

Sonoma State University
Call for Applications
First-Year Experience Pilot Instructional Faculty

Description: Instructional faculty members who are tenured, tenure-track professors or long-term lecturers from all Schools are invited to apply to develop and ultimately teach in the First-Year Experience 2006-07 Pilot, beginning upon selection and continuing through the 2006-07 academic year. This will require a two year commitment, with the second year contingent on pilot program implementation. Faculty must demonstrate a passion to pioneer the “First Class” pilot course and possess a strong commitment to educating freshmen and in mentoring new students through the crucial transitional first year of college. Current and past Freshman Seminar and FIG instructors are encouraged to apply.

Responsibilities include:

- Collaborating with Learning Teams (LTs) of faculty, student development professionals, and peer mentors and promoting positive working relationships;
- Working creatively with LTs and pilot coordinator to devise:
 - a multidisciplinary, real world, problem-based course theme;
 - a syllabus that includes:
 - teaching goals;
 - learning outcomes in writing, critical thinking, information literacy and student development;
 - appropriate reading, writing and group project assignments;
 - appropriate tools and strategies for assessing student performance toward learning outcomes;
 - course materials including reading assignments, films, discussion topics, group projects, etc.
 - a detailed course schedule;
 - appropriate, excellent pedagogy in writing and critical thinking;
- Advising and mentoring students at several levels:
 - Mentor new students through the crucial transitional first year of college, and in making meaningful academic and life choices;
 - General Education;
 - Course selection;
 - University policies;
 - Finding a major;
 - Hand-off to departmental advisor within majors;
 - Knowledgeable about new students’ developmental level.
- Working collaboratively to develop and implement FYE pilot design, course syllabus, schedule and learning outcomes;
- Assessing learning outcomes within one’s First Class section, and contributing to program review and assessment;
- Working with a faculty development team of mentors for the LT as it develops new curriculum;
- Working with key library staff;
- Setting rigorous academic expectations across all pilot sections;
- Working with the pilot coordinator and the Office of Institutional Research to assess pilot;
- Maintaining the visibility of the program, educating the larger university community about it, and promoting it in general;

- Implementing the Mission, Goals and Objectives (MGOs) of GE within the pilot;
- Participating in Summer Orientation (SOAR) trainings in academic advising
- Devoting significant time to course syllabus and schedule and faculty development in the fall of 2005 to develop First Class course materials and to meet with pilot coordinator, other members of the pilot Learning Teams, and mentors;
- Contributing to pilot organization during the spring of 2006.

Compensation: \$2000 stipend for 2005-06 efforts, and 4 units for each of fall 2006 and spring 2007 semesters. Potential for additional compensation for advising training and to work in SOAR (summer 2006).

Application: Letter of interest and CV are due in Stevenson 1041 by 4:30 PM on July 10, 2005, care of Cynthia Jowers. Applications will be reviewed by the GE Subcommittee and recommendations forwarded to the Provost on July 15, 2005.