

Sample CTW Plan, English

The English department has identified Audrey Goodman as its CTW coordinator and English 3140, 3150, 4310a and b, 4320, 4330, and 4340 as its CTW courses. The plan is for each professor of any of these classes to design and assign brief (around a page) assignments that ask students to respond in writing, and to practice specific critical thinking abilities, such as analysis, synthesis, evaluation, and decision-making. These assignments will be presented to the students online. The students will write their answers online, and the professor and sometimes the other students will provide feedback on each assignment in the form of commentary, annotation, and the application of departmental rubrics. The English department believes that this process will enable professors to ask their students to write more often and think more carefully, without substantially increasing the professor's time responding to student work. Every year, the coordinator will run a report which will aggregate the rubrics scores for the department, list the assignments that professors asked students to write responses to, and present examples of effective, less effective, and ineffective student thinking. With this information, the coordinator will convene an annual meeting with the professors who taught the courses to discuss the assignments, the rubrics and the experience in general and then make recommendations for refining the rubrics and the assignments. The report and the recommendations for the following year will be forwarded to the GEAC committee and put on WeaveOnline.