

Safety Sciences Department

MEMO

To: IUP Liberal Studies Committee
From: Dr. Lon Ferguson, Chairperson, Safety Sciences Department 
Date: September 9, 2011
Re: SAFE 215 Writing Intensive Course Proposal

During the Fall 2011 semester, the Safety Sciences Department submitted a major revision to the BS. in Safety Sciences Program. This revision was necessary to meet the new IUP Liberal Studies requirements as well as some new Student Outcomes required by our accreditation body, the Applied Science Accreditation Commission (ASAC) of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology. The proposed new course, SAFE 215 Safety, Health and Environmental Communications is necessary to meet both the Liberal Studies requirements as well as ASAC.

As Department Chairperson, I am well aware of the importance of making sure that all faculty teaching SAFE 215 meet the requirements of a "Writing Intensive" course. For the past 15 years we have been offering SAFE 488 and SAFE 493 as a department "Writing Intensive" course and all faculty follow the course syllabus and use equivalent writing assignments. All of the SAFE Faculty have taught this "Writing Intensive" course and therefore are familiar with current theory and requirements for writing across the curriculum.

In addition, SAFE 215 will also have Student Outcomes assessed every semester. This course has three student outcomes related to ASAC, two of which are writing intensive and include a:

- current events paper related to a global safety, health and environmental issue, and
- development of a written safety program and policy.

All SAFE Faculty teaching SAFE 215 must complete these writing intensive assignments as part of our accreditation and this is documented as part of our Banner Assessment Program. Please feel free to contact me if you have any other questions on how the department will ensure all faculty teaching SAFE 215 will abide by the syllabus and meet the writing intensive requirements.