

Writing Across the Curriculum

Guidelines for Writing Enrichment Courses—All Departments

In recognition that writing skills are fundamental to both Methodist University's liberal arts core and to its professional programs, the faculty has agreed to support the creation and maintenance of at least one writing enrichment course for each major within all departments. To this end, the faculty asked for writing enrichment course guidelines, which the Writing Across the Curriculum (WAC) committee has developed and now strongly recommends:

1. For each academic major, departments should select one or more required courses (at the 200- or 300-level) that will be designated "writing enrichment."
2. Writing enrichment courses should be offered in day programs and in those MU at Night programs that allow students to complete their studies solely within the auspices of MU at Night.
3. Writing enrichment courses should be limited to twenty-five or fewer students.
4. Writing enrichment courses should be taught by full-time faculty, unless departmental needs dictate otherwise.
5. Writing enrichment courses should require a minimum total of fifteen pages of typed, double-spaced writing.
6. Writing enrichment courses should place emphasis on writing by "counting" the writing component of the class for approximately 20% of the final course grade.
7. At one point in the semester, instructors of writing enrichment courses should confer with students about their writing and/or encourage students to meet with a writing consultant at the Writing Center.
8. Instructors of writing enrichment courses should take advantage of support services available for them and for their students; these services include Dirty Dozen grammar online tutorials; Writing Center services for faculty and students; WAC committee workshops and networking opportunities (regularly offered and intended to provide guidance on a variety of writing-related topics).
9. Instructors of writing enrichment courses are requested to submit their departmental guidelines for writing enrichment courses and updated copies of writing enrichment course syllabi to the WAC committee chair; these documents will become part of the WAC archives, available electronically and in hard-copy at the Writing Center.

(Updated: 4/29/10)