

ECCTYC Resolution

Composition Courses Taught in Compressed Time Frames

Whereas, developmental and college writing courses offered for 3 units or more are skills building courses that require sufficient time for reading, critical reflection, instructor assessment, and instructor-student communication,

Whereas, offering writing classes in abbreviated time frames to accommodate students who are eager to complete a requirement for which they may be substantially under-prepared does not allow for the recursive nature of learning the reading, writing, and critical thinking processes,

Whereas, the trend to offer community college writing courses in ever-shorter terms has been judged by the English Council of California Two-Year Colleges to create pressures on students and instructors that inhibit effective student learning,

Whereas, the California State University English Council "views with concern" any college-level composition course taught in fewer than six weeks, a view that might harm the articulation of writing courses taught in an abbreviated time frame,

Therefore be it resolved, that the English Council of California Two-Year Colleges opposes offering developmental and college writing courses of 3 units or more in time frames of fewer than six weeks, and be it

Further resolved that English Council of California Two-Year Colleges urges community college administrators to rely and to act primarily on the professional expertise of their college's English faculty in those few instances when such short-term English classes are proposed.

Adopted by the English Council of California
Two-year Colleges: April 5, 2002