

01/06/2019

WOU General Education Update

It is the long history of humankind (and animal kind too) that those who learned to collaborate and improvise most effectively have prevailed.

Charles Darwin

We're looking for your Gen Ed Advising stories:

Have you had a great experience advising students in the new Gen Ed program, or developed a helpful strategy to help students meet the requirements? We want to hear from you! Share your stories and ideas at gened@wou.edu

Congress to Campus

On February 11-13, 2020, the Department of Politics, Policy, and Administration is bringing former U.S. House Representatives Nick Lampson (D-TX) and Rod Chandler (R-WA) to WOU to: educate about how the US Congress functions, promote bipartisanship, and discuss the value of public service.

Congress to Campus is a program designed by the Stennis Center for Public Service through which former US Congressional Representatives are brought to college campuses across the country to encourage students to consider careers in public service. Working together with people from differing viewpoints is an important element of civic literacy. Therefore, the program stresses the importance of bipartisanship, sending one Democrat and one Republican who appear together at all functions and share their insights and experiences working in a representative democracy. This program will provide a powerful opportunity for students across WOU to learn about how the US government operates, the importance of bipartisanship, and the value of careers in public service.

Part of the visit will include a visit to the FYS 107 course led by Dr. Andrea Emerson. Dr. Emerson's Play and Creativity FYS introduces freshmen to the utility of play for adults through hands-on experiences. Class experiences and discussions promote the realization that playfulness and creativity can be harnessed as tools for academic success, personal well-being, and healthy professional collaboration. Demystifying creativity and playfulness in the lives of adults provides important insights into simplifying challenges that seem daunting such as academic writing or adjusting to life on college campuses. Similarly, bipartisan political engagement and public service are often foreign and intimidating proposals for young adults. The Play and Creativity FYS welcomes this presentation for its potential to highlight how civic engagement can be simple, creative, playful, and empowering. The visit will be filmed by Q-Loop, the student-developed and led production team housed in the college of Education (www.wou.edu/qloop).

The Congress to Campus visit will include include open events for students to attend during their visit:

<https://wou.edu/publicpolicy/congress-to-campus-public-events/>
or use the QR Code.



New to FYS instruction?

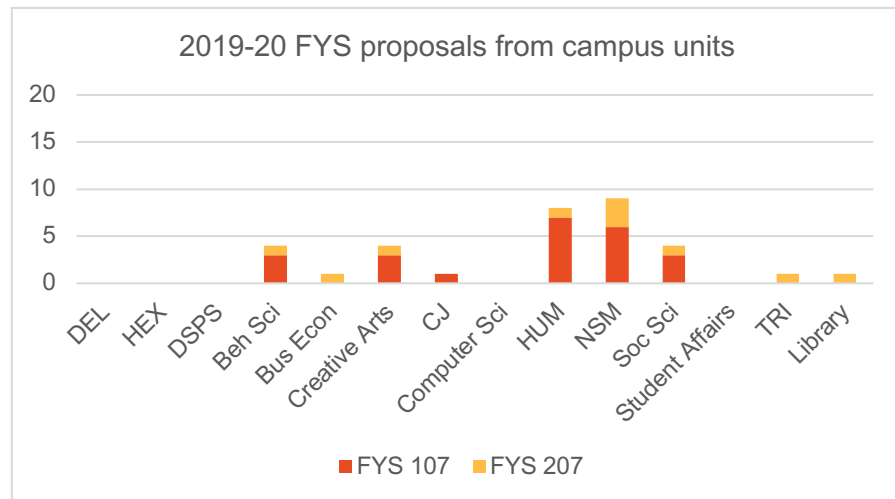
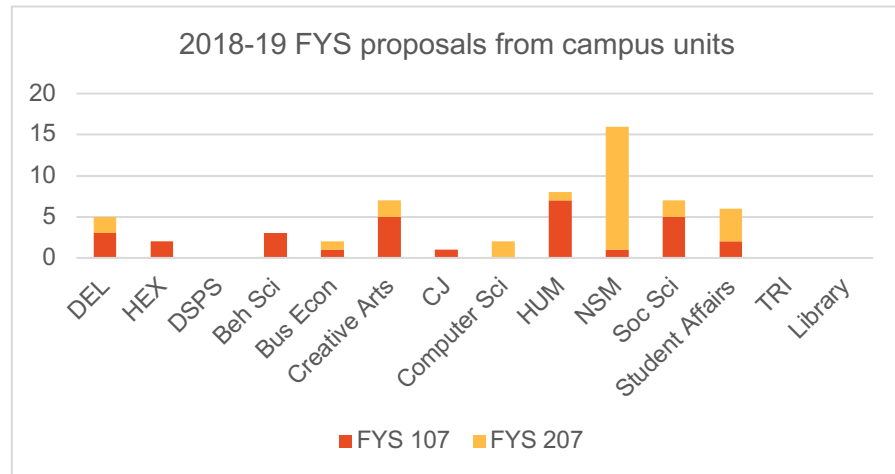
Keep an eye out for regular FYS instructor workshops and gatherings led by FYS coordinator Dr. Shaun Huston and enroll yourself in the Moodle course.

<https://moodle.wou.edu/course/view.php?id=1350>

First Year Seminar Snapshot

In addition to the course proposal trends in the graphs highlighting the topics proposed by different units on campus below, we've had 6 team taught proposals for 2018-19 (three cross-college) and 5 team taught proposals for 2019-20 (one cross-college and one involving LAS faculty partnering with TRI staff).

While every topic is not being offered each year, it's exciting to see the broad involvement by campus in the FYS program. The robust suite of diverse offerings is emerging as a strength of the General Education FYS requirement.



Don't forget about the upcoming catalog deadline for General Education courses that are not FYS topics. Proposals need to be through Division curriculum queue and to the General Education committee by the second Tuesday in February.