

College Operating Procedures (COP)



Procedure Title: Gordon Rule Writing Intensive & Mathematics Courses
Procedure Number: 03-0610
Originating Department: Provost/Vice President, Academic Affairs

Specific Authority:

Board Policy n/a
Florida Statute n/a
Florida Administrative Code n/a

Procedure Actions: Adopted: 06/01/10

Purpose Statement: This policy allows students to demonstrate the writing and mathematical skills as set forth in the Gordon Rule.

Guidelines:

State Board of Education Rule 6A-10.030, the Gordon Rule, requires that students complete with grades of C or better 12 credit hours in designated courses in which the student is required to demonstrate college-level writing through multiple assignments and six credits of mathematics course work at the level of college algebra or higher. These courses must be complete successfully (grades of C or better) prior to the receipt of A.A. Degree and prior to entry into the upper division of a Florida Public university.

Procedures:

The Gordon Rule courses at Florida SouthWestern State College (College) adhere to FAC 6A – 10.030, by designating “writing intensive” courses with the following language in Section I of the course outlines:

This course is termed a writing intensive course and requires a minimum of 4,000 words of instructor-evaluated writing per student, including a minimum of three graded assignments over the duration of the course. If completed with a grade of “C” or better, this course serves to complete part of the writing intensive course requirements.

This language reflects the intention of the Florida Administrative Code requiring students to “demonstrate college-level writing skills through multiple assignments,” by requiring a specific word total in graded assignments and requiring at least three graded essays.

The Florida Administrative Code also requires six (6) semester hours of English coursework. Therefore, ENC 1101 and ENC 1102 are designated “writing intensive” courses. The other courses that are designated “writing intensive” are in English (creative writing), humanities and history. The courses have been traditionally offered as “writing intensive” at the College because these discipline areas generally include multiple writing assignments, and they stress the written communication general education competency.

Within the mathematics area, six semester hours of mathematics coursework at the level of college algebra or above is required. For the purpose of this rule, applied logic, statistics, and other such computation coursework, which may not be placed within a mathematics department, may be used to fulfill 3 hours of the 6 hours required by this section. In order to receive credit for fulfillment of 6A-10.030, students must receive a grade of “C” or higher in each course.

Each institution shall designate the courses that fulfill the writing requirements. These course designations shall be submitted to the Statewide Course Numbering System. An institution to which a student transfers shall accept courses so designated by the sending institution as meeting the writing requirements.