci-Biochem); Caroline Young (Music); Nicole Lobdell

(Life Sci-Nutrition); and Allison Lenhardt (Life Sciences).

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)

	ENGL 1050H	ENGL 1060H	TOTAL
Summer 2011	0	0	0
Fall 2011	3	2	5
Spring 2012	2	1	3
TOTAL	5	3	8

Freshman College, Fall 2011

An FRC section was not taught during Fall 2011.

Special Topics Sections of FYC

	ENGL1101	ENGL1102	ENGL1102M	ENGL 1101S	TOTAL
Summer 2011	0	0	0		0
Fall 2011	5	2	0		7
Spring 2012	2	9	0	1	12
TOTAL	7	11	0	1	19

Fall 2011: Paulina Bounds (2/“Literature of the South”); John Weatherford (3/“New Media”); Joshua King & Megan Morgan (2/“Collaboration”; these two teachers worked together).

Spring 2012: Chris Alexander (2/“Writers at Work”); Paulina Bounds (1/“Traditions of the South”); Beth Kozinsky (2/“Analyzing Disney”); Cynthia Pengilly (2/“Film as Literature”); Spenser Simrill (2/“The Ignition to Mix Genes, Memes, and Viral Videos”); Annalee Edmondson (“Film Noir”); and Miriam Brown-Spiers (“Genre and Form in Native American Literature”).

For ease of scheduling and in an effort to keep classes as flexible as possible, we have limited somewhat the number of special sections that may be offered and allowed those who seem within the guidelines for FYC to be offered as “regular” sections.

Totals

From the above totals, the breakdown of ESOL, On-Line, Learning Community and Special Topic courses are as follows:

- The total number of ESOL sections of First-year Composition was 8; the total number of students was 75;
- The total number of sections of On-Line First-year Composition was 0; the total number of students was 0;
- The total number of First-year Composition Learning Community (combined) sections was 8; the total number of students was 70;
- The total number of First-year Composition Special Topics courses was 18; the total number of students was 390;
- The total number of sections of Honors First-year Composition was 8; the total number of students was 88;
- The total number of Freshman College sections was 0; the total number of students was 0.
- The total number of Service Learning sections was 1; the total number of students was 20.

Breakdown of total students included in 2011-2012

	ENGL1101	ENGL1102	ENGL1102M	TOTAL
Summer 2010	38	36	12	86
Fall 2010	1760	1300	532	3592
Spring 2011	269	1477	510	2256
TOTAL	2067	2813	1054	5934

FYC classes had 21-22 students per class. The total number of FYC sections, including the Honors sections, taught during 2011-12 was 300, with a total number of students for the year being 6022.

II. TEACHER DEMOGRAPHICS

During the 2011-12 school year, there were 97 Teaching Assistants and Instructors who taught 292 sections of First-year Composition (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. Office Events: Allison Lenhardt, who was Assistant Director of FYC, was also offered and accepted an offer of a tenure-track Assistant Professorship of English at Wingate University. In 2010, the UGA First-year Composition Program continued to participate in research for Cohort 6 of the Inter/National Coalition of Electronic Portfolio Research; project members include Christy Desmet, Ron Balthazor, Elizabeth Davis, and Deb Miller.

Another feature of the 2011-12 academic year was the approximately 500 extra or unexpected students who enrolled in Fall 2011. In response to this event, FYC hired an additional 16 instructors from across the United States. We were and continue to be very happy to have them as our colleagues!

Finally, in 2012 UGA's First-year Composition Program was co-winner of the USG Regents Excellence in Teaching Award for Departments and Programs. Drs. Desmet and Miller, along with President Adams, received the award at the June meeting of the Regents in Atlanta.

B. CAI in First-year Composition and the “Frogs”: In Fall 2011, the Frogs (computer-assisted classroom assistants) were: Allison Lenhardt, Beth Kozinsky, Miriam Brown-Spiers, Jeff Fallis, and Amber Shaw. In Spring 2012, they were Allison Lenhardt, Jeff Fallis, Joshua Boldt, Amber Shaw, and Beth Kozinsky.

C. UGA Writing Center in Park Hall: In Summer 2011, thanks to Dean Kutal and the Franklin College, the Writing Center was staffed by one consultant, Beth Beggs, for the long summer session. In Fall 2011, Beth Beggs served as Assistant Director of the UGA Writing Center, and was responsible for all daily operations. Her consultants during this semester were: Elizabeth Cunningham, Caroline Young, Katie Van Wyk, Megan Morgan, Joshua King, Tod Edgerton, Rosemary Kuttrell, Nick Crawford, Daniel Citro, Ida Stewart, and Annalee Edmondson. In Spring 2012 Beth Beggs continued to be the Assistant Director and her consultants were: Annalee Edmondson, Ida Stewart, Clayton Tarr, Rosemary Luttrell, Lily Brown, Elizabeth Cunningham, Megan Morgan, Joshua King, Katie Van Wyk, Maria Chappell, and Stephen Brooks. During this year, thanks for a grant from the Vice President for Instruction, satellite writing centers were maintained as well in the Miller Learning Center and the South Campus Writing Center (Science Library).

D. Apprentices and Fall Orientation: In 2011-12, the FYC Program trained a total of 8 apprentices; 3 in Fall 2011, and 5 in Spring 2012. Fall Orientation, which went off perfectly, and there were 15 new teachers involved in Orientation and the Fall Composition Teaching Practicum (ENGL 6911).

3. Assessment

Success and Retention: In AY 1998-99, the FE Program was asked by (then) VPAA Jim Fletcher to study the department's placement procedures for First-year Composition. This study is ongoing. We have been tracking the number of students who receive C-'s, D's and F's and the reasons for their performance; we have also been tracking the numbers and reasons for student W's and WF's.

Fall 2011

WP: 65

WF: 5

C-/D/F: 26

Spring 2012

W: 63

WF: 9

C-/D/F: 29

We are very pleased that there is very little attrition and therefore very few unproductive credit hours in FYC.

IV. Student Awards

1. Donald E. Barnett Essay Awards

ENGL 1101

Student: Erin Michelle Todd

Teacher: Annalee Edmondson

ENGL1102

Student: Diane Turner

Instructor: Polly Reid

2. Michael G. Moran ePortfolio Awards

ENGL1101

Student: Ravi Srivastava

Teacher: Tareva Johnson

ENGL1102

Student: Brad Lathrop
Teacher: Beth Kozinsky

ENGL1102M

Student: Blair Christensen
Teacher: Carmen Comeaux

ENGL1102M

Student: Victoria Moreira
Teacher: Laura Weaver

3. Teaching Assistant Awards and Activities

For the period of 2011-2012, 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: Beth Beggs, Mollie Barnes, James Gregory, Nicole Lobdell, Heidi Staples, and Elizabeth Steere. Beth Beggs was nominated for and won the Excellence in Teaching Award, the highest honor given by the University of Georgia to a Teaching Assistant. (Only five are awarded across the entire campus each year.)