From the self-study by the Department of English for
Regular Academic Program Review
2013-2014

2. Graduate Curriculum Reviews

Describe the department’s process for regular reviews of the graduate curriculum. Summarize the primary actions taken as a result of graduate curriculum reviews since the last OAA program review.

Just as with the undergraduate curriculum, we are constantly reviewing our graduate curriculum. We use the Graduate Studies Committee and follow the process outlined in our Governance Document whereby changes move from the GSC to the Executive Committee to the full Faculty. Then they are directed to the appropriate College and Graduate School entity.

The primary actions taken since the last OAA program review are as follows:
(1) Revision of the preparation for GTAs by changing the timing of orientation workshops, revamping the EN 533/534 sequence during the second year in the program, and eliminating the EN 532 course because the creation of syllabi was out of synch with the process of learning to teach.
(2) Elimination of the Ph.D. fast-track. In principle this was a good idea, but in practice it was a nightmare.
(3) Elimination of the distribution requirement in literature.
(4) Revision of guidelines for the M.A. Exam (see Governance Document).
(5) As noted in #1 above, we have created advising sheets that have been very helpful in informing students about their programs and in tracking their progress.