

Program Profile

Due on 2/1, Present in Class

Overview

For this project, you will create and present a profile of one writing program NOT at Ball State. For the purposes of this project a writing program may include: a first-year writing program, a writing across the curriculum program, a writing center, or other similar program. It does NOT include courses, such as writing intensive courses that have no coordinator/director.

Purpose

The purpose of this project is to expand our knowledge of the types of writing programs that exist, how they are organized and structured, and how context affects a program.

The project is particularly designed to meet the following overall course goal:

- Have an understanding of how institutional context may shape a writing program

Steps

- 1) Make a short list of programs
- 2) Contact WPA for your first choice to see if they are available for an interview
- 3) Set up interview (must be synchronous)
- 4) Gather all the info you can about the program online
- 5) Get the rest in an interview
- 6) Create your profile
- 7) Present your profile

Format

We will use a common format as a class. Here is my suggestion, but we can modify it as we go.

- Institutional Type
- Location
- Reporting Structure & Operations
- WPA Profile
- Budget/Funded by
- Enrollment
- Description of Students
- Program Snapshot
- Brief History of Program
- Assessment
- Role of Research

- Theory that informs the program
- Future Direction/Anticipated Changes
- Appendix: Links to website, key documents

Grading (20% of course grade)

You will be graded primarily on your written profile and the research you have done to write it. The presentation in class will be informal, but we will determine a common format for these.

Context is the key to your project. A passing (B-level) project will clearly outline the key aspects of the program as listed above. However, a strong project (A-level) will show how these pieces fit together, particularly how institutional context affects everything else.

Resources

<https://writingcensus.swarthmore.edu/program-profiles>