

1.3.3.5 Advisory Committee for Graduation Composition and Communication Requirement [US: 5/6/2013]

The GCCR Advisory Committee is charged with oversight of the Graduation Composition and Communication Requirement (SR 5.4.3.1). A permanent subcommittee reporting to the Undergraduate Council, this committee is charged with establishing, publishing, and implementing the campus-wide policies and procedures for evaluating the academic components of the GCCR and their assessment.

A. Composition

The committee shall be composed of at least eight (8) voting members from the University faculty broadly representative of the undergraduate colleges. Ex officio members shall include the Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education (or designated representative) and one staff person each from the Office of Assessment and the University Registrar.

The members of the committee shall be appointed by the Senate Council in consultation with the Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education. Members should have appropriate expertise in communication and assessment and should collectively represent the three modes of communication (written, oral, and visual) comprising the GCCR. Faculty members shall serve for staggered three-year terms and may serve consecutively for no longer than six years.

B. Charge

The GCCR Advisory Committee shall exercise the following functions:

1. It shall establish procedures and guidelines for undergraduate degree programs to submit proposals for implementing the GCCR.
2. It shall evaluate proposals by programs for implementing the GCCR. Approved proposals shall be forwarded to the Undergraduate Council for further action.
3. It shall establish and implement a campus assessment plan for the GCCR and monitor the results of program-level assessments, in accordance with the SACSCOC reaffirmation of accreditation. The committee shall review and report on this data either periodically or as requested by either the Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education or by the Senate Council.
4. It shall set policies for transfer equivalencies and for granting exceptions to the GCCR, and it shall broadly communicate these policies to all undergraduate colleges, the Registrar, and other appropriate parties.
5. Upon the recommendation of the Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education, the Senate Council, or upon its own initiative, it shall consider and propose necessary changes in the educational structure of the program or in its academic requirements. The GCCR committee may recommend changes for the GCCR to the Undergraduate Council or other appropriate University Senate channels for approval.

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### **5.4.3.1 Composition and Communication [US: 5/6/2013]**

All students on the main campus must satisfy the Composition and Communication requirement in the UK Core. Before graduation, they must also satisfy a more advanced course to fulfill the Graduation Composition and Communication Requirement (GCCR). The faculty in each undergraduate degree program shall implement a Composition and Communication Requirement (GCCR) appropriate to the academic discipline and professional expectations of the major. (Exception: Students in the Honors Program will continue to satisfy the entire University Writing Requirement through that curriculum.) Each undergraduate program faculty shall articulate this requirement in terms of one or more learning outcomes that will be assessed regularly as required by program accreditation standards and university standards for SACS reaffirmation of accreditation. Each GCCR requirement, learning outcome, and assessment protocol must be vetted and approved by the Senate GCCR Advisory Committee.

Students must successfully complete this requirement after achieving sophomore status and prior to graduation. To satisfy the GCCR, students must earn an average grade of C or better on the designated Composition and Communication (C&C) intensive assignments produced in any given course designated as fulfilling some or all of the GCCR.

#### **A. Requirements**

1. The GCCR shall consist of three components, each of which should reflect the standards and practices of the particular discipline:
  - (a) one or more written assignments in English that total to at least 4,500 words (the equivalent of 15 pages of double-spaced, typewritten text);
  - (b) either an oral assignment in English, in which students must give a formal presentation at least 10 minutes long, or a visual assignment, in which students create at least one significant visual/electronic artifact (e.g., a web site or video presentation);
  - (c) an assignment in English that requires the student to demonstrate information literacy in the discipline.
2. The GCCR may be satisfied via either a single GCCR intensive course or a series of GCCR intensive assignments in a series of courses. Faculty may specify that a course offered by another undergraduate program fulfills the GCCR if the faculty in the second undergraduate program so agree.
3. Courses must incorporate a draft/feedback/revision process on GCCR assignments.

#### **B. Assessment**

Each undergraduate degree program shall identify to the Senate (via the GCCR Advisory Committee) at least one specific program learning outcome and a plan for assessing both the writing and oral or visual components of the GCCR.

The assessment plan will include (a) clear goals for successful achievement of the GCCR, (b) specific criteria and rubrics for systematically assessing student work, and (c) a cogent

description of how assessment results will be utilized to revise GCCR instruction and/or curriculum if the goals are not met.

**A. Approval**

Programs shall submit proposals to the Senate GCCR Advisory Committee (see SR establishing this committee) for approval. This Advisory Committee is responsible for:

1. establishing procedures and guidelines for proposal submissions;
2. evaluating programs' implementations of the GCCR and recommending approval (or disapproval) to the Undergraduate Council;
3. establishing and implementing a campus assessment plan for the GCCR.