

Colleges reformulating English requirements

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Amid student confusion about English composition requirements, undergraduate deans at the University are defining their policies while encouraging students to stay in English 346K.

Most students are heeding that advice and not dropping the course, said Mike Washington, assistant registrar.

"We haven't seen many (drops) at all," Washington said.

Barbara Reagor, administrative assistant in the School of Pharmacy, said she had seen "no big rush" of students dropping the class. "So far we've had no one come in and drop it."

No official figures for students dropping E346K are available yet, but spot checks with nine deans' offices indicated the number would be low.

"As students think about it, what looked like a fine thing (dropping the course) ... isn't really what they want to do," said William Sutherland, chairman of the Department of English. "I think students are going to go ahead and stick with it."

Each of the undergraduate colleges is formulating policies to deal with the class postponement, which was announced Friday. The class will not be offered in the fall, and Sutherland said the future of the course beyond fall semester 1985 is still uncertain.

Architecture students under current catalogs still are required to take E 346K. Nelda Lillie, degree plan evaluator for the School of Architecture, said architecture students are under a five-year plan, so they can delay taking the course until it is offered again. She said the school would "work something out" for students graduating before the class is offered.

Education students also are encouraged to stay in the class because candidates for teacher certification must take at least 12 hours of English. "Even if 346K is not a graduation

requirement for the degree, (education) students still need the hours," said Roger Williams, assistant to the dean in the College of Education.

"A number of people have called (about dropping), and when we explain it to them they usually say, 'Oh, well, then there's no sense in dropping it.'"

The colleges of Communication and Natural Sciences are telling students not to drop, at least not until the colleges receive official policy statements from higher authorities. Spokesmen from both colleges said the policies may be ready at the end of next week.

"So far, we don't have the information (about what students will need for substantial writing requirements)," said Jeff Glenn, a clerk in the office of the student dean of natural sciences.

Business students seeking to drop E 346K can pick up a copy of their school's policy at the undergraduate office in the Graduate School of Business Building. The policy statement lists alternative classes for the various major programs.

But the statement cautions that "students who are currently enrolled in E 346K and who elect to have it waived for them by dropping the course must still satisfy all other content, composition, grade point average and hour requirements of their degree plan."

Charles Roeckle, assistant dean of the College of Fine Arts, said E 346K remains a requirement for students under the 1983-1985 and 1984-1986 catalogs, and that the situation was "not a matter of students suddenly being able to drop (E 346K)." He said the school was still developing its policy, which he hoped would be ready by pre-registration.

Engineering and nursing students are not allowed to drop the class, because it fulfills their technical writing requirements. In addition, engineering students are not allowed to drop any class after the fourth class day, except in the case of personal emergencies.

Information from the College of Liberal arts was not available.