

UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE FORMS

Academic Program Approval

This form is a routing document for the approval of new and revised academic programs. Proposing department should complete this form. For more information, call the Faculty Senate Office at 831-2921.

Submitted by: Peter X Feng **phone number** 831-1970

Department: English **email address** feng@udel.edu

Date: 31 October 2011

Action: *revise English major with Professional Writing concentration*

Effective term: 12F

Current degree: BA

Proposed change leads to the degree of: BA

Revising or Deleting: English major / Professional Writing concentration

List new courses required for the new or revised curriculum. How do they support the overall program objectives of the major/minor/concentrations)?

The changes proposed here are intended to add rigor and specialization to the curriculum in professional writing. We are removing very general courses (ENGL312, ENGL410) from the core list and putting in a specialized legal writing course (ENGL430). We are also teaching Biomedical Writing as a topics course with the eventual goal of gaining permanent status after a trial period. The general courses, as well as a broad course on English language (ENGL394) will still be electives open to professional writing students. One goal is to help students produce professional ePortfolios that have more specialized examples of writing, similar to what one might find in a scientific, business, or government setting.

ENGL430 offers a specialized course in professional communication with wide appeal and utility, both for concentrators in professional writing and for students from a variety of disciplines. The course contributes to broad campus goals for improved writing and speaking. Students who study professional writing go in many career directions, but all can use the skills in reading technical and regulatory texts, analyzing arguments and evidence, and reporting in formats that require clarity of exposition.

Explain, when appropriate, how this new/revised curriculum supports the 10 goals of undergraduate education: <http://www.ugs.udel.edu/gened/>

Most obviously, all our courses meets the first goal for students to develop their writing and speaking skills, particularly in constructing arguments and working with information from various sources. All writing is shaped by codes of ethical behavior, and writing always involves reasoning and complex problem solving. Students in writing classes have to analyze complex cases and debate the recommendations. Writing helps students make connections between their academic learning and their understanding of the rest of the world outside the classroom.

Identify other units affected by the proposed changes:

These revisions will not affect other units. (We do anticipate that some colleges or departments or programs may choose to make ENGL 430 an option within their programs, perhaps for satisfying a written communication requirement.)

Describe the rationale for the proposed program change(s):

Our goal is to encourage students to pursue advanced, specialized courses, rather than filling their program with very general writing courses. We hope to place Legal Writing alongside another new course, Biomedical Writing (currently taught as ENGL413 Topics in Professional Writing), so that students have options to pursue the particular genres of writing that give them expertise useful in pursuing their careers. One of our goals for the concentration, developed under our ePortfolio initiative, is to make sure students have good samples of a wide range of professional writing and that they have cognate areas, such as legal and business contexts for writing. We were fortunate in a recent search to find a candidate with a law degree and an interest in legal writing; a second hire brought technical and medical writing expertise to our faculty. This proposal enhances the depth and breadth of our offerings in professional writing.

Program Requirements:

(Show the new or revised curriculum as it should appear in the Course Catalog. If this is a revision, be sure to indicate the changes being made to the current curriculum and **include a side-by-side comparison** of the credit distribution before and after the proposed change.)

<u>Current Curriculum</u>		<u>Proposed Revision</u>	
The following six courses	18	The following six courses	18
ENGL 101		ENGL 101	
ENGL 102		ENGL 102	
ENGL 204		ENGL 204	
ENGL 205 or ENGL 206		ENGL 205 or ENGL 206	
ENGL 222		ENGL 222	
ENGL 464		ENGL 464	
Four of the following courses	12	Four of the following courses	12
ENGL 312		ENGL 411	
ENGL 394		ENGL 412	
ENGL 410		ENGL 413	
ENGL 411		ENGL 414	
ENGL 412		ENGL 416	
ENGL 413		ENGL 430	
ENGL 414			
ENGL 416			
Six additional English credits (200-level or higher)	6	Six additional English credits (200-level or higher)	6

ROUTING AND AUTHORIZATION: (Please do not remove supporting documentation.)

Department Chairperson _____ Date _____

Dean of College _____ Date _____

Chairperson, College Curriculum Committee _____ Date _____

Chairperson, Senate Com. on UG or GR Studies _____ Date _____

Chairperson, Senate Coordinating Com. _____ Date _____

Secretary, Faculty Senate _____ Date _____

Date of Senate Resolution _____ Date to be Effective _____

Registrar _____ Program Code _____ Date _____

Vice Provost for Academic Affairs & International Programs _____ Date _____

Provost _____ Date _____

Board of Trustee Notification _____ Date _____

Revised 02/09/2009 /khs