Guidelines for Communication Intensive Courses

Students must successfully complete one three (3) hour course for communicating in the discipline as part of the Core Curriculum.

Courses in any discipline may satisfy this requirement if they have been accepted by the Core Curriculum Committee as meeting the guidelines below for a communication intensive course.

I. Courses must be 100 or 200 level and be open to students in all majors. Enrollment should be capped at 25.

II. Upon completion of these courses, students should demonstrate the ability to express themselves clearly and effectively.

III. Courses must include the following:

1. Include written and oral communication assignments in the course syllabus.

2. List the improvement of student communication skills among the learning objectives of the course.

3. Distribute specific written instructions, including criteria for evaluation, for assignments that help students conceive, organize and present material in ways appropriate to the content area.

4. Provide opportunities for students to improve their communication skills by requiring students to produce at least four or more separately evaluated assignments.

    a. Appropriate writing assignments may include such formats as: formal essays, personal writing, case studies, lab reports, letters, memos, research projects, reviews, article summaries, articles intended for publication or grant proposals.

    b. Appropriate oral assignments may include such formats as: PowerPoint presentations, rehearsed speeches, debates, academic

paper presentations, poster sessions with an oral component, panel presentations and presentations via recorded media.

5. Provide opportunities for students to revise at least two of their communication assignments after receiving feedback and responses.

6. Include, with whatever communication style is appropriate, at least one assignment that requires students to produce a finished, edited piece in language appropriate for discourse in the discipline.

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Core Curriculum Committee