

Writing for the Real World: Strengthening Writing and Career Knowledge

MDC SACSCOC On-Site Visitation is a Success!

On October 20-23, 2014, the SACSCOC on-site committee visited all of the campuses and centers that are part of Miami Dade College. Additionally, multiple meetings were held with MDC constituency groups and on-site team members during the SACSCOC visit. During the exit interview, Miami Dade College was identified as a “model institution” and members of the on-site team felt the visit was a learning experience for the committee.

MDC QEP Receives Praise From SACSCOC

During the recent on-site visitation, members of the SACSCOC team participated in discussions with students, faculty, staff and administrators regarding the QEP. As a result of these discussions and the work done by everyone, the MDC QEP was identified as representing a true collegewide engagement process that demonstrates a commitment to student learning. The committee commended the College on an exemplary Quality Enhancement Plan and for the high level of engagement by all of the constituency groups at the College.

Where We Are...

The School of Justice has been leading the QEP initiative. Through a very proactive approach, it has been able to establish processes that will facilitate a smooth transition and implementation of the QEP in the Fall 2015-1 semester. The processes developed and implemented by the School of Justice will be followed as the QEP is infused into the next school – the School of Business.

What is a QEP-COP Course?

MDC’s QEP has been designed with a focus on workforce programs. Within the various schools that have been identified to participate in the QEP infusion, discipline faculty will identify specific courses within the degrees offered for components of the QEP. These courses will be identified as QEP-COP (**QEP – Career Oriented Program**) courses. To be considered a QEP-COP course, the following guidelines are recommended:

1. **Class size.** Class size will be limited to a maximum of 30 students.

2. **Required number of papers or words.** Students will be required to write assignments totaling 3,000 to 3,500 words that include some combination of formal and informal writing, in-class and out-of-class writing, drafts and journals.
3. **Writing as a process.** Various assignments will assist in the establishment of writing as a process, including revisions through the draft process and sequential related assignments.
4. **Support services.** To support the number of students enrolled in a QEP-COP course, embedded writing fellows/coaches and embedded librarians will be an integral component of these courses to support writing.
5. **Course selection.** For the A.A. and A.S., two courses selected from the 1000 level and two courses from 2000 level offered in the specific degree. If a B.S. or BAS offering is provided by the program, one course will be selected from the 3000 level and one course selected from the 4000 level.

What’s to Come?

- CT&D will develop and implement the QEP professional development, which is designed for all employees and provides offerings beginning the Spring 2014-2 semester.
- School of Business will begin its work in the Spring/Summer (2014-2, 2014-3) semester with the faculty identifying courses that will be considered as QEP-COP courses.
- Pilot assessment activities will take place during the Spring (2014-2) and Summer (2014-3) semesters to establish a baseline of our students’ current writing ability and level of career knowledge.
- During the Spring (2014-2) semester, personnel will be appointed to support the SAI Community of Interest component in the School of Justice.

If you have a question, need information or would like to provide feedback or comments, please contact QEP Director Dr. Richard Prentiss at 305-237-7367 or send an email to rprentis@mdc.edu. Visit mdc.edu/qep to learn more online.