Proposed Course Title: Thinking and Writing

Credit Hours: 3

Course Level (1000-4000): 1000

Department or Departments responsible for teaching course: English

Proposed Description (1 to 2 sentences): A course designed to help students develop the rhetorical knowledge and practical habits of successful college writers.

Core Curriculum Objectives (list 2-4):

- Clear writing is crucial to success in many disciplines. This course will help students develop skills necessary for the completion of an academic degree and also essential for personal and professional life beyond Baylor. Thinking and Writing aims to:
  1. Develop skills that will enable students to write effective, error-free prose.
  2. Teach students how to assess rhetorical situations and use the concepts of purpose, audience, context, and genre to write for a variety of situations.
  3. Equip students with different methods of invention to generate ideas, claims, supporting details, and evidence.
  4. Develop students’ critical reading and critical thinking skills by analyzing effective expository writing. Additionally, students will compose, analyze, and revise their own expository writing, and peer review their classmates’ writing.
  5. Teach students expository structures used to respond, explain, analyze, evaluate, problem-solve, and argue.
  6. Reinforce the process used to write effective prose—planning, drafting, revising, and editing. Students will use this process to compose a minimum of six expository essays.

Justification for course from A&S Core Curriculum Vision1 (using quotations):

Part II, B: “As rational beings, students require the intellectual rigor, integrity, and acumen necessary for the pursuit of truth.”

Part II, B: “Students will develop the skill of critical reasoning in many ways, including problem-solving, composing essays, and writing lab reports. In doing so, the core curriculum will encourage students to cultivate patience and intellectual humility in the search for truth.”
Part II, D: “Students will develop critical language for discussing art and literature, as well as skills for articulating their informed response to such works.”

VIII. **Principal author(s) of the proposal:** Brian Raines

IX. **Subcommittee supporting recommendation:** Critical Reasoning

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1 References to Baylor University’s General Education requirements may also be included here.