# Writing Committee Annual Report, 2018-2019

## Members

Erin Baucom, Mansfield Library 2019 - Chair  
Jody Pavilack, History 2019  
Bernadette Sweeney, Theatre 2019  
Jessica Dougherty-McMichael, Missoula College 2021  
Elizabeth Dodson, Forest Management 2021  
Stephen Yoshimura, Communication Studies 2020  
Lila Fishman, Biological Sciences 2021

## Ex-officio members

Shareen Grogan, Director, Writing Center  
Erin Wecker, Director, Composition Program  
Nathan Lindsay, Vice Provost  
Charity Atteberry, Academic Advisor

## Business Items

* The following Intermediate Writing Courses were approved in the fall.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| LING 375 | Linguistic Ecology and Language Endangerment |
| BIOB 210 | Communication of Biology |
| IRSH 381 | Contemporary Irish Women's Writing |
| IRSH 382 | Rockin' Rebels: Popular Irish Music from Traditional to Punk |

The following proposals were approved in the Spring.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| WRIT 291 | Fashion Forward? : Rhetorics of Misogyny in Fashion and Beauty |
| Chemistry | Advanced Writing Distributed Model |

* [Policy 202.50.5](http://www.umt.edu/facultysenate/documents/FSDocs18-19/202%2050%205_IntermediateWritingExemptionAppeal.pdf)  was retitled to Intermediate Writing Exemption Appeal Guidelines given the development of policy 202.50.6.
* [Policy 202.50.6 Advanced Writing Substitution Guidelines](http://www.umt.edu/facultysenate/procedures/ASCRC_200/202%2050%206_AdvancedWritingSubstitutionAppeal.pdf) was approved by the Faculty Senate on 12/6/18.
* The Committee reviewed the dual enrollment report. It provides information on the courses offered at various Montana High Schools. Increasing access to dual enrollment for Montana students is a priority for the Governor. Missoula College provides more oversight than other MUS two year campuses. It is trying to build bridges with the high schools. Generally it is the more advanced students that are taking advantage of dual enrollment and other advanced option opportunities. Losing introduction courses to advanced options may impact some majors that rely on the introduction courses to recruit students.
* The Writing Committee was asked to consider where the list of courses for distributed advanced writing requirements should be available. These should be housed within the units because it would not be appropriate for students in other majors to take the courses, which only fulfill a percentage of the requirement.
* The Committee finalized a [flow chart](https://umt.box.com/s/wd8neaj3wp6qtq5us9cnf7vo5pby08z7) for the requirements and options to petition. It will be published in the catalog
* The Committee met with Troy Morgan from the Registrar’s Office about revising catalog language pertaining to the advanced writing requirement. He agreed to format the catalog so the advanced writing requirement has a separate section. Each major should make the requirement clear for their students.
* The revised [catalog language](https://umt.box.com/s/sf530n284x30q8kc9cxywi5jzhvvrgi1) was approved by the Faculty Senate on March 14th.
* The spring UPWA Workshop was held on Friday April 12th in UC 225 and was limited to 30 participants. Continuing education credits were available for high school educator participants.
* The Committee approved 2 intermediate writing course petitions. Kynlee Jarboe took ENGL 1600 *Critical Thinking, Literature, and Composition* from Taft Community College and Bonnie Kurien took English 102 *Composition* from Seattle College.

## Communication items

* Members were sent the final [UPWA report](https://cascade.umt.edu/renderfile/657c06720a0a0468014a4fd2aae36306/committees/writing_committee/UPWA1/2017-UPWA-Report-.docx) for information. There has been difficulty getting the data from Banner to conduct the detailed analysis.
* The symposium was held on November 2nd from 1:00 -3:00 p.m. It was a shared discussion about designing strong writing assignments.  There was low attendance, but the discussion was robust and more cross-disciplinary that in the past.
* The Committee was updated on the draft UM Core Pilot presented to the Faculty Senate on 12/6/18. It was latter invited to the open forums to provide feedback after the timeline for the pilot had been extended.
* The Library sent a communication to the Committee that explained how library instruction is being handled given the reduced staffing levels.

## Appendix

### Library Instruction Requests

Dear Department Chair and Advanced College Writing Course Instructor,

We are contacting you in your role as a department chair or instructor of an advanced college writing course. Please share the following information about library instruction with your colleagues.

In the past many of you emailed a liaison librarian with instructional requests. This semester, instructors of Advanced College Writing Courses seeking library instruction or collaborating on assignment development are asked to complete a [teaching request form](https://www.lib.umt.edu/services/teach-request.php) a minimum of 5 working days in advance of their preferred instruction date in order for us to ensure we can meet the needs of every department. Once you complete the form, you can expect to hear from us within 2 working days.

In addition to instruction in the Advanced College Writing Courses, there are several ways in which librarians are happy to collaborate with you to provide learning opportunities for students. Our library instruction is provided through:

●      Targeted First-year courses;

●      [Tutorials](https://www.lib.umt.edu/services/info-lit/video-tutorials.php)[that address several information literacy outcomes such as topic selection, keyword searching, and information ethics;](http://libguides.lib.umt.edu/videotutorials) and

●      Individual or small group reference consultations to address student-specific needs.

We recommend that instructors refer students to the library for assistance, especially for courses with a research-intensive focus. We also recommend that instructors direct students to the library’s [online research guides](http://libguides.lib.umt.edu/index.php). If you have an idea for a tutorial or course-specific online guide, please share it with us!

And again, to request instruction or to collaborate on assignment development for an Advanced College Writing Course, please use the [teaching request form](https://www.lib.umt.edu/services/teach-request.php).

Feel free to contact me at [kim.granath@umontana.edu](mailto:kim.granath@umontana.edu) with any questions. We look forward to continued collaboration with you in support of our students.

 Best,

Kim Granath, on behalf of instruction librarians

Chair, Mansfield Library

Kim Granath, MLS, AHIP  
Professor and Department Chair

Head, Information and Research Services

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