# *English Department*
# *Meeting Minutes*

October 16, 2020

**I. Call to order**

Jennifer Howard called to order the regular meeting of the English Department at 10:30 a.m. on October 16, 2020.

**II. Roll call**

Mysti Gates conducted a roll call. The following persons were present: Jennifer Howard and Mysti Gates.

**III. Open issues**

a) Jennifer and Mysti discussed the need to make some changes to the reading selections in the World Lit offerings. Each class syllabus (and textbook, really) includes an emphasis on European texts. Each instructor is currently working on identifying and selecting renowned texts from various countries, continents, and cultures not currently represented on the syllabus for the course she teaches. We feel this reflects a more diverse reading list and demonstrates a commitment to diversity and inclusion. Jennifer and Mysti will meet again to discuss their selections and justifications prior to next semester.

**IV. New business**

a) Jennifer and Mysti discussed desired changes to the Comp I course. These changes reflected a deviation away from a heavy emphasis on grammar topics and more toward an emphasis on credible sources, research, citation, organization, and more upper-level writing skills. Grammar topics would be covered on an 'as needed' basis when students' writing reflected such needs. We felt this prescriptive approach would allow us more time to cover the other, more serious issues in greater depth. We discussed using the Grammar Pretest and Mysti's Pretest Reflection to help students self-assess areas of need and providing them with resources to access when writing their papers. These changes will allow our course to better align with the ACTS course description as well. We plan to implement these changes in the Spring of 2021.

b) Mysti and Jennifer discussed the upcoming change in textbooks in Comp I. The spring semester courses will continue to utilize the current adopted textbook. The Pretest and Pretest Reflection will determine what chapters in the book each student must complete (a more individualized approach). Student writing will also dictate future assignments and mini lessons.

c) The English Department does not feel that Comp I should continue to be offered as a hybrid class.

**V. Adjournment**

Jennifer Howard adjourned the meeting at 12:00 p.m.
Minutes submitted by: Mysti Gates
Minutes approved by: Jennifer Howard