Reading 115

Terry’s analysis

The original plan (February 2015) was to ‘phase out’ Reading 115 by combining RD 115 and EL 111 into one course. That didn’t happen. Should it happen? Probably.

Right now, Curriculum Committee is concerned with the wording of the pre-requisite on course outlines. It seems there are a few options:

1. Designate a cut score for Reading 115 on the WR-101 or WR-121 Accuplacer test. Such a score constitutes placement in Reading 115. Course outlines remain accurate. No need for change, but departments are encouraged, when appropriate, to update course outlines so that WR-121 is the requisite.
2. Update all instances of Reading 115 to WR-121 on all course outlines that list Reading 115 as a pre-requisite.
3. Begin to interpret “placement” as meaning a recommendation by an advisor. This will mean definitional changes.

Email Discussion:

On May 15, 2017, at 2:25 PM, Lisa Nielsen wrote:

Forwarded from Beth Wicklund

As of this past December/January, the Accuplacer Next Generation tests placement into RD115 was removed because the course was no longer considered a “pre-requisite” for the WRD classes.  (I think that Dru has also removed the pre-requisites in the course codes.) Darlene and Ric worked to remove the placement language on the testing printout because it was confusing for students. The topic was also briefly touched on with Dustin and the advising team. If I remember correctly, the advising team was suggested to recommend this course to students that might need additional reading skills that would also provide general college credits towards degrees. I remember speaking with Kat about promoting the RD115 course with the advisors as an option.

I hope this information helps! ~ Beth​

Darlene (Geiger) verified Beth's version and added that placement into WR-101 or WR121 can count as testing into RD-115, but this should be verified with Amanda.  Hot potato back to Amanda!!

Hope this helps! Lisa

On May 15, 2017, at 3:43 PM, Amanda Coffey wrote:

I don’t think I can verify "placement into WR-101 or WR121 can count as testing into RD-115,” since we don’t have cut scores identified for RD-115.

Amanda

Hi again — I was replying to email quickly yesterday and had two more thoughts: the first is that I’m not a reading instructor; hence my hesitancy to confirm placement for writing equals placement for reading; the second is to offer to sit down with those who do teach reading and look both the need for placement in RD-115 and the cut scores.

Amanda

On May 16, 2017, at 7:43 AM, Brenda Marks wrote:

Hi-

late last night I also remembered the original plan, which was to combine RD115 and EL111 and make a four credit course. When I spoke with advisors about this, they told me that many students take RD 115 as a pre-requisite for Mount Hood health careers programs. At that point, we decided to back away from the combining classes plan. However, it's a new day and time to reconsider how to move forward in the way that best suits our students. I'm happy to come in for a meeting if I can be helpful. – Brenda

On May 16, 2017, at 8:07 AM, David Mount wrote:

Nice to hear from you, Brenda!

My recollection is that we basically decided to phase out RD115 for CCC purposes, and that departments should be encouraged to replace "RD115 placement" notations with WR121. Because of the Mt. Hood issue, we could continue offering limited sections, and students could use it as an elective, but that would be the only role for it.

I feel like for testing, we found research showing that there was no need to do separate RD and WR placements--students taking the test have to read at a high level to do well on the WR test, and if they're placed through the form, any reading issues should come to the surface. But I'm not able to produce that research right now, I'm afraid...

**Dave Mount**