

The problem

For several reasons it seems desirable to reconsider the present structure of the E398T courses. The university requirement (Handbook of Operating Procedures) is that all TA/AI's take one teacher training course. The Graduate School's interpretation of this requirement is that TA/AI's are considered to have met this requirement by previous teaching or by any teacher training course in any area. The application of this interpretation in effect exempts all AI's from any E398T whatsoever. By contrast the Department of English customarily required two E398T courses of all entering TA/AI's. Several years ago TA's were only given 3 hours credit for these 2 courses; now they are given 6 hours credit but can only count 1 of the courses towards any degree program. In addition the distinction between TA's (who do not handle a class autonomously) and AI's (who do) has created another dimension of the problem. Finally, it is apparent that three E398T sections a semester is a drain on our graduate offerings.

The solution

In an attempt to resolve the several aspects of the problem outlined above, a subcommittee of the Freshman English Policy Committee is considering the following solutions:

- 1) Requiring only one E398T of entering AI's - the E398T for E306. This would be a departmental hiring regulation. The only people who would be exempt from this would be people who have obviously taught a solid rhetorically based composition course for several years at another institution or who have taken a course in rhetoric at another institution.
- 2) Changing the E398T's for E307 into voluntary E383L courses. This should cut down the number of E398T's in the second semester. Secondly it would allow students to count the E383L towards both an M.A. and Ph. D.
- 3) Requiring entering TA's in their first year to take one of the rhetoric courses (E381L, 383L, 393L, 393M, 398T). This will enable them to meet the requirement of a teacher training course before they become AI's.

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taken a graduate equivalent of an E398T.
Would there be any E398T (306's)?

strong support for a support course during the first term teaching.

1. Two 398T
2. One 398T during first semester of 306 } *conflict*
3. One 398T

- What is reaction to 398T (306) for TA's?