

**Report of the Subcommittee on Communications
Gen Ed Task Force
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Drawing on ideas that came out of the Gen Ed Task Force Retreat, and on our own discussions in subcommittee, we make the following recommendations for changes in the Gen Ed Communication requirement. Issues that may require further consideration are identified below.

Recommendation:

1. Retain the first two parts of the current Communication requirement: English 110 (Comp I), plus either English 120 (Comp II) or 125 (Business and Technical Writing).
2. Add a required 3-credit introductory Comm. course on speaking: either Comm. 110 (Public Speaking) or Comm. 212 (Interpersonal Communication).
3. Change the third part of the current Communication requirement in the following ways:
 - re-title it “Advanced Writing and/or Speaking”
 - no longer allow introductory language courses to fulfill this requirement
 - encourage departments to offer writing/speaking intensive upper division courses so that this requirement doesn’t add hours toward graduation
 - provide “generic” advanced writing/speaking courses offered by English and Communication to serve students from departments who don’t offer their own courses

The requirement would be listed in the catalogue as:

Comp I (English 110)	(3 cr.)
Comp II (English 120) OR Business and Technical Writing (English 125)	(3 cr.)
Public Speaking (Comm. 110) OR Interpersonal Communication (Comm. 212)	(3 cr.)
Advanced Writing and/or Speaking	(3 cr.)
• W/S courses (various approved courses on writing and or speaking in the disciplines - may overlap w/other requirements)	
• Advanced Comp. (English 308 OR 408)	
• Small Group Discussion (Comm. 365)	
• Business and Professional Speaking (Comm. 366)	

Issues for further discussion:

1. For how many students would this require 3 additional Gen Ed credits (i.e., how many departments would NOT create their own W courses)?
2. Should we indeed want to drop introductory language courses from this category? It’s the only place in the Gen Ed curriculum that mentions foreign languages.
3. Where will the resources come from to staff and provide faculty development support for required Comm. courses and W/S courses?
4. We will need to revisit and rework current requirements for approved writing courses in the disciplines. It’s important that these courses actually *teach* or *coach* writing and speaking, not just require it.