



## Spring 2018: Interdisciplinary Honors Seminars and the Core Curriculum

Interdisciplinary Honors Seminars participate in the SAS Core as Writing Courses. As you prepare your syllabus, please be sure to note that your Honors Seminar fulfills the SAS Core Goal, WCD (Writing in the Discipline).

The SAS Core Committee has certified all Interdisciplinary Honors Seminars as fulfilling **SAS Core Goal “Writing in the Discipline,” WCD**. This means that our Honors Seminars are designed to teach students to:

*t. Communicate effectively in modes appropriate to a discipline or area of inquiry; evaluate and critically assess sources and use the conventions of attribution and citation correctly; and analyze and synthesize information and ideas from multiple sources to generate new insights.*

### **Assessment:**

All professors teaching courses in the SAS Core are expected to assess their students on at least one assignment in order to determine the extent to which students have mastered the Core Goals associated with the course.

As part of your course, one of your **written assignments** should be used for two purposes. One purpose will be as an assignment--to evaluate and give the students grades. The other purpose will be to serve as a sample with which to assess how well students have mastered goal t (WCD) (listed above). At the end of the semester you will submit an assessment (via Sakai) in which you tally how many students you believe met the Core Goals based on your assignment.

These Core Assessment reports for the Spring 2018 semester are due on June 1, 2018 . Dorene Pardun, Administrative Assistant in the SAS Honors Program, is happy to assist you with the Core Assessments, including the submission process. Contact Ms. Pardun in the SAS Honors Program at [dpardun@sas.rutgers.edu](mailto:dpardun@sas.rutgers.edu) or Nicole Dallara in the Office of Undergraduate Education at [ndallara@sas.rutgers.edu](mailto:ndallara@sas.rutgers.edu)

### **Additional Information and Online Forms:**

If you are seeking more information, please see the links below:

1. The first link is a sample syllabus. Note that your syllabus should include the WCD Core Goal. You may also add the Core "logo" to indicate that your course is certified in the SAS Core.

Sample syllabus formats: [http://sas.rutgers.edu/component/docman/doc\\_download/513-sample-syllabus-format-with-links?Itemid=](http://sas.rutgers.edu/component/docman/doc_download/513-sample-syllabus-format-with-links?Itemid=)

2. The second link explains how to use your course Sakai site to complete your assessment. You are not required to use Sakai for your assessment; but many faculty members do find it convenient to use Sakai for their assessments.

Using Sakai for your Core Assessment

<http://sasoue.rutgers.edu/docman-docs/curriculum/core-curriculum/370-using-rubrics-in-sakai/file> (Please note Sakai does not contain the most up to date rubrics, updates will be made.)

3. The third link is the "Assessment" form. The "Assessment" is the simple one-page "grid" where you indicate how many students met the Core Goals based on your assignment. The comments section on the Assessment form provides space for you to reflect on aspects of your teaching and assignments that worked well, what didn't, and what you might do differently next time.

Curriculum Assessment Report (form):

[http://sas.rutgers.edu/component/docman/doc\\_download/637-form-core-curriculum-assessment-report?Itemid=](http://sas.rutgers.edu/component/docman/doc_download/637-form-core-curriculum-assessment-report?Itemid=)

4. The "Rubrics" document is a detailed explanation of the criteria you will use to judge whether the students are meeting the Core goals.

CRC Rubrics for Core Goals (with official wording) -

[http://sas.rutgers.edu/component/docman/doc\\_download/636-crc-rubrics-for-core-goals?Itemid=](http://sas.rutgers.edu/component/docman/doc_download/636-crc-rubrics-for-core-goals?Itemid=)

Thank you again for your efforts to help our Honors Students master these key elements of writing. Please don't hesitate to contact us with any questions.

Jennifer and Matt

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