

Minutes
Graduate Writing Assessment Requirement Committee
Meeting 3
October 2, 2026 1:30 pm-3:00 pm

In attendance: Rebekha Abbuhl, Nicollette Brant, Lori Brown, Jill De La Torre, Tom Do, Lisa Fascia, Katherine Guerra, Lorenzo Gutiérrez-Jarquin, Henry O'Lawrence, Deepti Singh, Maiyoua Vang, Alexandra Wilkinson

Call to Order: 1:31 pm

Approval of Agenda

Wilkinson moves to approve the agenda, and Brant seconds the motion. The agenda is approved.

Approval of Minutes (September 18, 2026)

O'Lawrence moves to approve the minutes, and Do seconds the motion. The minutes are approved.

GWAR Coordinator's Report

There are no changes to report at this time.

Continued Business: Writing Intensive (WI) Course Discussion

The committee reviews the WI application with revisions. A summary of what was discussed is below.

On page 1 of the new application, a brief discussion is had about wording on the 3-unit course requirement. The wording should remain at least a 3-unit course in case a 4-unit class would like to become a GWAR class in the future. On page 1, section 2, a discussion is held about the GWAR class prerequisite. Every class should list the core foundation classes. The GE foundation courses (passing with a C or better) are a prerequisite for all GWAR courses.

A brief discussion is held about the word "rewrites" being used in the application and whether there is a better word or phrase. The phrase including multiple drafts is discussed as a replacement. The committee also discusses the importance of a final product being part of the word count. For example, although drafts are included in the word count, the class should not only be comprised of drafts.

Another important point is that the application wording should be broad enough to allow for all types of writing classes. For example, an English-based writing class may be different from a science lab writing class.

Some potential wording is discussed.

- Including the writing process (drafting, revisions, and the final written product).
- Drafting and revisions are included in addition to the final written product. Writing-intensive courses must include writing assignments totaling at least 5,000 words. Assignments may be developed through multiple drafts and revisions.
- Writing-intensive courses must include substantial written assignments totaling at least

5,000 words. These assignments should give students meaningful opportunities to develop and demonstrate their writing abilities and may take varied forms, including essays, lab reports, or other discipline-specific genres. Assignments may be completed through multiple drafts and revisions.

The conversation is directed to the 58 WI syllabi GVAR now has access to. GVARC will table it until the next meeting.

The Rubric for GVAR Classes is also briefly discussed. The committee discusses C5 in reference to feedback. It is noted that feedback in the form of a grade and feedback with suggestions and revision are different. How many times does the committee expect feedback? The committee suggests potentially adding a question on how the instructor provides feedback on the rubric and application. Overall, the rubric looks great!

Reminders

Next Meeting: October 16, 1:30–3:00 PM

Remaining Meetings: Oct. 16, Nov. 6, Nov. 20, Dec. 4, Feb. 5, Feb. 19, Mar. 5, Mar. 19, Apr. 16, May 7

Adjournment: 2:42 pm.

Submitted by,

Alexandra Wilkinson