Gallatin Writing Committee Charter
Working Document

Mission Statement
Writing at Gallatin has many nodes. All students develop their academic writing skills in required First-Year Writing and Research Seminars and many explore a variety of genres in elective Advanced Writing Courses. The Writing Program also provides many co-curricular and extracurricular opportunities for students, who have the opportunity to receive writing support from peers at the Writing Center, and experience writing beyond the classroom through the Gallatin Writing Program’s civic engagement projects, publications, and events (the Summer 2022 “Writing Program Executive Summary” provides further information about these programs).

The Writing Committee includes a faculty chair, faculty members, and administrative members. The faculty chair and faculty committee members are teachers committed to writing pedagogy, who are deeply involved in the curricular aspects of writing at Gallatin. The administrative committee members are the Writing Program director and associate director, whose work centers the co-curricular and extracurricular components of the Writing Program. Together, the committee is dedicated to ensuring that these are, individually and in tandem, as effective as possible for students, teachers, and, where relevant, the outside communities with which the programs intersect.

Objectives:

- Support the successful delivery of Gallatin writing courses, including the required First-Year Writing, Research, and Transfer Seminars, and Advanced Writing Courses, by responding to teacher and student needs, identifying areas of improvement, and providing resources when applicable;
- Promote the teaching of writing skills across the curriculum;
- Address students’ writing needs, and ensure Writing Program support initiatives, including the Writing Center and Gabler Writing Partners, are effective;
- Programatically strengthen the connections between Gallatin’s writing courses and Gallatin’s extracurricular and co-curricular projects.
Responsibilities:

- Identify annual priorities related to writing at Gallatin, meeting at least twice each semester to set goals, assign next steps, and reconvene to review progress (all committee members);
- Hire and train part-time First-Year Writing, Research, Transfer Research, and Advanced Writing Course teachers as needed (chair & administrative director);
- Facilitate an open meeting for First-Year Writing, Research, and Transfer Seminar teachers once per semester (chair, administrative director, & associate director);
- Review student petitions to waive required writing courses (chair & administrative director);
- Recommend students to participate in extracurricular and co-curricular activities as needed (all committee members).

Examples of Possible Projects:

- Review teaching needs in the first-year program, and develop a proposal to engage more full-time faculty in teaching writing courses and to make new hires;
- Create materials to support the instruction of writing across the curriculum;
- Set consistent learning objectives for the required writing courses, and identify, share, and create resources to support faculty in teaching toward these objectives;
- Assess teacher and student needs specific to the writing needs of students learning English and develop a proposal to ensure adequate support for this population.

2022-23 Members

Eugene Vydrin (faculty chair), Stacy Pies (faculty), Anne DeWitt (faculty), Allyson Paty (administrative director), Corinne Butta (associate director)