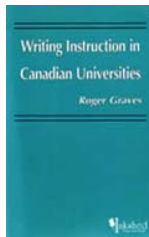


Writing Instruction in Anglo-Canadian Universities

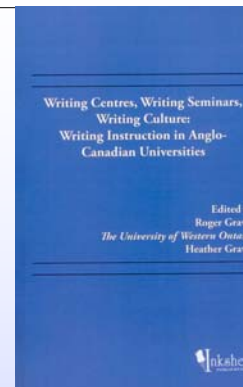
Writing around the Curriculum



- This study is a follow-up to my 1994 publication where I studied writing programs in Canada, *Writing Instruction in Canadian Universities*
- That study showed that writing was taught across the curriculum in faculties as diverse as Arts, Continuing Education, Law, Agriculture and Forestry, Engineering, Commerce/Business, and Science
- At Queen's University, for example, writing courses were offered in Applied Science/Engineering, Law, and Arts
- At the University of Saskatchewan, writing courses were offered in Arts and Sciences, Education, Engineering, Law, Pharmacy, and Physical Education
- Conclusions: These courses were the result of unplanned curriculum development and could be strengthened by university-wide Writing Across the Curriculum or Writing in the Disciplines programs

Looking Forward

- Russ Hunt, St. Thomas University, "Writing Under the Curriculum."
- Lack of or refusal to develop first-year writing programs encourage a heterogeneous group of programs and people interested in the study of writing and reading, influenced by Anglo-American literacy learning research
 - Writing Across the Curriculum movements in Canada have not proliferated or grown
 - Genre studies offer opportunity to lead to new ways of teaching writing in the context of learning in a discipline or a workplace



Looking Back: 1850-1970

Canadian Identity and History

Nan Johnson, "Rhetoric and Belles Lettres in the Canadian Academy: An Historical Analysis."

- study of rhetoric in Anglo-Canadian universities such as Dalhousie, McGill, and Toronto tied to the development of writing ability, development of taste or sensibility, and the inculcation of British values

Henry Hubert and Will Garrett-Petts, "The Rhetoric of 'Intelligent Recreation': An Historical Narrative of English Studies in Canada."

- late-Victorian idealism and Canadian nationalism combined to reject rhetoric from Canadian curriculum in English departments

Kevin Brooks, "National Culture and the First-year English Curriculum: An Historical Study of "Composition" in Canadian Universities."

- "Composition" derided as culturally American in the 1960s and so dismissed from Canadian undergraduate curriculum as enrollments surge

Current Practices

Boxes on the map summarize each chapter. Each box describes how different institutions have organized writing programs to meet their specific needs. They fall into these main categories:

- **Writing Centres**
- **English** department modules
- **Professional Writing** programs
- **Communication** departments
- **Engineering** programs

Tania Smith, "Recent Trends in Undergraduate Writing Courses and Programs in Canadian Universities," describes new programs and courses from a wider variety of institutions. Among her key findings:

- 17 institutions offer certificates, minors, or majors in writing
- Growth in program development is accelerating
- Only 3 PhD programs exist in Canada (US has over 70); Canadian PhD programs are insufficient to supply new faculty members for Writing, Rhetoric, and Communications programs

