

English Department Minutes
Monmouth College
Tuesday, April 10, 2007
3:30pm-5pm

Absent: Appelbaum; Solberg

1. English 110

After a lengthy discussion, it was decided to meet in May for to discuss a **new text**. Each department member should review various texts and offer one (with copies for all department members) by May 23 for review for the May 25 meeting. This text will be a shared text, perhaps a reader or a hybrid. The department opted to keep the modes, lexicon, number and types of papers for next fall, but on-going assessment of the course will continue during the fall, 2007. During the next few months, Steve Price will be collecting information regarding various models of teaching college composition, while Kevin Roberts will create surveys for students and faculty regarding English 110 for departmental assessment.

Major points from the discussion:

- The course needs revision of some type
- The course must engage students and instructors (Price)
- Instructors must be engaged enough to make competent writers (Watson)
- Course should be argumentation-based and connected to the curriculum across the campus (Hale)
- A diagnostic essay during SOAR might help characterize the needs of incoming 110 students
- The Standard Written English Test was used in the past and might be considered in the future for the introductory diagnostic (Watson)

2. Adjunct Instructor, 2007-2008

Rob and Kevin interviewed a prospective adjunct last week. Rob is now waiting on clearance from the dean to hire the person since enrollment for 110 is in flux. There may be another potential applicant who Rob and Kevin may interview later.

3. Department Chairs Meeting

The application for degree is due soon. Datatel has the capability to generate information regarding comparison of courses and student grades; an on-going discussion with the dean is deciding who will have access to this information.

4. English 126

Withenbury has requested that 126 move from Pass/Fail to letter grades. The department agreed to the change.

5. Departmental Party (Wednesday, May 9, 2007 at Craig's house, 4-6pm)
Please give Craig \$10 for expenses; details about what food to bring will be accomplished via email.
6. English 180
The course has consistent requirements: two essays (three-five pages and five –seven pages for lengths); a midterm; a final; a shared lexicon. Unless a large class size prohibits any of the above, the department agreed on these requirements.
7. English Major
The major requires eleven courses/32-33 hours. TEDP371 does not count toward the major. English126/226 was left undecided in terms of counting or not counting toward the major.
8. Dual Credit
English 110 is most affected by this issue; this should be the last year for dual credit for the course.
9. Creative Writing
Rob will make the final decision for the awards based on input from Marlo and Steve.

Respectfully submitted by Kevin Roberts.