Appendix A
FIG 2000 Program/course descriptions from website

The Freshman Interest Groups (FIGs) program at Western Washington University is offered during Fall Quarter, 2000. The purpose of the FIGs program is to pair large general university requirement (GUR) courses with smaller, integrative seminars. Combining complementary courses in this way gives freshmen the opportunity to take some of the most dynamic required courses along with a smaller, project-focused seminar.

This fall seven course clusters will be offered: Culture Wars, Ecological Interactions with Nomadic Cultures, Images of the Family, The Media and American Politics, The Politics of Language and Ethnic Identity, Rocks, Music, and Time, and Roles People Play. Register for one of the seven clusters, and you will get your career at Western off to a great start, while at the same time fulfilling some of the courses required for graduation.

What are the benefits of being involved in the FIGs program?

• Meet and work with some of the best professors at Western. Experience some of the latest instructional technologies.
• Work in small group seminars with 25 other freshmen.
• Participate in workshops and learn how to find campus resources, develop effective study skills, and use advising and registration services. These workshops are exclusively for FIG participants.
• Fulfill some of your general university required courses (GURs) in a dynamic setting.

How can I enroll in the FIGs program?

In order to register, please either return the post-card from your Summerstart materials, or register on-line. If you meet the qualifications to participate, you will be registered for all three classes within one of the following clusters:

• Culture Wars
  Anthropology 201 (5 cr), History 103 (4 cr), Comm 197/Lib 197 (2 cr), 11 credits total
• Ecological Interactions with Nomadic Cultures
  East Asian Studies 210 (4), Environmental Studies 101 (3 cr), Comm 197/Lib 197 (2 cr), 9 credits total
• Images of the Family
  Art History 220 (3 cr), Sociology 260 (5 cr), Comm 197/Lib 197 (2 cr), 10 credits total
• The Media and American Politics
  Journalism 190 (4 cr), Political Science 250 (5 cr), Comm 197/Lib 197 (2 cr), 11 credits total
• The Politics of Language and Ethnic Identity
  Linguistics 204 (4 cr), Political Science 101 (5 cr), Comm 197/Lib 197 (2 cr), 11 credits total
• Rocks, Music, and Time
  Geology 101 (4 cr), Music 101 (3 cr), Comm 197/Lib 197 (2 cr), 9 credits total
• Roles People Play
Theatre 101 (3 cr), Psychology 219 (4 cr), Comm 197/Lib197 (2 cr), 9 credits total

Please take a closer look at each of these clusters by clicking on the blue links above or on the images on the left-hand side of this page. You will notice that these course schedules will allow you to take another course of your own choosing if you would like to be enrolled as a full time student (i.e., 12 or more credits).

**FIGs in Residence Program**

Two of the FIG Clusters (**Images of the Family** and **Roles People Play**) have a special opportunity available this Fall. These clusters of courses are available to freshmen living at Fairhaven Residential Complex. Twenty-five freshmen will enroll in one of two FIG clusters and will live together in Stack 11 at Fairhaven. This means that you will be taking a common set of courses around an interdisciplinary theme and living in the same residential stack. Each FIG cluster will also have a peer advisor who is there to assist only those students in the FIG with the transition to university life and to help form a living-learning environment that can insure your success at Western.

Each of the seven FIG clusters has two available sections of 25, so you can still register for any of the clusters if you do not choose to participate in this special residential option. Because of this special opportunity, however, space in each of these two clusters will probably be filled before other FIGs. Be sure to register early if you wish to participate in this program. First of all, in order to register for the FIG course cluster you will need to register on-line for the cluster of your choice. Second, you need to check the box in your housing application form so that we can reserve a room for you at Fairhaven. You must check this box on the Housing form and preregister for the FIG cluster of your choice in order to participate in the FIGs in Residence Program.
Appendix B

FIGS SEMINAR OUTCOMES–FALL 2000

Com. 197:

- To use reading, writing, speaking, and listening as ways to inquire
- To formulate a precise inquiry question(s) based on a perceived problem or issue
- To present information gathered in the inquiry process accurately, concisely, and conventionally
- To make a reasonable claim that emerges from selected evidence
- To integrate evidence and connect it with an emerging claim(s)
- To work as part of an inquiry team in communicating collective findings clearly and appropriately to a specific audience

Lib. 197:

- To develop appropriate search strategies for a specific information need or question
- To conduct effective searches on the online catalog, various types of databases, and the internet
- To retrieve source material efficiently
- To evaluate sources according to specific criteria
- To demonstrate ability to write bibliographic citations for various documentation formats
- To access campus information systems/networks in locating information appropriate for a specific need.
- To demonstrate knowledge of the ethics of information use
Your participation in the seminar sessions and your performance on the ten assignments, including the final presentation, will determine your mark in this class. However, in determining your success in the class, it is also important that you take time to assess what you have learned. Of course, your instructors are also interested in hearing what you have to say, and we will use your assessment in planning future FIGs seminars.

Please plan to use the whole class session either to word process or handwrite your self-assessment. If you write it on the computer, please save it to a disk (to be provided if you write in HH 245) and leave both the electronic copy and a hard copy with the seminar instructor.

Begin by re-reading the literacy letter (Assign. 1) that you wrote at the beginning of the quarter. Review the comments you made about your literacy skills, and use them as a basis for comparison in answering the following question as completely and fully as you can. Use a complete academic heading (name, course/instructor/date, name of assignment) and give your self-assessment a title. Write at least 1-2 pages (250-500 words) in which you respond to any/all of the areas listed and feel free to consider other areas as well. Be sure to give examples and details to explain what you mean.

**WHAT CONCEPTS/STRATEGIES DO YOU THINK YOU HAVE GAINED FOR LITERACY, COMMUNICATION, AND INQUIRY AS A RESULT OF THIS SEMINAR? AND WHY MIGHT THEY BE IMPORTANT TO HAVE?**

Possible areas to consider:
- Reading texts
- Role of reading/writing/speaking/listening in inquiry
- Reading/writing/speaking/listening as processes
- Role of questions in inquiry
- Relationship between a claim and evidence
- Role of groups in inquiry
- Connection(s) drawn between integrative seminar and the two related GUR lecture courses
- Application of seminar skills in literacy/communication/inquiry to any other classes or situations?
- Inquiry as a process (What metaphor would you use to represent inquiry? Why? For example, some people would say inquiry is like joining a conversation that started before you entered it and will continue after you leave it.)
- Other?

Please staple your Self-Assessment to your Literacy Letter and submit.

An acceptable self-assessment will:
- Refer to your original Literacy Letter
- Respond to the Self-Assessment question
- Follow assignment guidelines and format.

Thanks and Happy Thanksgiving