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RA #4

Longwood University’s English 400 Classes

*Are the requirements unfair?*

Lately there has been uproar with the upper classmen at Longwood University. Students who take English 400 have been dealing with the very different requirements in each class. Junior Alex Welch, “The workloads in each English 400 class are completely different. For my class, we have two major assignments and no community service and for the other English 400 classes that just have 20 hours of community service and no papers.” English 400, Active Citizenship, is one the 15 general education goals that Longwood students must take in order to graduate.

There are requirements that Longwood’s goal 14 have. English 400 classes are suppose to do more than one kind of public writing and one formal letter, write a total of 4,000 words, and do either a project proposal or a project report. Community services hours or doing a service-learning project is not required of the class but the proposal or report is.   Welch said, “I just don’t think it’s fair that some students work much harder in the same class just because of a different professor, when this is a core class.” The purpose of English 400 is to connect the topic of active citizenship to the knowledge in the student’s major and other general education courses.

Students are starting to fight back. Longwood students want English 400 to be standardized with guidelines and a set rubric for the course. With the other 15 required general education goals, the students believe the classes should be set to a rubric. Welch said, “This class is something every student has to take, so I feel there should be some sort of lesson plan that professors should follow to some degree.”

Notes:

Welch said, “My class isn’t too difficult, but we do have a lot of reading assignments. Other English 400 classes have no assignments.”

\*Students want English 400 to be standardized. Guidelines. A set rubric for the course.

\*Complain about 20 hours of service but no paper

\*10 paper and no hours

\*Work load is different but it is a goal so it should have a set rubrics

\*With the other goals its standardized and English 400 is not