6/29/09

Annual Report on the First-year Composition Program, 2008-2009

Christy Desmet (Director of First-year Composition)
Deborah Church Miller (Associate Director)
Wesley Venus (Assistant Director)
Jane Barroso (Administrative Assistant to the Director)

The First-year Composition Committee (FYCC) met twice during the 2008-09 academic year. During this time, its members were Christy Desmet, Director of First-year Composition (Chair); Deborah Miller, Associate Director, FYC; Wesley Venus, Assistant Director, FYC; Michelle Ballif, Shannon Whitlock, Scott Reed, Don McCreary, Mike Moran, Sharon McCoy, and David Payne.

I. COURSE DEMOGRAPHICS:

During the 2008-09 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

	ENGL 1101	**ENGL 1102**	**ENGL 1102M**	**TOTAL**
Summer 2008	2	4	1	7
Fall 2008	91	58	23	172
Spring 2009	15	77	32	124
TOTAL	108	139	56	303

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

ESOL Sections (sections, limited to 15 students)

	ENGL 1101	**ENGL 1102**	**ENGL 1102M**	**TOTAL**
Summer 2008	0	0	0	0
Fall 2008	2	0	1	3
Spring 2009	1	0	2	3
TOTAL	3	0	3	6

ESOL sections are limited to 15 students. ESOL sections for First-year Composition were taught as follows:

Fall: Teachers were: Betsy Craig (2/1101), Signe Wegener (1102M)
Spring: Teachers were: Lizz Bernstein (1101), Signe Wegener (2/1102M)

ON-LINE Sections (sections, limited to 15 students)

	ENGL 1101	**ENGL 1102**	**ENGL 1102M**	**TOTAL**
Summer 2008	0	0	0	0
Fall 2008	2	2	0	4
Spring 2009	0	2	0	2
TOTAL	2	4	0	6

Fall: Teachers were: Ryan Perry (1101), Emily Kane (1101), Shane Bruce (2/1102)
Spring: Teacher was: Shane Bruce (2/1102)

Summer 2008	0	0	0	0
Fall 2008	2	11	13	26
Spring 2009	3	15	18	36
TOTAL	5	26	26	57

Fall: These sections were taught by: James Gregory (2/1102, Heroes and Villains of the Middle Ages); Matthew Elder (2/1102, Tolkien Middle-earth "Legendarium"); Joy Bracewell (1102, Georgia Authors); Brandy Blake (1102, Writing About Children's Literature); Nathan Gilmour (2/1101, Plato and Boethius: Thinking About Freedom); Heather Cousins (2/1102, The Literature of Haunting); Jacquie Stocker (2/1102, Writing About Victorian Literature); Casey Westerman (2/1102, Comics as Literature: A Critical Survey of Recent Graphic Novels).

Spring: These sections were taught by: Sonya Collins (2/1101, The Last American Man); Sabrina Mark (1102, Fabulism); Emily Kane (1102, The Life of Texts); Matthew Elder (2/1102, Tolkien and the *Lord of the Rings*); James Gregory (1102, Writing About the Hero in Medieval Europe); Casey Westerman (2/1102, Writing About Comics); Joy Bracewell (1102, Georgia Writers); Jessica Walker (2/1102, Women Writers); Brandy Blake (2/1102, Writing About Visual Literature); Nathan Gilmour (1101, The Enlightenment); Valerie Morrison (1102, The Post-Modern Novel); Jacquie Stocker (1102, Writing about Gothic and Romantic Literature)

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 6; the total number of students was 69;
- The total number of sections of On-Line First-year Composition was 6; the total number of students was 71;
- The total number of First-year Composition Learning Community sections was 14; the total number of students was 212;
- The total number of First-year Composition Special Topics courses was 26; the total number of students was 507;
- The total number of sections of Honors First-year Composition was 10; the total number of students was 147;
- The total number of Freshman College sections was 1; the total number of students was 20.

Breakdown of total sections/students included in 2008-09

	ENGL1101	ENGL1102	ENGL1102M	TOTAL
Summer 2008	2/41	4/57	1/17	7/115
Fall 2008	91/1,771	58/1,184	23/478	172/3,433
Spring 2009	15/107	77/1,582	32/195	124/1,884
TOTAL	108/1,919	139/2,823	56/680	303/5,432

The total number of First-year Composition sections taught during 2008-2009 were 303, with a total number of students for the year being 5,432. When including the Honors sections, the totals come to 313 sections being taught with a total of 5,579 students attending First-year Composition classes for the year.

II. TEACHER DEMOGRAPHICS

During the 2008-2009 school year, there were 85 Teaching Assistants and Instructors who taught 303 sections of First-year Composition (these numbers do not include Honors sections of FYC, TA units assigned to the Writing Center, for Computer Support, for sophomore support, for ENGL3000 support, or for teaching sophomore sections, creative writing, and upper-division classes).

III. PROGRAM DEVELOPMENTS

1. Administration and Program Supervision

A. Office Events: Beginning Fall 2008, Wesley Venus became our FYC Assistant Director ,replacing Anita DeRouen, who moved to Jackson, MS after accepting a position at Millsaps College.

B. CAI in First-year Composition and the "Frogs": During Fall of 2008 Frog (computer-assisted classroom assistants) staff were: Wesley Venus ("head frog"), Nicole Lobdell, James Gregory, and Allison Lenhardt. During Spring 2009, Wesley Venus, Allison Lenhardt, Scott Reed, Nicole Lobdell, and James Gregory.

C. <emma> Developments: During 2008-2009, <emma>, or the Electronic Markup and Management Application, moved to a new server and continued to make significant improvements in the user interface and usability of the application.

D. Apprentices and Fall Orientation: In 2008-09, the FYC Program trained a total of 14 apprentices; 3 during Summer 08, 7 in Fall 08, and 4 in Spring 09, 6 teaching classes while apprenticing and 1 helping students in the Writing Center.

2. Curricular Development

In Spring 2009, the FYC Program conducted textbook searches for all three courses. The texts chosen by the committee were as follows:

ENGL 1101 *Writing Analytically*, 5th Edition, edited by Rosenwasser & Stephen
ENGL 1102 *Making Literature Matter*, 4th Edition, edited by Schilb & Clifford or *Prentice Hall Literature Portfolio*, edited by Desmet, et al.

ENGL 1102M *Portable Legacies: Fiction, Poetry, Drama, Non-fiction*, edited by Schmidt and Crockett or *Literature, Race, and Ethnicity: Contesting American Identities***,** edited by Skerrett.

Thanks to the Selection Committees who worked hard to choose these texts! ENGL 1101/1102: Christy Desmet, Michelle Ballif, Mike Moran, Deb Miller, Wesley Venus, Mollie Barnes, Joy Bracewell, James Gregory, Jill Parrott, Erin Presley, Scott Reed, Beth Beggs, Angela Green. ENGL 1102M: Laura Weaver, Sharon McCoy (chairs), Liz Vasconcelos, Nathan Camp, Kyle Reynolds Heather Cousins, Ondra Krouse-Dismukes, Allison Lenhardt, Mary Anne O'Neal, Signe Wegener.

In Summer 2009, a voluntary committee is meeting to produce a collection of sample syllabi for each course using the new textbooks.

3. Assessment

In AY 1998-99, the FE Program was asked by 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 08
WP: 35
WF: 15
C-/D/F: 23

Spring 09
WP: 87
WF: 15
C-/D/F: 36

IV. Student Awards

1. Donald E. Barnett Essay Awards

ENGL 1101
Student: Stephanie Ryals

Teacher: Annalee Edmondson

ENGL1102
Student: Brianna Randall
Instructor: Nathan Camp

ENGL1102M
Student: Ellen Davis
Instructor: Liz Vasconcelos

ENGL1102M
Student: Savannah Willerton
Teacher: Allison Lenhardt

2. Michael G. Moran ePortfolio Awards

ENGL1101
Student: Ms. Jessica Lundy
Teacher: Sara Amis

ENGL1102
Student: Ms. Charlotte Byram
Teacher: Dr. Mary Anne O'Neal

ENGL1102M
Student: Ms. Anita George.
Teacher: Mary Anne O'Neal

3. **Teaching Assistant Awards and Activities**

For the period of 2008-2009, 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: Patrick Denker, Steven Florczyk, Nathan Gilmour, Erin Presley, Scott Reed, and Robin Wharton.