

Criteria for GEP 101 Instructor Selection, effective Spring 2012

Dear Faculty and Staff Interested in teaching GEP 101 for fall, 2012:

In a continuing effort to improve the quality of instruction for students enrolling in GEP 101, and to accommodate increased interest in teaching GEP 101 with the recently approved stipend structure in effect for fall 2012, several criteria for instructor selection are being established in spring 2012. These preferred criteria are listed below.

Additionally, all faculty and staff who apply for a position and are selected by the Director must also receive approval from the appropriate director/department head/supervisor, and also from the First-Year Council. This council is comprised of representatives from the various colleges and divisions of the university, and membership includes faculty, staff, and a student.

Lastly, due to substantial increases in instructor costs from the recent stipend increase, and a decreasing budget from upcoming cuts, class sizes must unfortunately be slightly increased. For many years, our seminars have been capped at 25 students. Effective fall 2012, some classes will have a maximum enrollment of 30 students. (Note: Many of our Curricular Learning Community sections of GEP 101 will remain at 25 or fewer, since they are linked to other low enrollment general education courses.)

Summary of Preferred Criteria for GEP 101 Instructor Selection

- Experience teaching first year students
- Status as a returning GEP instructor (with at least average course evaluation scores)
- Scholarly research or presentations related to the first-year experience. (E.g., pedagogy, learning communities, service-learning, etc.)
- Involvement in retention, and/or student success related committee work or service
- Current Master Advisor certification. For registration information: <http://www.missouristate.edu/advising/>
- Commitment to achieving the required course goals and objectives, including 1:1 meetings with students outside of class at least once during the semester
- Willingness to follow up at mid-term with students in academic difficulty
- First priority to full time faculty and staff
- Master's Degree or higher
- Completion of mandatory Instructor Development Workshop—**Saturday, April 14th, 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.**

Please note: It is unlikely that every instructor who taught in 2011 and wishes to return for 2012 will be able to do so. Furthermore, some of those teaching multiple sections last year may see a reduction in sections available. Finally, faculty and staff instructors should not expect to teach more than one section without special approval (this does not apply to per-course instructors).

For application information: <http://www.missouristate.edu/FirstYearPrograms>

GEP 101 Compensation Schedule, Effective Fall 2012	
Classification of Faculty/Staff	Compensation per section
Professor	3,200
Associate Professor	2,800
Assistant Professor	2,400
Instructors/non-tenure track/per course	2,400
Staff with doctorate	2,400
Staff with masters	2,400
<i>*Compensation schedule approved by Provost and President, December 2011</i>	

GEP 101 Course Goals & Objectives (*Effective Spring 2012*)

Goal 1: Students will develop the necessary skills to be academically successful and will understand the role of scholarship in the University and in larger society.

Objective A1: Students will develop information literacy, critical thinking, and communication skills in an academic area by successfully completing a research project or scholarly paper and orally presenting a summary of findings.

Objective B1: Students will develop knowledge and skills related to student success. (e.g., Goal Setting, Learning Styles, Study Skills, Time Management, Personal Finance, 4-year plans, etc.)

Objective C1: Students will follow policies and practices of academic integrity and ethical behavior expected in the academic community.

Goal 2: Students will comprehend the importance of the University's Public Affairs Mission, which includes community engagement, cultural competence and ethical leadership.

Objective A2: Students will be able to articulate and apply the University's Public Affairs Mission through a critical analysis of a common reader.

Objective B2: Students will create a project, presentation, or participate in a service activity that illustrates the connection of the Public Affairs Mission to an academic course topic.

Objective C2: Students will be exposed to divergent perspectives in order to build an understanding of how diverse ideas strengthen a community.

Goal 3: Students will establish campus connections and a supportive network of faculty, staff, and other students to facilitate a successful transition to the university.

Objective A3: Students will identify avenues for participation in student organizations and co-curricular activities.

Objective B3: Students will establish effective working relationships with their instructors, academic advisor, and other campus personnel as necessary.

Catalog Description

An integrative and interdisciplinary experience that addresses public affairs issues and individual choices promoting academic success. Required of all freshmen during their first semester. Honors students must substitute UHC 110 for this class.